

Conservation Commission Minutes  
December 9, 2014

Present: Mitch Wacksman, Zach Matzkin, John Planinsek, Richard Bauman, Garvan Donegan, Marti Blair, Town Planner Maureen O'Meara, Council Liaison Molly MacAuslan

Meeting called to order at 7:08 p.m.

1. Out-going Conservation Commission members Richard Bauman and John Planinsek were thanked for their years of excellent service.
2. The minutes of November 10, 2014 were approved unanimously.
3. Changes in dog usage rules at Robinson Woods by Cape Elizabeth Land Trust. The town holds an easement over Robinson Woods II, which does ensure public access. However, CELT has the right to make rules for the property. The new rules allow dogs off the leash only until 9:00 a.m. The issues are dog waste, overuse, and aggression by some dogs. The Planner recommends that the Commission monitors the situation but does not consider the issue unless asked by the Council.

The Open Space Management Plan for town property allows dogs off the leash but under voice control, and requires clean-up of waste near the trail.

4. Town Center Trail/Vinnie's Trail. The Planner contacted the Public Works Director who advised that we would need permission from the Portland Water District, but that a bridge over the overflow would probably not be permitted. The Planner contacted Skip Murray for an estimate for a 5-foot wide linear path, with gravel and stone dust.
5. Winnick Woods new trail. It would be necessary to pay a firm to put together a permit-by-rule application to DEP for a bridge, which would cost in the neighborhood of \$2500. NEMBA will be requested to pay the balance for the costs of the permit application.

Motion: To authorize a permit application to DEP for a new bridge at Winnick Woods, up to an additional \$1000, with the remainder of the costs to be requested from NEMBA.

Passed 5-1

6. Loveitt Woods trail access. The Planner has made attempts to contact the owner of the lots with access off Glenden Road, with no success. The property that is for sale off Rocky Hill which has access would cost an excessive amount. We can pursue purchasing an easement.
7. Great Pond trail boardwalk replacement has been completed. Replacement of the stone steps is postponed until CELT agrees.

8. Capital Improvement Budget Request. The Council Liaison discussed the budget process and how the Commission might approach the Council for capital. There was discussion as to the need for cost figures on each item.

Motion: To submit a capital improvement budget request in the amount of \$25,000 for the next two years to the City Council.

Passed 5-1

9. Encroachments. We contracted with Burns Fencing to install fencing along the boundary line at Leighton Farms.

10. Paper streets. The Planner has been requested by the Council and Manager to update the paper streets inventory. She has prepared a map and will be submitting a report.

11. Planning Board review. Rams Head Partners LLC is requesting a Resource Protection permit to construct 2046 feet of boardwalk at 20 Rams Head Road. They have already obtained necessary state permits. They will need a floodplain permit.

Motion: To recommend approval of the Resource Protection permit at Rams Head.

Passed unanimously

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Next meeting: January 13, 2015