

Bristol Conservation Commission
November 4, 2020
Meeting Minutes

APPROVED: 12/2/20

Members Present: Carroll Brown, Chair; Richard Batchelder, Janet Cote, Karen Bemis

Absent: Bonnie MacGillivray Blount

Others Present: Christina Goodwin, Land Use Manager

Call to Order:

Mr. Brown stated that the Governor's Emergency Orders allow for meetings to be held both in-person and electronically due to the pandemic. Members of the Board and public are attending in-person, via video or via telephone conference. The meeting opened at 7:02 pm by roll-call vote 4-0.

Minutes of September 2, 2020:

J. Cote motioned to approve the minutes of September 2, 2020, seconded by K. Bemis. The motion carried by roll-call vote 4-0-0.

New Business:

Special Use Permits – Septic Requirement

Mr. Brown discussed septic requirements and clarified the distance from a leach field to wetlands as required by the NH Department of Environmental Services (NHDES). He stated that the distance was at 75 feet for poorly drained soils and 50 feet for very poorly drained soils. Mr. Brown spoke with Rob Tardiff who approves septic designs and inquired on the reasoning behind why other towns are recommending above the standard State levels. Mr. Tardiff stated there is no known reason or science behind it, that he is aware of. In either case, it should be 75 feet from the edge of the leach field to the soles. The Commission discussed whether to amend the recommended footage for septic systems. Ms. Goodwin advised that in the research that they have completed thus far, there is no indication why the Town chose the 125 feet. The Commission members agreed to research more before making any recommendations to amend the regulations.

Fox Run Road

Ms. Goodwin stated the Town has been approached by owners of Fox Run Road to trade property and correct the location of the cul-de-sac on paper. The developers of Fox Run Road did not place the cul-de-sac in the correction location and now the current owner of the two lots involved on one side of the road, would like to trade out the location to correct it on paper. There is a statute that requires the Conservation Commission and Planning Board to review the proposal and provide recommendation to the Select Board on whether to proceed with the transaction or not. The Commission would like to submit that this will not affect any environmental changes that the Conservation Commission has jurisdiction over it. J. Cote motioned to submit this to the Select Board, K. Bemis 2nd. The motion carried by roll-call vote 4-0-0.

Unfinished Business:

Shore Drive Update

Ms. Goodwin stated that the remediation has been completed and the Town has inspected the work and sent a report to NHDES. The landing was removed, gradual grade from the road down to the beach fixed,

rocks placed at the bottom for erosion control, and a fabric layer placed over the top with stakes to hold the fabric in place until the grass comes in.

By-laws

Mr. Brown had made edits to the by-laws and submitted to the members to review. The first two pages were reviewed and edited as a group and the review will be continued to the next meeting.

Membership ideas – binders, brochures, etc

Ms. Goodwin showed the Commission members a sample brochure for the Planning Board and asked if they wanted to put out a similar brochure explaining what the Conservation Commission does. Mrs. Cote offered to work with Ms. Goodwin to put one together. Mr. Batchelder stated the brochure was a wonderful idea. Ms. Goodwin and Mr. Brown discussed working together to create binders for new members.

Catterall Easement Monitoring

Mr. Brown stated that he will call this month and set up an appointment for all members to attend. Ms. Goodwin stated that the monitoring should be done prior to the next meeting as the report is due by the end of December.

Commission Member Items:

Mrs. Cote sent an email including the membership cost for the next year once budgets have been finalized and dropped off the spring's test results in the drop box.

Communications:

Shoreland Impact Permit 2020-02019 – Map/Lot #110-059 - 77 West Shore Road – was reviewed. Ms. Goodwin stated that the house was torn down. The increase of height was approved by the Zoning Board, but the building in the setbacks was not. The owner has moved the building out of the setbacks and has relocated the septic. The only concern was running into the ledge as it is needed to be blasted.

Shoreland Impact Permit 2020-01807 – Map/Lot #204-001 – Mayhew Island - was reviewed.

Breck-Plankey Spring - Mr. Brown shared that the September water samples were taken, and the results were good. He also shared a letter from a resident who was thankful for the spring, that signs are posted, that people are social distancing at the spring, and that the area is well maintained.

Next Meeting:

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, December 2, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. There are no anticipated applications, at this time.

Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn at 8:30pm by Mr. Batchelder, seconded by Mrs. Cote. The motion carried by roll-call vote 4-0-0.

Respectfully submitted,
Shannon Wharton