

**ALTON CONSERVATION COMMISSION
MINUTES OF MEETING**

ALTON TOWN HALL

July 22, 2021 at 6:00 P.M.

*Approved
Aug. 17, 2021
Gene Young*

Members and others Present:

Gene Young, Chairman

Bob Doyle

Virgil Macdonald, Selectmen's Rep

Russ Wilder

Dana Rhodes

Melinda Ferreira, Secretary

Earl Bagley

Tom Diveny, Alternate

Members Absent:

Quinn Golden, Vice Chairman

Call Meeting to Order: Gene Young, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 6:05pm and appointed Tom Diveny, Alternate, to take Q. Golden's seat as a full voting member of the Commission for this meeting.

Public Announcements: None.

Approval of Agenda: R. Wilder added the Cotton Hurd property to discuss under Commissioner Reports.

Presentations/Consultations: None.

Approval of Minutes: None.

PERMITS AND APPLICATIONS

(Any permit or application that has been signed off by the Chair or Vice-Chair is entered here for the record, unless a Commissioner has questions or comments.)

Planning Board/ZBA Agenda Items:

- 1) **John Matarozzo Jr- Sadco/Jones & Beach Engineers- Suncook Valley Rd, M9 L6**
Zoning Department Head Review for Special Exception of the Zoning Ordinance to permit two boat storage buildings and corresponding gravel storage pad and small office building in the Rural Zone. This was a Zoning case back in April, however the applicant withdrew and resubmitted with revised plans to be more 'abutter friendly'.
*(Previously reviewed in April/May. G. Young commented opposition to commercial development in the rural zone, and the Commission found no concerns at that time).
Brief discussion ensued over commercial business in the Rural Zone, but as it's an allowed use, and there were no nearby wetlands affected, the Commission had no objections or comments.*

Standard Wetlands Dredge and Fill Applications:

- 1) **Ramsey, Michael- 15 Campfire Circle, M18 L29-17-** Applicant proposes to remove an existing U-shaped dock and replace with two 6x40ft seasonal hinged piers connected with a 6x12ft walkway. Also to provide two 7x2ft concrete anchoring pads at the shore behind lake elevation to hinge the seasonal docks.

The Commission had a brief discussion over poorly drained soils (PDS) on the plan, but had no objections.

- 2) **Tzianabos, Arthur- 14 Duck Rd, M65 L62-** Applicant proposes to repair/replace existing 12x23ft and 6x30ft permanent docks in-kind with no change in size, location or configuration. An existing permanent supported boatlift in the center slip of the dockage to be permitted after-the-fact. Additionally, permanently remove existing fender piling in the southernmost boat slip, and lastly, install a 14x30ft seasonal canopy supported by a permanent piling supported boatlift in the southernmost boat slip.

The Commission had no comments.

Wetland Permit by Notification (PBN):

- 1) **Patten, Kurt A Rev Trust- 136 Black Point Rd, M44 L51-** Applicant proposes to install 14x30ft seasonal canopy utilizing existing piles along the shore. *(G.Young signed off 7/13/21)*
- 2) **Schneider, Michael- 1786 Mt.Major Highway, M66 L13-** Applicant proposes to repair existing dry-set rock beach wall consisting of resetting dislodged/fallen rocks resulting in no change in height, length or configuration along the shore. *(G.Young signed off on 7/13/21)*

Minimum Impact Expedited Applications: None.

Shoreland Permit Applications:

- 1) **Blanton Belknap County Realty Trust- 3 & 6 Charles Circle, M40 L33, 34 & 35-** Applicant proposes to construct a new storm water system, 3 bedroom house to replace one that burned, and leach field to service both lots 33 & 34.
The Commission discussed the steeper slopes of the land and the addition of riprap stone. R.Wilder made the motion to comment that a settling basin at the end of the culvert would be advisable given the slope of the land. B.Doyle seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion passed.
- 2) **McKay, Elizabeth & Coffey, Elizabeth, Barbara & Roger- 126 Leavitt Rd, M67 L2-** Applicant proposes to replace their home's foundation in-kind and to replace their existing deck in-kind along the shoreline of Sunset Lake.
Brief discussion ensued with the comment being made that it needs to be ensured that the erosion control measures are carefully maintained due to the steep slopes.
- 3) **Funk Family Trust- 57 Sawmill Brook Rd, M41 L38-** Applicant proposes to demolish existing house and garage and construct new home with new septic & storm water measures.
The Commission had no comments or objections.

Shoreland Permit by Notification (PBN): None

Notification of Routine Roadway Maintenance Activities: None

Reoccurring/Unfinished Business & Projects:

- 1) **Green Oak Realty-** Cease & Desist is being issued this week.
- 2) **Monitoring-** Nothing new.
- 3) **Canoe & Kayak Access to Merrymeeting River-** D.Rhodes informed the Commission that there has been no word back yet from any appraisers regarding an appraisal for the Bissell property. Brief discussion ensued over the waterfront piece. Q.Golden is to contact DES and F&G for their comments.
- 4) **Gaia GPS Professional Account-** Nothing new.
- 5) **Gilman Pond Field Mowing-** Nothing new.
Rodney Sanborn (2016), Benjamin Thompson 534-4494 (2018), Andrew Morse 817-8191, Burt Morse 455-2605, Dave Avery 569-9162
- 6) **Shape Files for Timbers, PMHS & Hussy Properties-** Nothing new.
- 7) **Natural Resource Inventory Update-** G.Young stated that he had been in contact with the Town's Master Plan Committee consultant, Ms. Bamford, who needed to know what exactly was being updated on the NRI that C.Balcus is working on for the Commission.
- 8) **2022 Budget-** G.Young informed the Commission that he has turned in the Budget to the Town Administrator's office who seemed pleased with the timeliness of said Budget.
- 9) **NH Lakes-** Michelle David, Program Manager, will be doing a presentation at the Commission's August 12th meeting. The CD3 unit will be deployed at the Alton Town Docks from September 16th through the 30th as that was the soonest it was available this year.

New Business:

- 1) **2022 NHACC Commissioner's Handbook-** G.Young informed the Commission the updated Handbooks are available and thought it would be a good idea to have several for the office and members.
B.Doyle made the motion to purchase 6 copies and was seconded by D.Rhodes. All were in favor. Motion passed.

Notice of Intent to Cut Timber: None.

Commissioner Reports:

Chair- None.

Vice Chair- Not Present.

Members-

R.Wilder- brought up the Mountain Bike Trail Proposal at the Cotton Hurd Property that was discussed at the last meeting on July 8, 2021. He wanted it stated for the record that he suggested to Jamey Balint

to look into the Alton Town Forest as an alternative location due to it being much bigger, and parking already being available, etc., and that the Lakes Region Conservation Trust (LRCT) was *Not* amenable to the project. In fact, they have a concern regarding mountain bikes meandering over other people's property as it happens often. LRCT already has 400 acres in Hill, NH for mountain biking as well as Sewall Woods in Wolfeboro. Further discussion over the Management Plan for LRCT's Cotton-Hurd property needing to be updated to talk about the Trout project. It also doesn't have any wheeled vehicles even contemplated. It's supposed to be a quiet place for fishing, walking, and that's it. R.Wilder added again that he just wanted it in the record that it was not likely at all that LRCT would be amenable to having anything like mountain biking on that property. R.Wilder called the NH Division of Forest and Lands in Concord and was told to have Mr. Balint contact Bob Spoerl, Land Agent and talk to him about the possibility of using the Alton Bay State Forest for his project, adding that there's a procedure for doing it with them and that they've done it on a bunch of other lands as well, so he doesn't understand why they don't even want to pursue that.

G.Young then informed the Commission of the article regarding issues with mountain biking that was in Yankee Magazine. It's on Dropbox if anyone wanted to read it. Brief discussion ensued over issues in different areas with aggressive riding, trespassing & destruction of habitat, etc. R.Wilder suggested that a few members walk the State Forest which is a couple hundred acres to get an idea, as the boundaries are very well marked and to see the trails already built through it, as it's closer to downtown, has parking, and would be good for businesses. The Commissioners agreed to walk it one morning in the next couple of weeks.

D.Rhodes- asked about the Trout Unlimited project and R.Wilder stated they're to start at the beginning of August. When they get to LRCT's piece, there were some concerns about interfering with the trail so that's going to be done pretty carefully. Dave Mallard and Tom Stephens will be with them as Tom was concerned with what they were proposing. He's confident it will be smoothed out and that folks will start to see the progress and trout and be happy with it. Brief discussion ensued.

Correspondence:

- 1) Budgeted Expense Sheet for Con/Com
- 2) Bank Statements for Con/Com
- 3) DES Dam Inspection Notice-Camp Kabeyun Sewage Lagoon Dam-Low Hazard
- 4) DES Dam Inspection Notice-Sunset Lake Dam-Significant Hazard
- 5) Belknap Range Conservation Coalition Meeting Minutes-
- 6) DES Shoreland Permit- Amended- Keenan- Hopewell Rd, M21 L6
- 7) DES Shoreland Permit- Big Barndoor Island, M80 L29
- 8) DES Shoreland Permit- 35 Brook Bridle Ln, M21 L12-3
- 9) DES Shoreland Permit- 144 Hopewell Rd, M21 L5
- 10) NH Div. of Forests & Lands- Wildlife Habitat Enhancement Project through Fish & Game Letter

Date and Time of Next Meeting:

Thursday, August 12, 2021, at 6:00pm

Adjournment: There being no further business, G.Young adjourned the meeting at 6:53pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Melinda N Ferreira
Building Dept/Conservation Secretary