

Atkinson Conservation Commission Minutes
April 7, 2014, 7:30 PM
Atkinson Town Hall

Members Present:

Tim Dziechowski
Dan Kimball
Pete McVay
Paul Wainwright
Denise Legault
Scott Kukshel

Others Present:

1. Call to order, attendance

Chairman Dziechowski called the meeting to order at 7:26 PM, Monday, April 7, 2014.

2. Guest Business and Plan Reviews:

Bill Steele to discuss trail maintenance in Sawyer Town Forest - not present

- Mr. Dziechowski explained background

Other guest business - none

3. Review of Correspondence

- Letter from Tom Carr with the paperwork for the donation letter. Mr. Carr informed the Commission that since his rate is higher (than in the donation letter) Mr. McVay could send him another one. Mr. Carr never got back to them. Mr. Dziechowski informed Mr. McVay that he could sign the letter as Secretary.
- Annual 2013 Report for the Rockingham County Conservation District
- Notice of a Public Hearing from the Planning Board regarding the April 16, 2014 meeting for an application for a site plan to do some logging at Hall Farm Road. The applicant, Mr. Stacy, is the son of the register of deeds. Mr. Stacy has been doing logging there for years but this is the first time he has filed a site plan. The parcel is west of the Gordon Brown property and south of town owned property.
- o **Planning Board Minutes and Agenda**
 - o March 2, 2014 workshop
 - Review wetlands buffers for the Master Plan future land use chapter - no disturb zones and or use of buffers was discussed
 - Review f . Dziechowski's table of recommendations on future use of undesignated town owned lands
 - o March 19, 2014 meeting

- Site plan amendments for Clinton Teague for the property on Industrial Way. There were concerns about undocumented and unpermitted fill of jurisdictional wetlands on Bob Allen's lot since the prior site plan. Mr. Tim LaVelle was hired to update the site plan but the only plan filed with the Planning Board shows jurisdictional wetlands. There is also storm water runoff on neighbor's lot.
- Tim Lavelle showed a plan providing for road access over Industrial Way to the Judge Marshall Town Forest via a lot line adjustment and a quitclaim deed from the town for the right of way.
- o April 2, 2014 workshop
 - Atkinson Farm - Josh Manning came in to discuss an additional 5 year extension for an alteration of terrain permit for the golf course condominium development. It has been extended twice. The consensus of the Planning Board is that since most of the site work has been done, there will not be a problem with extending. A site walk is scheduled.
 - The land at the Page Homestead, the 13 acre homestead and the 2 acre Gordon Brown house parcel are being marketed as a single parcel for \$1.8 million; so easements have not been filed and development may not go in if they find a buyer. One issue is the cost of putting in a road, which will be a minimum \$800,000. Another issue is the cost of the community septic and the current use change tax. With only 8 lots proposed, it will only be marginally profitable.
- o **ZBA Minutes and Agenda**
- o no meeting in March
- o 4/9/14 meeting - Tim Lavelle will present an application for relief from zone buffers for Industrial Way lots abutting the Judge Marshall Town Forest.

4. Dredge and Fills / Site Walks / Complaints

- o Concerns about land development on 32 acres at Map 16 Lot 9. This is the lot that Bob Allen bought. They have not disturbed the wetland but they have taken out every tree and grubbed stumps with a steam shovel. Chairperson Killam of the Planning Board has spoken to Mr. Allen and he informed her that he is just keeping people working. In May he will be applying for an 8 parcel industrial subdivision. He is waiting until May because he does not have wetlands maps. Another issue is the new Environmental Protection Agency permit required if more than one acre is disturbed. It is a Storm Water General Construction permit. The Alteration of Terrain people, particularly Evan Lewis, are looking into it. The Conservation Commission and the Planning Board will be addressing the issues. Mr. Allen did request a permit to cut. Mr. Allen will be coming to the Conservation Commission to present plans.
- o Stantec Engineering attended the April 2, 2014 Planning Board meeting. Mr. LaChance will no longer be working for Stantec and the Board met Mr. LaChance's replacement. The new storm water runoff regulations were discussed. The new regulations are very stringent and the Town Administrator is concerned about compliance.
- o 2014 perambulation - not done
- o Monitoring form for the Caroline Orr Town Forest

5. Other Business

- The Town Forest warrant article passed 1239 to 281
- Mr. Dziechowski replied to an email inquiry about the town firewood program. There is concern about the ash borer beetle and cutting ash trees.
- The canoe dock is out of the water and is at the town garage for repairs. Mr. Dziechowski has looked at the dock and will order parts this week. Mr. Stewart wants pipe guides on the sides of the docks.
- The DRED grant paperwork for trail upgrades in the Sawyer Town Forest
- The donation letter from Tom Carr was returned - Mr. McVay will take care of it.
- Future trail plan and work - Mr. McVay will talk to Mr. Steele.
- Scout Troop 9 will be camping in Bonin Field the weekend of April 11, 2014. Mr. Dziechowski gave them letter granting landowner permission for campfires. They will get two permits from the fire department, one for a campfire and one to have a pit fire. They will clean up and burn brush from the edge of the field and the trails as a service project. The Conservation Commission will be installing a fire pit for them to use. Mr. Dziechowski showed the Commission where the Scouts will be camping. They will clear some brush in the areas where it is difficult to mow and along the trails. Mr. Dziechowski was informed by some of the Scout Leaders that there is a very overgrown path in one area that they will clear out.
- Mr. Dziechowski suggested Mr. McVay meet with Mr. Crousey regarding future trail work. Bill Steele is interested in doing volunteer work. Mr. Dziechowski suggested a trail warden system and vacant associate member slots. and schedule for meetings with volunteers for trail work. There are also SCA personnel available from Bear Creek willing to do trail work. The SCA personnel will be at Earth Day at Massabesic. Mr. McVay will finish the plans.
- There are issues with shrub bushes and stumps at the camping site. The only solution is to mow more often. The Commission discussed solutions. Mr. Kimball informed the Commission that in the '70's the field was all grass, and there is still one corner that is still all grass. There is another field that is all grass, too. The easiest place to mow and camp is the Trinity field at the Caroline Orr Town Forest. One solution would be to mow part of the field in the summer. The Commission continued to discuss camp sites. The Commission discussed potential camp sites for the scouting troops. This should be part of future trail plan work. Mr. Kimball informed the Commission that if the camping area were rototilled, seeded, and kept mowed the issues with scrub brush would be solved. Only a small part of the field has to be more carefully maintained. Mr. Dziechowski suggested Mr. McVay look at Bill Steele's email and look up the trail warden program; and possibly organize a meeting.
- The Scouts have been given a seasonal permit to camp in the Bonner field, providing they notify the Conservation Commission. They also have been given a letter allowing them to have a bonfire. Mr. Dziechowski will dig a pit and have Mr. Stewart dump a truckload of sand.
- Town tax map errors/updates - Mr. Dziechowski will review maps with Barbara Snicer.
 - Drawdown - nothing

7. Other New Business - none

8. Internal Business

- Mr. Wainwright and Mr. Kimball have expiring terms and need to be reappointed.

- Secretary report - minutes unapproved year to date are - February 3, February 24, and March 3, 2014

9. **Minutes** - deferred

10. **Adjournment**

Mr. Dziechowski requested a motion to adjourn.

Mr. Paul Wainwright made a motion to adjourn. Ms. Denise Legault seconded the motion. The Commission voted all in favor to adjourn the February 3, 2014 meeting of the Conservation Commission at 8:28 pm. Vote: 6/0.

The April 7, 2014 meeting of the Conservation Commission was adjourned at 8:23 PM.

The next meeting will be Monday May 5, 2014 at 7:30 PM.