



TOWN OF BOW

Conservation Commission

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Approved as amended on October 5, 2020

Bow Conservation Commission

September 14, 2020

Minutes

The regular meeting of the Bow Conservation Commission was held on September 14, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. via ZOOM Meeting Software. Chair Sandy Crystall called the meeting to order with reading the virtual meeting checklist and introduction of the members.

Members present: Sandy Crystall, Wendy Waskin, Bob Ball, Michael Hansen, and Dik Dagavarian. Ms. Crystall noted that Dan Weed from Bow Pioneers had asked to address the Commission. Mr. Weed introduced himself and asked questions about the recent approval of the conditional use permit for constructing a bridge and its relationship to NHDES wetland permitting. Ms. Crystall explained the NHDES process associated with such permitting and how Federal agencies (EPA and the Corps of Engineers) get brought into the process. She also explained to Mr. Weed how to check the status of the wetlands permit application with the NHDES OneStop web application

Items for Consideration/Discussion

Turee Pond - Sampling, milfoil removal

Mr. Ball provided an update on the diver's work on Turee Pond and showed the locations on the map. Members discussed continued presence of milfoil and increase even with the recent herbicide treatment. Ms. Crystall thanked Mr. Ball and Mr. Dagavarian for their time spent assisting the diver. Members also discussed the need to check if other lakes in the state have had similar issues after milfoil treatment with the new herbicide used in Turee Pond.

Mr. Ball also provided a short update on VRAP and VLAP monitoring and upcoming measurements. Ms. Crystall noted that there was a small incident with the sign limiting boat horsepower on the pond that had been ripped out and has been reinstalled.

NRI update

Ms. Crystall noted that she had recently sent the comments on the report and the Story Map to the consultant but has not heard back yet. She said that a public meeting would need to be scheduled once the document is finalized.

Status of land donation (Pusher/Chadwick)

Ms. Crystall displayed the map of the lot in question and provided a description of it in terms of wildlife action plan ranking, connectivity to other conservation land, trails, etc. Members discussed stewardship plans for the parcel. It was suggested that a conservation easement should be placed on the parcel and held by Bow Open Spaces. It would be necessary to review the deed to see if that is currently stated.

Ms. Waskin made a motion to accept the land donation and a recommendation that after consultation an easement be placed on it by Bow Open Spaces Mr. Dagavarian duly seconded and motion passed 4:0:1 by a roll call vote: Ms. Waskin – yes; Mr. Ball – yes; Mr. Dagavarian – yes; Ms. Crystall – yes; Mr. Hansen – abstained due to having to leave the meeting at 7:43 PM.

Upcoming Select Board Annual meeting with Committee chairs

Ms. Crystall said that there is an upcoming meeting of the Board of Selectmen with all chairs. In response to an observation by Ms. Waskin from last years' meeting, she asked the members for suggestions on how the Board of Selectmen could be of help to the Commission. A suggestion was made to ask for staff support for grant writing.

Research funding for land protection

Ms. Crystall displayed a table with a list of funding sources and suggested that each member research several sources of grants for land conservation. Members discussed the sources of possible applications and several members offered to research further. Ms. Waskin will look into Forest Legacy and Fields Pond Foundation. Mr. Ball will take up North American Wetlands Conservation funding, and Mr. Dagavarian will research LCHIP grants. Mr. Ball noted that it would be helpful to research match requirements for each option. Ms. Crystall added that the areas that should be researched are the focus of funding, match amounts, and activities that are eligible. She added that she will create a work sheet for the members to add information to.

Other items

Ms. Crystall noted that the zoning amendment season is here and asked the members to start thinking about possible changes that could be proposed.

Ms. Crystall also provided an update on the status of the public water system previously discussed, where Abenaki had received permission from the Town to drill test wells on Town Forest and later decided not to do so as they were able to use existing wells.

Minutes from 08/17/2020

Draft minutes from 08/17/2020 were reviewed and changes were made. Mr. Ball made a motion to approve the minutes as amended. Mr. Dagavarian duly seconded and motion passed by a 4:0 roll call vote: Ms. Crystall – yes; Mr. Ball – yes; Ms. Waskin – yes; Mr. Dagavarian – yes.

Ms. Crystall noted that a buckslip has been received for a small commercial subdivision with no wetlands/buffer impacts. There will be a Planning Board sitewalk on September 17, at 6:00 at 48 Ryan Road for a site plan application.

Ms. Waskin made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Ball seconded and motion passed unanimously.

Next meeting: October 5, 2020 (7 pm)

Meeting adjourned at 8:26 PM.