

Town of Newington, NH
CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes, Thursday, December 10, 2009

- Call to Order:** Justin Richardson, Chair Person called the December 10, 2009 meeting at 6:35 PM
- Present:** Justin Richardson, Chair Person; Margarethe Lamson, Vice Chair; Nancy Cauvet; Jane Hislop; and Thomas Morgan from Newington Planning Board
- Not Present:** George Fletcher and Dorothy Watson
- Public Guests:** Ambit Engineering, Inc. for KWA, LLC Properties; Custom Homes of Great Bay for Jeffrey Colnes; Oak Point Environmental Engineering for Granite State Minerals

2. **KWA, LLC** property on Shattuck Way – consideration of wetlands application submitted by Ambit Engineering, Inc. (Doreen Stern recused herself as NCC member and joined public seating due to being an abutter).

Representative from Ambit Engineering reviewed two detention ponds for filtration of pavement drainage, which he acknowledged would eventually flow into nearby brooks and into Great Bay. Chair, Justin Richardson and Co-chair, Peggy Lamson both questioned the quality of the filtration, pointing out that detention ponds often release a higher concentration of pollutants than originally ran in. Mr. Richardson asked why they weren't creating rain gardens for filtration and was told that detention ponds have similar soils lining them as do rain gardens, but have more surface tension to filter the drainage in 24 hours of an inch of rainfall per hour than a rain garden would. NCC member, Jane Hislop asked if regular maintenance is required and was told yes, and there is a best management practice plan submitted with the proposal.

Chairman Richardson asked abutter, Dorene Stern if she had any comments or questions. She did note that she has observed additional water flow from drainage changes from the Shattuck Way changes so she is hoping this project will provide sufficient drainage.

Mr. Richardson said the plan may meet the criteria, but wished for a more innovative design, and noted the very large parking lot, which the Newington Conservation Commission had recommended the Planning Board request an overall square footage reduction. Planning Board Chair, Tom Morgan said the Planning Board had sent the plans out to a civil engineering firm who has submitted additional questions. Jane Hislop then made a motion to make a recommendation for DES to approve, Nancy Cauvet seconded and all were in favor.

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- 3. Jeffrey Colnes**, Motts Cove Road, by Custom Homes of Great Bay
This was a preliminary discussion of plans prior to their actual application. Chair, Justin Richardson motioned for a pre-approval of their plan per C3 regulations. Jane Hislop seconded, and all approved unanimously.
- 4. Granite State Minerals** property on Gosling Road in Newington, discussion of applications submitted under the Shoreland Protection Act, Dredge and Fill in Wetlands Act and Alteration of Terrain by Oak Point Environmental Engineering
Dan Geiger with Oak Point Environmental Engineering reviewed their plan and application to stabilize the soils that had been disturbed and altered by planting native grasses and a detention basin near the Piscataqua River. Chairman, Justin Richardson again expressed concern with water quality going out being worse than when it goes into a detention basin. Although Mr. Geiger said the plan meets state standards for sedentary existence, Co-Chair, Peggy Lamson expressed concerns for substances that had been dumped on the property in the past, and that a detention basis would be ineffective in holding back contaminants from being released into the Piscataqua. Mr. Geiger said he could not speak for any future use of the property, which would require additional applications, but that his task was simply to prepare the property for sale as it is in unsellable condition at this time. He also said the soils have already been ID'd and reported to DES. Justin Richardson said he already has a call in to Dory Wiggins at the state.
Peggy Lamson moved to engage Mark West to review the soil samples and application. Jane Hislop seconded and all were in favor.
Planning Board Chair, Tom Morgan asked Mr. Geiger to bring in the soil sample reports to the next Planning Board meeting on the following Monday.
- 5. Invoices**
Nancy Cauvet motioned to pay Attys, Baldwin & Cullen \$674 for legal representation regarding Newington Conservation Commission's designation of prime wetlands on PDA property. Jane Hislop seconded, and all voted in favor.
Nancy Cauvet motioned to pay the Mark West \$335 invoice attending meetings with Dory Wiggins at the state. Jane Hislop seconded and all were in favor. Peggy Lamson motioned to pay another Mark West invoice for \$212.50 for services reviewing wetlands on Airport Road in association with the Newington Recreation Committee. Jane Hislop seconded and all voted in favor.

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6. Correspondence

Reviewed correspondence from Newington Selectman regarding KWA. Abutter, Dorene Stern recused herself, & Jane Hislop motioned to recommend acceptance of KWA proposal on 3-1/2 acres. Peggy Lamson seconded and motion was passed unanimously.

Peggy Lamson motioned to send letter with NCC chairs signatures regarding budget for NCC. Jane Hislop seconded and all approved.

7. Update on Storm Regulations, Town Forest and other business.

Storm Water Regulations were scheduled to go before the Planning Board's Monday meeting for a vote.

Peggy Lamson suggested setting up an additional working meeting after the New Year regarding rules and regulations for the Town Forest.

8. Approval of Minutes

Minutes were turned in late and members had not had time to review and approve before meeting

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 8:50 pm.

Next Meeting: Thursday, January 14, 2010 at 6:30 P.M. at Town Hall

Submitted: Jane K. Kendall, Secretary