

Conservation Commission Minutes  
October 13, 2015

Present: Mitch Wacksman, Zach Matzkin, Mark Fleming, Jeremy Gaberielson, Jim Tasse, Garvan Donegan, Planner Maureen O'Meara

Guests: Suzanne McGinn, Fred Sprague (President of Canterbury on the Cape Neighborhood Association)

Meeting called to order at 7:03am

Suzanne McGinn thanked the conservation commission for the cooperative Great Pond project. Suzanne added that they have had good feedback. Some of this feedback also included needing a handrail – CELT will be constructing.

1. Fred Sprague (President of Canterbury on the Cape Neighborhood Association) joined the conservation commission to have a discussion on the commission's priority setting goals around the neighborhood. Fred began with making mention that the neighborhood association would like to support 'the town.' The biggest problem the neighborhood association has is that the pool and tennis courts experience unwanted usage and/or trail users get to close in proximately. The neighborhood association has had internal discussions about wanting to work with the conservation commission to address this unwanted usage. The entire group discussed the proximity of the abutting pedestrian easement and Mr. Sprague inquired about moving the easement away from the pool/tennis court sites. The commission inquired about potential creative solutions to find alternatives routes that would be further away from the pool/tennis courts.

The commission decided to contact the abutting landowners in order to direct trail users away from Canterbury's issue areas. There was also a discussion about the existence of inaccurate maps, not the CE Conservation Commission's, which may also be contributing to user patterns. The conservation commission discussed amending the current pedestrian easement to realize a solution.

The commission and Fred Sprague agreed to plan a site walk to inspect the property and identify possible solutions further. Similarly, the Town Planner will contact other surrounding property owners.

2. The minutes of September 8<sup>th</sup> 2015 were approved unanimously.

3. The Town Planner provided a budget review to the commission.

Jeremy G. made a motion to seek \$750 from NEMBA, and Mitch W. seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Signage has been re-ordered due to a manufacturing error. CELT has agreed to split the signage cost.

4. The Town Planner reviewed the Town Council's communication strategy; Mitch W. made a motion to adopt and implement the Council's communication strategy onto the Conservation Commissions agendas; Mark F. seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

5. The Conservation Commission discussed the previous trail work around the cemetery. One of the goals included identifying opportunities to increase public access to the Spurwink River. The group discussed bringing in the Town Engineer to assess the need of DEP permits. The group also agreed to evaluate what it would take to retrofit the existing 50ft bridge. The commission members also agreed to do further research on the so-called poor farm cemetery.

6. The commission discussed greenbelt priorities. The town planner provided the commission with status updates on the priority projects. The planner outlined updates in the *2015 Conservation Commission Priority Projects 10-13-2015 update* document.

7. Planning Board Review: there were no new topics needed for review.

Meeting adjourned at 8:57pm.

Next meeting: November 10<sup>th</sup>, 2015