

ALTON CONSERVATION COMMISSION
APPROVED MINUTES
July 12, 2018
Alton Town Hall

Meeting Called to order at 6:00 pm by Chairman Bagley.

Present:

Earl Bagley (Chairman), Gene Young (Vice Chairman). Members: Russ Wilder, Quinn Golden.

Absent: Lou LaCourse, David Hershey, Bob Doyle, Virgil McDonald.

Approval of Agenda: add discussion of West Alton Marina, Alton Mountain Road Trailhead Project under Commissioner Reports.

Motion by Q. Golden to approve the Agenda as Amended. Second by G. Young. No discussion. Motion passes with all in favor.

Public Input: None seen or heard. Public Input closed.

Approval of Minutes of June 28, 2018

Motion by Q. Golden to approve the minutes of June 28, 2018 as presented. Second by G. Young. No discussion. Motion passes with all in favor.

Presentations/Consultations:

1. James Sessler PLLC

Here to answer questions on Alton Marina. Talked with Brian Fortier attorney relative to what his clients want to do on the mitigation issue. He would like a site walk to identify areas to protect or adjacent property.

Russ added they also have question on abutter status on Barbosa property and excavation as well to discuss after.

R. Wilder referred to a phone conversation on Lorie Sommer (Mitigation Coordinator, NHDES Wetlands Bureau) she didn't want to do a site walk until this meeting tonight and found how the Commission is going to decide what to do. Mr. Fortier would like to be in control on what decisions are made. Mr. Fortier has made his permit application and intends to make a payment to the Aquatic Resource Mitigation (ARM) fund to settle the mitigation issue. He wants to continue to make this payment paid to the ARM fund. Under payment of the ARM fund ACC will come up with request for a grant to use funds to undertake a Conservation project that would consist of lands currently owned by Mr. Fortier. State would look favorably on this especially using the ARM fund. ACC needs to develop a definition of the project/identify the property. Entails a site walk to identify land to be purchased with ARM funds. Fortier has to agree with this project. L. Sommer does not want to be involved with initial site walk. She will support the project but wants a process to follow. Project will be part of the ARM fund grant. Suggest that Lakes Region Conservation Trust (LRCT) administer the grant. Have at least a year to do this process. Site walk identify areas, include Fortier.

Grant has to be applied for and is not guaranteed. R. Wilder noting that L. Summer and others are interested in being involved with this process.

ACC interested in conserving the land in green and yellow (175 acres in green, 51.81 acres in yellow) on maps provided. The ACC is interested in all of it. J. Sessler noted Fish and Game interested in preserving the green area as well. Note the West Alton Community Center meeting on Monday to see about keeping the community center.

J. Sessler added the ACC needs to understand how Fortier wants to proceed. They do not want any setbacks and move forward. ACC to begin the process, site walk. L. Sommer wants to wait for an application in process before being involved. Yellow area is inaccessible but with frontage on the lake.

R. Wilder added, ACC should be opposed to the 700-foot dock in the wetlands in the yellow area. Blocks any wildlife with accessing the water. From ACC view without stating this concern they would not be doing their job.

Set up site walk with ACC, Brian Fortier and trust. Two step process. R. Wilder asked about an appraisal. Fortier has to agree with this entire proposal. It is not clear whether an appraisal will be needed.

R. Wilder asked if boundaries are clearly marked. J. Sessler suggested talk to Planning Dept. they may know.

Another issue Barbarossa Conservation Easement next to Coffin brook. Approx. 80 acres. Issue of the abutter is if the ACC is an abutter. J. Sessler says yes the ACC is an approving abutter

End of Alton Mountain Road. Mr. Geleas has been cooperative. Cleared brush out of the way. R. Wilder feels they need some type of agreement. J. Sessler stated yes, he agrees. Other issues are not allowing this to be priority at this time. Working on it.

Ask Cindy to set up a site walk when Fortier is available, suggest the 26th. Inform L. Sommer that this walk will be scheduled.

Planning Board/ZBA Agenda Items:

1. **Roger Sample** – Map 9, Lot 53 & 53-2, 117 New Durham Road. Construct one townhouse with 5 units that would have on site septic, well, share parking lot and access to Sample Terrace.

Commission reviewed with no comment or concern.

Standard Dredge and Fill Application

1. **State of New Hampshire (Tobey Reynolds)** – NH Route 11, A Culvert replacement project is located in Alton, just east of the Gilford/Alton town line. The project is to replace an existing Hybrid 48" cmp at the inlet and 4'h x 3'w stone box culvert at the outlet. The replacement will be a 6'h x 6'

Commission reviewed with no comment or concern.

Permit by Notification: None.

Minimum Impact Expedited: None.

Shoreland Permit Application: None.

Notification of Routine Roadway and Railway Maintenance Activities: None.

Shoreland Permit by Notification (PBN): None.

Commissioner Reports

1. **West Alton Marina:** comments on revised plans. Review of document attached to these minutes with Russ Wilder comments. Russ will add additional comments from meeting and send Cindy a copy of amended answers to attach to these minutes.
2. End of Alton Mountain Road, still a little more cutting to be done. No more than a few hours. Russ received the check for the chipper.
3. What's going on with Forester to Gilman Pond. Quinn noted there is no answer yet.

Other Business:

1. **Milfoil Committee:** Copy of the 2018 Town of Alton Milfoil Committee Report. General discussion of areas being treated.
2. **West Alton Community Center** Public Hearing July 16, 2018 at 6 pm.
3. Tree across the Seavey Trail. Q. Golden to look into this.

Notice of Intent to Cut: None.

Correspondence:

1. **State of NH** Map 33, Lots 82 & 83. 382 Main Street. **NHDES Request for More Information.**
2. **Barry & Christine Williams** Map 58, Lot 7. 54 Timber Ridge Road. **NHDES Approval Date 7/5/2018. Approval is Subject to the Projects Specific Conditions.**
3. **Bruce & Dorothy Brown** Map 37, Lot 40. 22 Notla Lane. **NHDES Approval Date 6/28/2018. Approval is Subject to the Projects Specific Conditions.**
4. **George Freese** Map 35, Lot 21, 157 East Side Drive. **NHDES is hereby approving your After-the-fact amendment request.**
5. **NH Fish & Game** Downing's Landing Public Boat Access Facility. Response to NHDES Request for More Information.

Adjournment Motion by G. Young to Adjourn at 7:35 pm. Second by R. Wilder. No discussion. Motion passes with all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,
Carolyn Schaeffner, Recording Secretary