

CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEETING
APRIL 13, 2016

PRESENT: Bob Boynton, David McTigue, Matt Oliveira, Lisa Oden, Karen Miller, Lori Rautiola

PUBLIC: Virginia Notter

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 at the Town Office.

The minutes of the February 10, 2016 meeting were reviewed and the following corrections were made: Move Lisa Oden's name from public to present. Page 2 remove the last sentence in the third paragraph. Bob made a motion to approve the minutes as amended. David seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. The minutes of the March 9, 2016 meeting were reviewed. Matt made a motion to approve the March 9, 2016 minutes. Bob seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Committee Reports:

Lands: Bob reported the easement agreement for New Ipswich Mountain (175 acres) has been approved and will be finalized in the next few weeks.

Water Resources: Bob mentioned the two ordinances being drafted by the Commission, the ground water protection ordinance and the stream ordinance need to be completed and submitted. Bob assigned David and Karen to draft the ground water protection ordinance and Lisa and Matt to redraft the stream ordinance.

New Business:

A revised estimate/proposal from Ecosystem Management Consultants, LLC to do a Natural Resources Inventory (NRI) on 200 feet on each side of the proposed pipeline was distributed. The cost of the NRI is quoted at \$8,600. The object of the NRI is to accurately map and assess each proposed surface water crossing in order to assist the Commission with mitigation. Also, the assessment will look at sub-surface aquifers and assess the quality, productivity and yield potential to also accurately predict pipeline impacts to potential drinking water supplies for residents. Another goal is to identify any lands of ecological significance that will be negatively impacted by the pipeline, including but not limited to rare and endangered species, vernal pools, natural habitats and other areas of regional ecological significance. Matt questioned if the Commission would fund the cost of the NRI. Bob made a motion to allocate \$10,000 for the NRI. Matt seconded and it passed unanimously. The estimate would be contingent upon getting a favorable response from home owners willing to have the evaluation done on their property.

Old Business: Bob gave a demonstration with the GIS Glue maps showing how to create a map and record it and also how to share it by email.

The members conversed about potential conservation lands to purchase and the importance of natural resources the land should have.

Matt mentioned having Peter Goewey put the new signs up that David has made and the Board agreed.

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Lori Rautiola, Secretary