



## TOWN OF BOW

### Conservation Commission

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**Approved as amended on May 15, 2017.**

### **Bow Conservation Commission**

**Meeting April 17, 2017**

#### **Minutes**

The regular monthly meeting of the Bow Conservation Commission was held on April 17 at 7:30 PM. Chair Sandy Crystall called the meeting to order.

Members present: Sandy Crystall, Wendy Waskin, and Bob Ball. David Kirkpatrick and Kitty Lane were absent. Also present was Alvina Snegach, recording secretary.

#### **Unapproved minutes 03/06/2017**

After reviewing the minutes and making changes Mr. Ball made the motion, duly seconded by Ms. Waskin, to approve the minutes as amended. Motion passed with a unanimous vote.

#### **Items for Consideration/Discussion:**

##### **1. Wetland CUP - #401-17 Dubois/Behner (Mike Seraikas).**

Ms. Crystall read the item into the record and noted that a sitewalk at the property took place right before the meeting. Mike Seraikas of Beaver Brook Environmental Consultants Inc. introduced himself and Scott Behner, who has a Purchase and Sale agreement on the property. Mr. Seraikas displayed the plan for a lot on 94 Allen Road (block 3, lot 31-M) on the board and went over the details: overall wetlands impact, wetland buffer impact, locating the house in the front of the lot, aiming to keep the remainder of the lot in current use, building a 4 foot wide boardwalk over the wetlands to have access to the back of the lot, and minimizing wetland impacts. He then answered BCC questions about the extent of the wetland impact, sediment/erosion control measures/inspections during construction, restoration/stabilization methods, wetland delineation, and the status of the NH DES wetlands permit. In conclusion Mr. Seraikas reviewed each of the CUP granting criteria stipulated in section 12.05 of the Town of Bow Zoning Ordinance. After a short discussion, Ms. Waskin made a motion to approve the Wetland CUP # 401-17 with the following notations:

- a) 4 ft wide boardwalk to be moved to the 20 ft setback to minimize impact to the very poorly drained soils in the wetland.
- b) Place markers along the approved extent of disturbance, as shown by the silt fence location.
- c) Condition construction of boardwalk upon receipt of state wetland permit.

Motion was duly seconded by Mr. Ball and passed with a unanimous vote.

## **2. Weed watcher workshop.**

Ms. Waskin provided a brief update. Workshop will take place on May 11, 2017 at 7 PM and a room has been reserved in the Baker Free Library. Discussion arose about the need to create a flyer and ways to advertise the event to Bow residents and organizations. Ms. Crystall made a suggestion to include any requirements that Amy Smagula may have for participants into the flyer.

## **3. Turee Pond – status of various activities.**

### **VLAP (Volunteer Lake Assessment Program)**

Mr. Ball handed out an email from Sara Steiner from NH DES about Turee Pond VLAP sampling. Members discussed the locations and frequency of sampling. Ms. Crystall noted that the “Village Inlet” location is actually an outlet and that review of sampling locations is needed to make sure that samples are taken where necessary. Mr. Ball will discuss it with Ms. Steiner. Ms. Waskin made a motion, duly seconded by Ms. Crystall to approve resuming the VLAP program for Turee Pond to include monthly sampling from May to September each year, according to the parameters recommended by NHDES. Motion passed with a unanimous vote. Mr. Ball added that he had signed up for a refresher workshop conducted by DES on May 20 and said that he would notify the members of the time of the first sampling in case they would like to come out and observe.

Ms. Crystall mentioned that she had emailed Matt Carpenter at NH Fish and Game to inquire about a fish survey of Turee Pond and Mr. Carpenter indicated that he could likely conduct a survey after early July.

### **Turee Pond Kiosk**

Ms. Waskin said she had received an email from NH Fish and Game with pictures of the kiosk, which showed it looking good, however she did not drive by to check the current state of the kiosk. Ms. Crystall noted that the kiosk information is not in good shape and needs replacement, in particular the information that Kally Abrams had posted several years ago. Ms. Crystall noted that Weed Watchers flyer should be posted on it as well.

## **Planning Board/ZBA referrals, mail, workshops (past and future)**

### **Bow Auto Parts – (PB site walk: Thursday, April 20)**

Ms. Crystall mentioned that the site walk will take place on Thursday, April 20, and that the BCC had already looked at the site plan application and filled out a referral form supporting the reduced number of parking spaces. (The proposed project has no impacts to any wetland or wetland buffer).

## **Bow Open Spaces meeting (4/4/17) – items discussed**

### **Sale of Barbara Person property anticipated**

Ms. Crystall noted that she had attended the meeting and briefly conveyed the issues that were discussed in regards to the Barbara Person’s property sale and the updates to the BOS website. A short discussion ensued about the need to display town forests on the BCC website.

### **NFWF – grant**

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Ms. Crystall summarized the email that she had received from Selectman Judd about New England Forests and Rivers Fund request for proposals. Discussion followed about amounts, matches, qualifying standards, and whether action could be taken at all. General consensus was that the time constraints this year prohibit the commission from submitting a proposal, however, the opportunity should be reviewed again next year.

#### **Eagle Scout project and letter**

Ms. Crystall described the project completed in Nottingcook forest an Eagle Scout. A sign had been made that identified trails and mountains in the Great Hill view. Ms. Crystall noted that she will contact Harry Hadaway and discuss options of expressing gratitude to the Eagle Scout for his effort.

#### **Notes from Hilary Warner's attendance at Saving Special Places conference**

Ms. Crystall will print the notes received from Ms. Warner and provide them to the members at a later date.

#### **Other items**

##### **Town bridge work in Bow (wetland permit applications)**

Ms. Crystall described the three wetland permits the Town had submitted to the NHDES that the BCC had received. Permits are for three bridges: Birchdale Road, Page Road, and Dunklee Road. Discussion ensued over jurisdiction matters, wetland impact extents, and the need to comment. Ms. Crystall noted that she will ask that the BCC is copied on information related to the above mentioned permits. Ms. Waskin added that BCC should trust NHDES recommendations for approving the permits.

##### **Eversource proposed wetland application – temporary impact in Merrimack River**

Ms. Crystall read the item into the record. Allan Palmer from Eversource introduced himself and drew attention of the members to the plans distributed earlier. He briefly stated the details of the dredge and fill application submitted to NHDES and noted that this presentation to the BCC is out of courtesy because the Town ordinance does not require a conditional use permit for scientific research within the wetlands district; it is a permitted use. The project proposes a temporary placement of a tripod stand supporting a water intake screen on the bed of the Merrimack River at Merrimack Station. The screen will be connected to an onshore pump via a hose that will also sit on the river bottom. The project is part of a research study to determine the effectiveness of the screen design to exclude entrainment of aquatic organisms such as eggs and larvae. The objective is compliance with requirements of Section 316 (B) of the Clean Water Act. Mr. Palmer then answered questions about screen parameters, lab counts, duration, worst possible damage, if any, divers' involvement, and research itself. In conclusion, Mr. Palmer mentioned that lab reports would be made available for review and BCC members were welcome to visit the site any time.

##### **Status of timber harvest.**

Ms. Crystall contacted Ron Klemarczyk who explained why timber harvest has not happened yet (unpredictability of an extended cold spell after the warm February). Ms. Crystall shared the information with the Conservation Commission. Discussion ensued about best time of year for such activity. Ms. Crystall will email Ron Klemarczyk to discuss with him about attending an upcoming BCC meeting in the near future.

**Future workshops/outreach (invasive insects, Turee Pond – VLAP/milfoil, etc.)**

Mr. Ball noted that he followed up with Kyle Lombard from the NH Dept of Resources and Economic Development (DRED) about coming to talk to the BCC about invasive insects, and Hemlock Woolly Adelgid in particular. Ms. Crystall made a suggestion that the Emerald Ash Borer discussion could also be included into the workshop. A short discussion followed about when to schedule it and who to inform about the workshop.

**Conservation easement monitoring – OEP**

Ms. Crystall noted that due to the recent snowstorm, the conservation easement monitoring of the Town owned properties has been rescheduled to May 3, 2017 and invited the members to attend. A short discussion arose about where the easement conditions are written down, and what the monitoring criteria are.

**Mail/other business**

Ms. Waskin will be attending a vernal pool workshop at Antioch University, the cost for which is \$60. Mr. Ball made a motion to cover the cost of attendance out of BCC funds, Ms. Crystall duly seconded, and motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Ms. Crystall listed all the mail received by the BCC this month:

- Traffic count collection for the Town of Bow from CNHRPC;
- Violation notice for a failing septic system on one of the lots in Bow;
- Scott Behner CUP Planning Board referral form.

**Next Meeting:** May 15, 2017.

**Mr. Ball moved, Ms. Waskin seconded to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 9:13 PM**