

LANCASTER CONSERVATION COMMISSION (LCC) MEETING
Town Hall Town Hall Second Floor Auditorium – September 30, 2021

Initial Business:

The meeting was called to order at 4 PM by Racheal Stuart. Roll Call. Members present: Margaret Hobbs, Troy Merner, Nancy Southworth, Racheal Stuart, Ben Mayne, Linda Gilmore, Kathy-Jean Lavoie. Members absent: Kim Votta (planned absence).
Public: Ben Gaetjens-Oleson, City Manager, Abby Mayne

Approve Minutes from August 9 and August 18, 2021

After minor spelling corrections were noted, Merner motioned that the minutes for 8/9/21 be accepted with suggested corrections. Lavoie seconded. For the 9/21/21 minutes, Merner motioned that the minutes be accepted with spelling corrections. Stuart seconded the motion. Both motions were carried by unanimous vote.

Appointment(s) and Public Hearing(s)

Sam and Abby Mayne – Heritage Trail Maintenance. Public attendee Abby Mayne and committee member Sam Mayne presented their updated proposal for restoration work on the Heritage Trail (see attached). They are asking that the LCC sponsor their efforts. Discussion followed regarding the authority of the LCC to sponsor the Trail or form a subcommittee. Members questioned the city manager about the original Heritage Trail governance. The City Manager will research the Trail background and will bring it to the attention of the Select Board. He will get some direction for the LCC by the next meeting. Action on Mayne's request was deferred to the October meeting.

New Business:

Ongoing and Unfinished Business:

Review of LCC Workplan Topics

Stuart suggested that the focus should be on time-sensitive Conservation Fund Status. Further discussion set aside in the interests of time.

Conservation Fund update

Lavoie reported that the auditor verified a \$2,986 credit to the Conservation Fund in our favor for 2018. As the Conservation Funds can be rolled over from year to year, the current amount now standing at \$17,2019 as of 2019. More land in Lancaster has been taken out of Current Use in 2020 and 2021, so that amount will increase as those funds are deposited. Lavoie noted that Fund can be used as a match for the ARM application.

Easement Monitoring

Southworth reported that the town held 7 easements. She will begin her audits in November. Stowell (33 acres at the intersection of Weeks Rd. and Martin Meadow Pond Rd.) is the only parcel that has not be audited in the past. She has completed landowner outreach and is recruiting a team. She agreed to reach out to LCC member Kim Votta. Town Manager volunteered to assist. Southworth noted that she cannot audit her own property or that of her son, Ben Southworth. Morgan Hill (volunteer) Stuart, Mayne and Lavoie offered to participate.

Eversource Project

Stuart uploaded the project status doc to Google Drive. Eversource’s and permit has been approved by DES and they have started work. They send her weekly updates with a 3-week look ahead (TWLA) forecast. Stuart will monitor TWLA for opportunities for the LCC to engage with Eversource. Email Stuart if you want a copy of the doc. Southworth asked Stuart to forward it to her.

Reading of communications directed to Commission

None

Nonpublic Session

Stuart called for a motion to move into non-public session as follows: Motion to move into a nonpublic session pursuant to RSA 91-A:3 II(d): Consideration of the acquisition, sale or lease of real or personal property which, if discussed in public, would likely benefit a party or parties whose interests are adverse to those of the general community. Merner made the motion and Hobbs seconded. The motion was carried by unanimous roll call vote. Voting in favor were Merner, Southworth, Mayne, Lavoie, Hobbs, and Stuart.

Motion to seal the minutes for nonpublic meeting

The non-public session ended at 5:13 pm. Stuart entertained a motion to seal the minutes of the nonpublic session. Merner motioned to seal the minutes and Southworth seconded. The motion was carried by a unanimous roll call vote. Voting yes: Southworth, Hobbs, Mayne, Merner, Lavoie, Stuart. Lavoie left the meeting at 5:15 p.m.

Select Board Report

There was no report from the Select Board.

Treasurer’s Report:

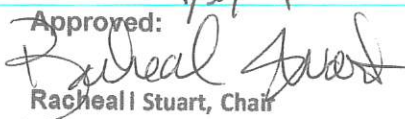
Monthly Budget-to-Actual. In Lavoie’s absence, Stuart distributed the financial report to committee members.

Other Business as may be legally brought before the meeting

None

Adjournment

There being no further business, Stuart called for a motion to adjourn. Hobbs motioned to adjourn the meeting. Merner seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 5:17 pm.

4/30/21
Approved: 
Rachael I Stuart, Chair


Kathy Jean Lavoie, Vice Chair