



MINUTES OF THE NASHUA CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Tuesday, April 5, 2016

A. Call to order

A regular meeting of the Nashua Conservation Commission was called to order on Tuesday, April 5, 2016 at 7:00 PM, in Room 208, City Hall, and Second Floor - 229 Main Street.

B. Roll call

Chairman Michael Gallagher, presided;

Members of the Commission Present: Sherry Dutzy
Donald Cederquist
Brandon Pierotti
Richard Gillespie

C. Approval of Minutes

) March 1, 2016 – regular meeting

Commissioner Dutzy said the following paragraphs should be added on page 2, prior to Chairman Gallagher's motion:

"Mr. Bollinger stated that there was a pending purchase and sale agreement in place and that an easement would lessen the value of the land.

Several Commissioners and others present questioned the validity of a P&S agreement on land that couldn't be sold until all toxins were removed which could be 10, 20 or 30 years from now. Mr. Bollinger held firm that this was non-negotiable.

Commissioner Dutzy stated that she recognized and appreciated the effort and thoughtfulness that went into the plan and felt that all involved were doing their best to rectify the situation responsibly. However, since this was possibly the last shot at getting public access to this waterfront property to complete a walking trail for the residents of Nashua, and in lieu of the fact that Nashua was getting no direct remuneration for severe impact to the wetlands buffer, she felt that a conservation easement was critical to the project moving forward."

Commissioner Cederquist said the minutes should reflect his statement regarding his support of the project, but not of the motion with stipulations.

**MOTION BY COMMISSIONER DUTZY, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER GILLESPIE,
TO ACCEPT AND PLACE ON FILE THE MINUTES OF THE MARCH 1, 2016 MEETING,
AS AMENDED
MOTION CARRIED**

- D. New Business—none**
- E. Old Business—none**
- F. Other Business and Updates—none**
- G. NCC Correspondence and Communications**

) Letter from Key Environmental

Chairman Gallagher handed out copies of a letter to the Commissioners. In the letter, Key Environmental explained their position as it pertains to an easement on the Beazer site.

Commissioner Dutzy said the letter leads her to believe that Beazer is still open to discussions regarding an easement. Does the letter hold any water or is it a nicety?

Chairman Gallagher re-read a portion of the letter. He said he believes that they are not saying no, but they are looking to move forward with the project and take up the easement issue later on.

Commissioner Dutzy said it was her understanding that, for future development of the site, a plan would need to be presented to the Zoning Board, even if it did not come before the Commission again.

Chairman Gallagher said it would have to go to planning, not necessarily the Zoning Board. He said it was his opinion that this was most likely the last time the property would come before the Commission, which is why the subject of the easement was pursued.

Commissioner Cederquist said it appears to be a large project, and so it is important for the Commission to consider the project timeline and the effect of a delay.

Commissioner Dutzy said she does not understand why an easement for a walking path is such a big issue.

Commissioner Cederquist said Beazer is on a consent order from DES and they have to do the work within a certain timeframe.

Chairman Gallagher said the Commission has done its job in passing the application on to the Zoning Board. He said he will be attending the ZBA meeting on April 12th.

**MOTION BY CHAIRMAN GALLAGHER, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER
CEDERQUIST, TO ACCEPT AND PLACE ON FILE THE LETTER DATED APRIL 1, 2016
FROM KEY ENVIRONMENTAL AND BEAZER EAST RE: NASHUA SPECIAL
EXCEPTION APPLICATION
MOTION CARRIED**

- H. Items**

) Southwest Trails

Chairman Gallagher said he spoke with Ally McKnight in the Mayor's office regarding a Southwest Trails dedication. The date they came up with is Saturday, May 14th.

Commissioner Dutzy said she spoke with Mr. Houston, Planning Department Manager, and he said they are unable to move forward with signage for the trail because the Commission never gave final approval on the wording. She said she thought that they voted on it already.

Chairman Gallagher handed out the proposed wording; this include wording for a 'Trail Rules' sign, map of the project and Esker and vernal pool signs.

Commissioner Gillespie said, regarding the 'Trail Rules' wording, "beverage" should be plural. He added that "No fires" should be added somewhere on the sign.

Commissioner Dutzy recommended the wording, "No campers, camping or fires."

Commissioner Gillespie said paintball should also be listed as prohibited.

Chairman Gallagher said paintball might fall under the "No discharging of weapons" rule.

Commissioner Pierotti recommended the phrase "or dumping" be added to the rule regarding littering. The rule would read, "No Littering or Dumping: Carry In/Carry Out."

Chairman Gallagher said, regarding the handout containing the map, patrons of the trail will be able to access the map on their phones by scanning the QR code on the sign.

Commissioner Gillespie said "Lovewells" Pond should be changed to "Lovewell" Pond on the map. He suggested the easterly portion of "Old Ridge Road" should be removed.

Commissioner Pierotti asked if Police and/or Code Enforcement will be tasked with enforcing the trail rules.

Chairman Gallagher said yes, but enforcement is going to be an issue in general. This project is within Sector 12 in the City, which is only dedicated one patrol car.

Chairman Gallagher said the Commission can choose from two bridges and a boardwalk to be dedicated to Alderman Brian McCarthy and former Alderman Barbara Pressly. He asked if anyone had a preference.

Commissioner Dutzy suggested dedicating the boardwalk to former Ald. Pressly and one of the bridges to Ald. McCarthy.

The Commissioners agreed on the boardwalk and the bridge in the Buckmeadow area.

Commissioner Gillespie said, regarding the Esker sign, he thought they had agreed to remove the image and just keep the text.

The Commissioners agreed that this is what they had previously decided on.

Chairman Gallagher said the Commission needs to decide on a maintenance plan for the trail system. He was presented with a proposal from Morin's Landscaping, but it does not reflect his recent discussions with Mr. Houston. He said he is not comfortable moving forward with the

proposal as it stands, and he would like to meet with Roger and Morin's again, and then meet as a Commission to discuss. He said he will ask Ms. Panny to send out notice for a special meeting on April 19th so that the Commission can go into non-public to discuss.

) Farm-to-Table project

Commissioner Dutzy said she has been in discussions with Andrew Morin. He and his team are looking for a parcel of land in Nashua to be used for a farming operation, which provides food to local nonprofit agencies. They are interested in finding farmable conservation land.

Chairman Gallagher said he is unsure of any conservation land that would be suitable. Mr. Morin may want to talk to the City Parks Department to see if there is a portion of City-owned land that would be more accessible.

- I. **Project Updates by Commissioners**
- J. **Nonpublic Session**
- K. **Adjournment**

**MOTION BY COMMISSIONER CEDERQUIST, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER GILLESPIE, TO ADJOURN
MOTION CARRIED**

APPROVED:

Richard Gillespie, Clerk, Nashua Conservation Commission

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Prepared by: Mindy Lloyd

Taped Meeting