

Natural Resources and Conservation Meeting

Draft Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, August 8, 2018
Meeting Room 2, Shelburne Town Offices

Attendance:

Members Attending

Gail Albert (Chair), Don Rendall (Vice Chair), Kyle Bergeron, Peg Rosenau, Jon Cocina, Fred Morgan, Hannah Frasure, Susan Moegenburg, Sean MacFaden (7:59 pm)

Committee Staff Attending

Dean Pierce

Guests/others attending

Bart Frisbee of Sterling Homes

Call to order:

The meeting was called to order by Gail Albert at 7:00 pm.

Approval of Agenda:

Gail Albert called for approval of the agenda. Don Rendall moved to approve the agenda. Jon Cocina seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Minutes:

Gail Albert called for approval of the minutes. Jon Cocina moved to approve the minutes. Fred Morgan seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Public Comment:

There were no public comments.

Development Review:

Bart Frisbee summarized the Rare Plant Search completed by Art Gilman for the committee. Bart made clear that he was hoping for the SNRCC to endorse a \$20,000 purchase of Lot 4 (2.53 acres) of the Sterling Construction Irish Hill Road project from the Open Space Fund. The committee extensively discussed the possibility of the purchase.

Gail Albert made a motion that there was a matter that requires executive session, seconded by Don Rendall. The motion passed unanimously. Gail Albert made a second motion to cause the committee to enter executive session, seconded by Don Rendall. The motion passed unanimously. Don Rendall moved to exit executive session, Susan Moegenburg seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Don Rendall moved that the committee recommend to the Select Board to conserve Lot 4. Fred Morgan seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Dean Pierce briefly updated the committee on other Development projects.

Conservation Projects

Dean Pierce updated the committee on pending conservation projects.

Planning Commission Items:

Dean Pierce updated the committee on the memorandum to the Planning Commission regarding Modification of Density Requirements.

He then moved to the proposed changes to Planned Unit Development Requirements. Susan Moegenburg expressed concern about the language in the Design Standards for PUD's that states that building envelopes should avoid open fields and instead be located in wooded areas or field edges. She pointed out that the language places the importance of viewsheds above that of core habitats which are increasingly rare. Dean reminded the committee that the Planning Commission will be discussing these issues at their meeting on 9/13 and encouraged the committee to attend to express their ideas and opinions.

Other Business

Dean Pierce clarified to the committee the ongoing monitoring at the former Harbor Industries site at the Shelburne Realty property.

The committee expressed interest in an update on the water quality monitoring on the Vermont Railroad property on the LaPlatte.

Susan Moegenburg updated the committee on the work of the Stormwater Utility Committee. She informed the committee that there will be a public hearing on the draft documents regarding the utility on 9/25.

Gail encouraged the committee to think about the committees future budget request for both the Open Space fund and the committee's general fund before a discussion at the next meeting.

Dean Pierce inquired to the committee if anyone had information on the mowing near Rivercrest on the bird sanctuary.

Jon Cocina brought up the importance of being proactive in regards to conservation projects as opposed to reactive and encouraged the committee to discuss that matter at a later date.

Schedule for Minute taking:

Jon Cocina volunteered to take the minutes at the October meeting.

Adjourn:

Susan Moegenburg moved to adjourn at 9:00 pm. Fred Morgan seconded. The motion passed unanimously.