

Conservation Committee Minutes
May 9, 2017

Present: Jim Tasse, Mark Fleming, Jeremy Gabrielson, Zach Matzkin, Mitch Wacksman
Maureen O'Meara (staff)

Meeting called to order at 7:01 p.m.

Public Comment

No one present wished to comment on items not on the agenda.

1. The minutes of the April 11, 2017 meeting were approved 6-0.
2. The committee began discussion of the draft Paper Street Technical report. Ms. O'Meara reviewed the schedule for completion by the Conservation Committee by June 30th. The earliest the Town Council will review the recommendation is September, 2017.

Steve Harding, Town Engineer with Sebago Technics, reviewed the plan for Lighthouse Point Rd. The Lighthouse Point Rd paper street is 192' long by 40' wide, with 85' paved leaving 107' as lawn and landscaping. The conclusion is that a greenbelt trail is feasible without removing landscaping.

The committee reviewed the draft report and amended the project scope paragraph to reference the Town Council referral to the Conservation Committee. The same project scope will be edited in the Surfside/Atlantic report. The committee also wants the report to specify that Sebago has not been asked to look at "other practical considerations."

Mr. Harding reviewed the Surfside/Atlantic plan. The total linear length of a potential trail is about 2,500'. No fill or removal of trees are anticipated. He reviewed the extent of 6 wetland pockets. For one wetland, a 20' section of boardwalk is an option, however rocks provide a rustic crossing. For a second wetland, there is an option to cross it with a 50' long boardwalk. Alternately, you can skirt the wetland on the ocean side and may want to install a handrail. At the western end of Surfside is a good vista spot.

Local permitting, based on comments from Code Enforcement Officer Ben McDougal would require a Resource Protection Permit if boardwalking is proposed. No permitting is needed if no wetland alteration is included. To determine state permitting, Mr. Harding met with Audie Arbo, DEP, on site. She confirmed the wetland mapping and if the wetlands are avoided, no permitting is needed. If boardwalk is proposed to

cross the wetland, an NRPA permit would be required, but would likely be waived to a Tier 1 permit, which has been done for numerous other public paths. Mr. Harding also contacted Jay Clement, Army Corps of Engineers, who said that he had no jurisdiction unless fill is placed in the wetlands. Installation of boardwalk would not trigger Army Corps review.

Mr. Harding reviewed costs, concluding with an estimate of \$7,000 with wetland avoidance and \$10,000 with wetland boardwalks.

Mr. Fleming asked is there is room to avoid the most easterly wetland? Mr. Harding said there is drainage along the road, which does not qualify as a wetland, and a trail currently crosses it. Mr. Gabrielson asked about the seaward edge of the Surfside right-of-way. Research was done and this plan represents what we found. Mr. Tasse asked about the width between the wetland and edge of cliff and it was estimated at 10' wide. Mr. Harding recommended a field assessment. The revisions to the Lighthouse Point Rd report should be added to this report. Mr. Wacksman wants added that "currently a casual trail is present in this location."

Mr. Tasse reviewed a draft recommendation letter from the Conservation Committee.

Public Comment

Mary Costigan, representing 27 Pilot Point Rd - We have submitted written comments. Our comments focus on the "other practical considerations" and the legal feasibility. The right of incipient dedication has perhaps lapsed. Why did Mr. Harding not mention Shoreland Zoning regulations review? Please note the casual trail exists only in portion, not in entirety.

Sue Guerrette, 2 Katahdin Rd - I'm a 54 year resident, and we have a private easement, but want this for everyone, like Fort Williams and the Shore Rd path. Thank you.

Debra Murphy, 24 Pilot Point Rd - She read a letter from neighbor Bob and Elsebeth Tripler, 10 Trundy Rd, who support a trail. They do not expect excessive use of the trail. The Murphy family also supports a trail. There is a casual trail there and she walked it Sunday.

Mitchell Lench, 15 Lighthouse Point Rd - He noted the support for connectivity in the Comprehensive Plan. A trail at Lighthouse Point Rd does not connect to the greenbelt and was removed from the last Greenbelt Plan. A trail in our area has public safety issues.

Bill Kourakos, 15 Two Lights Terrace - He wants the petition from December, 2016 included in the public record and posted on the town website.

Mr. Tasse asked the board if the petition should be in the report. The committee said that the report does not have every other comment submitted. The survey is part of the public record because the link is included in the public file. The committee found that acceptable.

Mr. Kourakos wants the survey readily available for the public to see and find.

Mr. Wacksman asked him to print it and provide it to us.

Mr. Kourakos referenced emails he had previously sent which were forwarded to the committee. He wants changes to the December meeting minutes to include his written comments.

Stewart Wooden, 33 Pilot Point Rd - The neighborhood association represents only 1/2 of the neighborhood. The casual trail includes trampling bushes.

Maynard Murphy, 24 Pilot Point Rd - His family would love a trail.

The public comment period was closed.

The committee agreed to replace the "cover memo" with the letter, as revised. An executive summary should be added. The letter should also include Marti' Blair's written suggestions that reference the greenbelt plan. Ms. O'Meara will make the revisions and send it to Chair Tasse for review.

3. The committee discussed work to complete the trail around "Lesser Great Pond." A work event was scheduled for Tuesday, May 23rd, starting at 5:30 p.m. The committee noted the work CELT is planning on the Great Pond Preserve II, and that boardwalks will not be built to support horses due to costs.

4. The committee discussed follow-through on last year's license with the Canterbury on the Cape Association. Mr. Tasse met with Joel FitzPatrick onsite to coordinate trail connections with ongoing and new development. He will meet with Canterbury representatives to coordinate trail marking. The committee agreed it was important to sign trails and curtail "rogue" trail development on the Canterbury lands.

Peter Dixon, Canterbury on the Cape resident, commented on successful efforts to direct trail users to appropriate locations.

The committee agreed to schedule a work event on Saturday, May 20th, starting at 8:00 a.m. to build the Cottage Brook boardwalk. Ms. O'Meara will obtain lumber and coordinate assistance with the Department of Public Works.

5. Ms. O'Meara summarized Planning Board meeting items, which do not require Conservation Committee comment, and the committee did not offer comment.

6. Mr. Gabrielson reported that the relocation of the Loveitt Woods trail is done and he will monitor it.

7. For the next meeting, the committee will discuss Winnick Woods and a map should be provided. The Cross Town Trail walk is Saturday, June 3rd and Mr. Gabrielson is representing the committee. Mr. Fleming is hosting a greenbelt presentation with the Lions Club and greenbelt maps will be provided. Mr. Wacksman asked that a map of Winnick Woods be available for the next meeting to discuss possible trail realignments.

8. Meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.