

Tuftonboro Conservation Commission Minutes October 20, 2008

7:30 pm meeting called to order.

Commissioners present: Mike Phelps, Gary Chehames, Dawn Evans, Jerry Light, Dave Durnam, and project coordinator Steve Truchon.

The TCC discussed possible new members. Phelps wrote an article for the Tuftonboro Times in which he acknowledged Win Wood's contributions to the Commission, and invited interested parties to inquire about becoming TCC members. Chehames moved to put an article in the Granite State News advertising for qualified people to serve on TCC, Evans second, all in favor.

Re: the 19 Mile Brook study, on Friday, October 24 at 4pm there will be a site visit to the new Wolfeboro Rapid Infiltration Facility. David Ford will conduct a tour of the site; Tuftonboro Selectmen, Conservation Commissioners and Planning Board members, as well as those from Wolfeboro are invited.

Steve Truchon gave an update on Normandeau's progress with the 19 Mile Brook study: Normandeau has finished field work and is in process of writing a report. Water levels finally came down about a month ago, making it possible to do water quality sampling. BMI is almost completed (invertebrate survey). According to Truchon, Mark Hutchins said that everything looked fairly normal; water quality in the pond is almost identical to that in the brook. Normandeau will have a report to TCC by mid-November. (The infiltration facility is scheduled to go online in February) .

Truchon asked Hutchins how the pond might handle suspended solids if the site gets overloaded. This is something to watch for, since the pond is struggling with an excess of vegetation. Trouble with the system will be indicated by well reports from sentinel wells, as well as the tributary monitoring program (funded by DES).

Chehames asked about the schedule for updating data, suggesting the Commission keep Normandeau on to do updates and examine variations in data. Truchon stated that Normandeau will deliver recommendations for future monitoring; he will ask them to recommend a pared down approach. The problem may not ripen for years, so gathering data will be a long term project. Truchon recommended meeting with Normandeau in early December.

Truchon believes well monitoring should catch any changes. Well monitoring data is proprietary until the point at which it is turned over to the state, after which the data becomes public. Phelps inquired how the TCC would go about getting this information. Evans asked if anyone else would be doing testing in the same places as Normandeau (the Normandeau report will have GPS waypoints). Truchon suggested a more extensive Tributary Study, higher up on the brook.

Phelps asked, re: a Melvin River study, whether the TCC should start a correspondence with Normandeau about planning additional studies. Chehames said the TCC needs to be more

proactive in testing and monitoring other water quality areas. To get this in a pipeline for funding, a plan, clear objectives, and an annual request for funding are needed. The CIP would like to treat this as capital expenditure; Chehames sees it as a recurring cost. He also suggested asking for competitive quotes for future projects.

Truchon discussed with the TCC some concerns re: the Melvin River, asking how close it comes to the landfill. Phelps stated that there are capped and locked test wells between the landfill and the river. Evans mentioned development in the works near the river.

Truchon suggested the TCC come up with criteria on land use changes to decide where to test next, and formulate a time line. Chehames asked Truchon for a memorandum re: future updates, and preliminary objectives. The TCC needs to build an argument for continuing water quality testing, including a repeat on 19 Mile Brook. Truchon stated that 5 yrs. is a typical time frame to repeat an environmental assessment.

The TCC already has sufficient funds for the current Normandeau project. Chehames believes similar projects could be tackled for \$20,000-\$30,000/yr., and thinks residents would support this. When Truchon asked about Mirror Lake, Chehames responded that the situation there is complex, with many sources having possible effects; looking at very targeted data might be worthwhile. Phelps mentioned that Dusty Davies, who has been very involved with the Mirror Lake situation, is looking for a grant for further studies.

Truchon will prepare a tentative 3-year plan for what the TCC should be doing in the future. Chehames suggested the TCC prepare an RFP for the Melvin River project, and get competitive bids for future EAs. Phelps will explore this with the Selectmen.

The TCC discussed a proposed conservation easement. Light moved, Durnam second, all in favor, to spend up to \$1000 of the money left over from the special projects fund for appraisal of that conservation easement.

Minutes for last month's meeting were corrected and approved, Light moved, Evans second, all in favor.

Evans stated she is still trying to coordinate dates for a Wetlands committee meeting.

Barbara Garabedian left info for TCC re: warrant article on the conservation fund. Discussion on the warrant article will be on the agenda at next month's meeting.

DES Applications

Notice of Administrative Completeness, Request for More Information, Minimum Impact Expedited Application

NH Electric Cooperative

#2008-01956

#2-66, 25-178 & 182

Cow Island and Wharf Rd.

Notice of Administrative Completeness, Standard Dredge and Fill Application

Stebbins, Theodore & Lucinda #2008-02059 #2-1-5
 175 Beach Rd. (Bald Peak), restore waterfront edge.

Notice of Administrative Incompleteness, Minimum Impact Expedited Application

Lane's End, Inc. #2008-02033 #2-1-71
 Needs to send in Natural Heritage Bureau info.

Approval

Wetlands and Non-Site Specific Permit
 Northline Development #2008-00617 #68-2-1 & 3
 North Line Rd.

New application

Webster- Standard dredge and fill #2-1-13
 Mason Rd., culvert to allow access to upland property

CJ Winny- Standard dredge and fill #41-3-16
 Union Wharf Rd.

New business

Evans reported that the Wolfeboro-Tuftonboro Land Bank is interested in moving forward with conservation easements in the Great Meadow.

TCC is actively pursuing another conservation easement.

Mailing from office of John Sununu- federal domestic assistance- possible funding?

Invoice from Normandeau for final round of testing and analysis for the 19 Mile Brook EA.
 Macroinvertebrate samples nearly complete, laboratory analyses are back from the lab.
 Normandeau is now putting together their final report.

UNH survey- Water Resource survey to fill out.

10:24 pm Chehames moved to adjourn, Evans second, all in favor.

Vicki Kinnaman
 Conservation Commission, Secretary