



Town of Merrimack, New Hampshire

Community Development Department

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Planning - Zoning - Economic Development - Conservation

MERRIMACK CONSERVATION COMMISSION

JANUARY 11, 2016

MEETING MINUTES

A regular meeting of the Merrimack Conservation Commission was held on Monday, January 11, 2016 at 6:33 p.m. in the Merrimack Memorial Conference Room.

Chairman Tim Tenhave presided:

Members of the Commission Present: Matt Caron, Vice Chairman
Michael Boisvert
Cynthia Glenn
Gage Perry

Members of the Commission Absent: Councilor Jody Vaillancourt

Also in Attendance: Shawn Farrell, 2 Landau Way
Chris Guida, Wetland/Soil Scientist, Fieldstone Land Consultants

The Commission currently has open positions; 1 full-time and 3 alternate. Individuals interested in serving on the Commission should contact Becky Thompson in the Town Manager's Office.

The Commission's Annual Meeting with the Town Council is scheduled for Thursday, January 14, 2016. The next regular meeting of the Commission is scheduled for Monday, February 1, 2016.

PUBLIC COMMENT - None

APPOINTMENTS - None

STATUTORY/ADVISORY BUSINESS

1. Fieldstone Land Consultants, PLLC (applicant) and Brett W. Vaughn Rev. Trust (owner)

Review for recommendation to the Planning Board of a 3-lot residential subdivision plan. The parcel consists of approximately 28 acres and is located along Wilson Hill Road. Tax Map 4A, Lot 4.

Mr. Christopher Guida, Fieldstone Land Consultants, informed the Commission he represents Mr. Shawn Farrell who is looking to purchase the property from Mr. Vaughn.

The project is located off Wilson Hill Road, consists of approximately 28.03 acres and has 709.9' of frontage along Wilson Hill Road. The proposal consists of subdividing the property into three residential lots (22.67, 2.986, and 2.376 acres). The two smaller lots would have 250' of frontage and the larger lot 209.9' of frontage along Wilson Hill Road.

The Zoning Board of Adjustment granted a variance for the reduced frontage lot. All of the lots will be serviced by individual driveways and onsite wells and subsurface disposal systems. The design objective

for this project was to minimize the proposed wetland impacts. In order to achieve this, the design for the driveway for Lot 4A-4 will require an easement and wetland crossing through Lot 4A-4-1. Total wetland disturbance required to construct the driveway, with associated drainage and erosion controls, is 683 sq. ft.

Mr. Guida displayed plans and indicated the area where the crossing is proposed noting it is an existing crossing (well-traveled woods road and existing 15" culvert). The crossing would have to be widened to accommodate the two driveways. Mr. Guida highlighted the area of the wetlands as well as the existing roadway. He indicated the proposed additional impact area (683 sq. ft.). The location is desirable given the steep topography of sections of the lot and the flat spot in the existing driveway. Following the existing roadway would result in the least amount of impact. All proposed construction, sanitary, etc., is outside of the 100' flood zone.

Chairman Tenhave questioned why the proposal was not for a single driveway until beyond the area of wetland. Mr. Guida responded that was looked at; however, part of the problem with common driveways is the potential for a maintenance issue to evolve. If a common driveway the amount of impact is negligible as a common driveway would have to be wider (to allow traffic in both directions).

Mr. Guida remarked it is a Palustrine Forested Wetland and is fairly stony in that area. It is mostly road runoff and seeping out through the stones. There is an area that has some channelization, but it is really springtime flow through some rocks. The average person walking out there in the fall or late summer would never even slow down or think that it is wetlands.

Commissioner Perry remarked Note #17 on page 2 of the plan, states "The proposed buildings and driveways shown depict a potential layout for each lot meeting local regulations. Final house and driveway placement are subject to change based on individual land owner's preference." He questioned how much of what is depicted on the plan could be changed. Mr. Guida responded the location of the building on the larger lot could be changed as long as it stays within the setbacks. Commissioner Perry commented his concern is with the driveway location. Mr. Guida stated the property owner would have to abide by the plan unless they were to come back before the Town to make a change. He noted wetland permits are typically valid for 5 years. If you don't install it within that timeframe the permit expires, and the process would have to be undertaken again. Chairman Tenhave stated a permit application has not yet been submitted. Mr. Guida responded it has not. There is an existing one for the farm road that was in long before Mr. Vaughn took ownership. That access is grandfathered as far as the existing culvert. They would have to file for a permit even if it were a single driveway with a single building to gain enough width to plow snow, etc.

Mr. Guida added the current proposal represents what is the least impactful both environmentally and financially. Once the culvert is approved and installed that would be the crossing point. It would be difficult to get a permit to cross there again if a crossing were already granted.

Chairman Tenhave noted the project would be back before the Commission with regard to permitting. He pointed out Sheet 1 of 3 for the proposed driveway also shows a culvert much further down closer to the home. Mr. Guida commented that is picking up the ditch line. When asked if the expectation is that there would be velocities of water coming down through that area he stated it is not a real mobile type of soil; does not have a lot of silts or fines in it. It is pretty well drained. There will be a lot of infiltration occurring quickly.

Chairman Tenhave noted under the heading of Erosion Control - General Construction, Note #12 addresses fertilizer. Because of the proximity of the river, which is protected, the Commission typically recommends no phosphate be used. Mr. Guida commented that is more or less standard practice in the Shoreland zones, and the note can be modified. Mr. Guida commented typically they would use a conservation seed mix. A lot of times fertilizer is not necessary. Chairman Tenhave stated the Commission does not have a specific number of feet away from the river, but the proposed project is well within the area where it raises the level of concern for the Commission. He added the State is conducting a study on inflows, etc. of the Souhegan River, and is very sensitive to any sort of fertilizer used close to the river.

Commissioner Perry referred to Note #6 under the same heading, and questioned if it is typical that there be 30 days allowed before stabilization of disturbed areas is required. Mr. Guida responded it is fairly typical. You don't want to have a stockpile. Whether it starts seeding itself or you have some type of silt

fence around the toe of it is fairly typical especially if within a shoreland protection area where you don't want the material to run away. Once construction starts it is more cost effective for the site work to keep going and not let it sit. Sometimes you run into weather or winter catches you and you are stuck. Chairman Tenhave commented the Commission has seen the 30-day timeframe before, and noted the October deadline. He commented when the Commission runs into it more is when there is a larger subdivision with 12-15 homes, and the site person will be in and out. Commissioner Perry pointed out reference to hay should be replaced with straw.

Chairman Tenhave questioned if the large lot would be utilized to construct a residence for the property owner, and was told that is the intent. He remarked, were the owner to change his mind, the Commission would be interested in speaking with him about the parcel. If nothing else, the Commission would love to find a way to get a pedestrian easement across the parcel; coming off the river. The Commission owns the property on the other side of the river, and would like to construct a bridge someday.

Chairman Tenhave noted the Commission's recommendation to the Planning Board would include no phosphate be utilized and that any reference to hay in the plans be replaced with straw.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Northeast Energy Direct (NED) Pipeline

Commission to have a general discussion on the NED project and any immediate actions it may wish to take. This discussion will include:

- Wetland mitigation projects. Commission to discuss potential projects that might be possible for the compensatory mitigation Kinder Morgan may have to do if both FERC and the NH SEC approve NED.

Chairman Tenhave commented back in early December when the Commission was visited by Kinder Morgan and their consultants, the Commission was asked to put together a list of projects, and information about the projects. Wetland rules state the gathering of data points to be the responsibility of the Applicant. The Commission is responsible to show good faith in recommending projects.

Chairman Tenhave commented he found it interesting they are pushing the Town of Rindge to engineer projects, which is not how he reads the rules, and not the way the Commission has ever acted in the past when being faced with mitigation projects. He stated the need for the Commission to put together a list and decide how to convey the information.

He questioned if the Commission wished to invite representatives of Kinder Morgan to the February meeting for an exchange. Commissioner Perry stated he wished to ensure the Commission is never accused of being a roadblock, and for that to be used as a reason for their not providing mitigation in Town. He suggested if the Commission is comfortable waiting until the February meeting to have that exchange he is agreeable to that. He suggested the Commission be ready to provide a list and data points. He commented he would not object to providing them a list as they will still have to come before the Commission to take further action. Commissioner Boisvert questioned if there would be verification provided of their receipt of information from the Commission. Chairman Tenhave stated the information could be sent registered mail. He commented they have been pretty good about email exchanges. Commissioner Perry noted the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) could be copied.

Chairman Tenhave stated his belief the Commission could forward a list following the meeting, and provide them the opportunity to attend a February meeting. He stated his impression to have been they were looking to pull information together for their submission to the New Hampshire Site Evaluation Committee (SEC).

Chairman Tenhave commented land purchase opportunities come and go, and there is not a whole lot the Commission can do with regard to providing information on those potential opportunities. However, areas of interest could be identified from the list the Commission has compiled. He spoke of the updated rules for wetlands that go into effect February 1, 2016, which state they have to show that the Commission provided them information, which could be done through the minutes of the Commission's

meetings. The attitude of the Commission and its desire to be engaged and part of the process is very clear in the minutes.

Commissioner Perry spoke of the Environmental Trail that goes out from the Outdoor Classroom towards Marty Drive and around the back side of the swamp. The wetlands there would necessitate a significant boardwalk. It was noted consideration could be given to upgrading the boardwalk so that it is OPMD or "Other Power-Driven Mobility Devices" accessible, which would allow it to also qualify for the safe trails to school designation. The span is approximately 3/8 of a mile. Chairman Tenhave commented that is not a clean fit into the three categories of projects that could be considered.

The Commission agreed to put the list together, provide it, and present the opportunity for Kinder Morgan and/or their representatives/consultants to come before the Commission to discuss it. The list was identified as follows:

- Bambi Trail project, which entails traversing across areas that are wet year round. The project has increased in size over time, and can no longer be addressed by a simple catwalk. What is likely necessary at this time is a boardwalk to a bridge and stabilization of the slope that goes up into the Outdoor Classroom.
Commissioner Perry suggested it might require changing the direction of the trail given the span of the area involved.

- South Grater Road reconstruction

When asked, it was stated to be both reconstruction and construction; reconstruction in one area and then moving the trail to a different location. Chairman Tenhave commented on the need for culverts as it comes down from Amherst. It would need to be rerouted up and around the beaver pond, and have it rejoin the Class VI road later. That would provide for the emergency access.

Commissioner Boisvert questioned if the desire is for a woods road or a road like the main trail through Grater Woods. The suggestion was more like a Red Maple Trail and less like Gateway. The desire would be for access to be possible by a woods truck/emergency vehicle. The plan is to gate the road.

- Wasserman Conservation Area; invasives.

Although not fitting in with the three project styles, it is worth looking at. Commissioner Perry noted the same issue exists along the Baboosic Brook.

- Land Purchases

Chairman Tenhave spoke of the parcel on Continental Boulevard noting it is abutted by three (3) New Hampshire Department of Transportation (NHDOT) parcels. He suggested it would be worthwhile to look at the potential to purchase those three parcels.

Chairman Tenhave noted there are a number of parcels of interest. However, the groundwork is not yet in place. The Commission could continue to work upland ideas, e.g., Grater Woods. There is land abutting the Horse Hill Nature Preserve (HHNP) that could be looked at as well as land along the Merrimack River; areas within the flood zone, which would be impacted by the proposed NED project.

Chairman Tenhave commented on the need to identify the level of interest/support with regard to trail reconstructions, which would require engineering work, etc. to put project(s) together. He touched upon the importance of the South Grater Road project, and commented the Commission may begin some of that activity regardless.

- Motion to Intervene submittal

Chairman Tenhave stated the Motion to Intervene was submitted on January 4, 2016.

- Law firm to represent the Commission

Commissioner Glenn stated she had previously believed the counsel she wished to recommend to the Commission would not be available. However, it now appears that attorney is available. Commissioner Boisvert asked for clarification of the desire/need for legal counsel. Chairman Tenhave stated the desire would be to have counsel on retainer. Commissioners Perry and Glenn stated agreement. Chairman Tenhave remarked it is likely the Commission will encounter an issue of eminent domain. There is the need for the Commission to have at its disposal legal counsel fluent in the Federal law for eminent domain. He noted the attorney in question is based out of Washington, D.C., and she and/or an associate would have to plead the case in New Hampshire. He questioned how that could be addressed and the associated cost.

Chairman Tenhave remarked if eminent domain is required and the courts rule that way, there is then the question of an easement. He questioned if that would be handled during the eminent domain process or a separate discussion. That would need to be negotiated on the Commission's behalf. Commissioner Perry noted there would also be issues relative to the Charitable Trust and the Attorney General with regard to the Deed(s).

- Survey Denial form

Chairman Tenhave spoke of the draft denial form provided to the Commission. He questioned the will of the Commission with regard to its necessity. Commissioner Perry stated in his opinion it is necessary. He commented Kinder Morgan was made aware of the Commission's viewpoint during a public meeting. However, he believes it necessary to file something either with them or the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) formally denying access.

Commissioner Glenn stated agreement. She remarked Kinder Morgan has commented previously on the viewpoint of the absence of a denial. Chairman Tenhave commented the Town has not submitted a formal denial, and the Town's legal counsel has been advising the Town Council. It was noted the Town Council was working on an Access Agreement. When asked if the Town Council was preparing formal notification of denial, Chairman Tenhave stated, to his knowledge, they are not. He added, he does not recall hearing that it was the recommendation of their legal counsel to do that.

When asked, Chairman Tenhave stated he does not believe formal denial is necessary, but noted he is but one voice on the Commission. When asked for his rationale, he stated his belief you have to ask for permission. It is not a matter of asking for forgiveness. Commissioner Perry noted although fenced, the public has access. Chairman Tenhave stated agreement noting there is no signage indicating no trespassing.

Commissioner Boisvert commented what gives him the impression a formal denial is not necessary is the fact the Commission has publicly stated it has not granted access. Commissioner Perry commented it is recorded in the minutes of the Commission's meetings; the Commission is aware, Kinder Morgan is aware, but that does not mean that others are aware. He does not believe the FERC is aware. Chairman Tenhave noted the FERC has no ability to enforce the matter. Commissioner Boisvert questioned what could be lost in sending the formal denial. Commissioner Perry questioned and Chairman Tenhave responded he is hesitant of being seen as extremists. He would prefer to keep the rapport between the parties at some sort of a negotiable level. He commented there are a lot more interactions that will be required and the time to really send a stern tone will come, but he does not believe this to be it. He reiterated he is only one member of a five-member Commission, and that he will support the will of the Commission. Vice Chairman Caron remarked they have been fairly collaborative up to this point. Chairman Tenhave commented the part he has difficulty with is the last sentence; specifically the last phrase of the sentence that reads: "Any such physical entry onto this property from the date of this letter forward will be considered unauthorized, and treated as trespass."

Commissioner Perry remarked the public is allowed access. Chairman Tenhave stated that to be the case until the Commission adequately posts the property "no trespassing". He remarked the denial would not be related to access but rather to surveying. Chairman Tenhave commented if the last sentence were omitted he would be supportive. Commissioner Boisvert stated he trusts the opinion of the Chairman. Commissioners expressed a desire to take the position of not sending the letter at this time. If the Commission becomes aware of its neighbors having real issues the position of the Commission may change.

Chairman Tenhave commented he does not care if they were to park on the side of the road and stay on the NHDOT parcel and walk down and look. He could not stop them anyway, and he would like them to see that there are two culverts and the area is wet all the time.

Chairman Tenhave questioned if members of the Commission have heard anything with regard to the SEC process. Commissioner Glenn stated she did hear that they met, and have not decided whether they will file a motion to intervene.

2. Target Shooting Ordinance

Commission to discuss initial draft language for a target shooting ordinance that will cover Town, MCC, and School District properties.

Chairman Tenhave noted the draft language provided would represent a complete re-write of the existing Ordinance, which only addresses the HHNP. Questions have been raised with whether the Commission is concerned with bow and arrow target shooting, which is not what initiated the revision to the Ordinance. Commissioner Perry stated the impetus to be safety concerns. Commissioner Boisvert remarked he would rather the Ordinance be geared towards discharge of firearms, except for hunting, rather than being towards target shooting. Chairman Tenhave noted there are other Ordinances that address issues such as reckless use of a firearm, etc. When asked if the Police Chief has had the opportunity to weigh in on the proposed language, Chairman Tenhave stated he is uncertain.

Commissioner Glenn questioned what kind of a written contract would be "entered into between the individual, or the individual's employer, and the Town of Merrimack, the Town of Merrimack Conservation Commission, or the Town of Merrimack School District". Commissioner Perry provided the example of the Commission hiring a trapper or hunter to eliminate a species. That individual would be contracted to conduct those activities on Commission property.

Vice Chairman Caron stated the problem the Commission is seeking to address is not that of individuals target shooting with bows and arrows, the problem is with discharging of firearms.

Chairman Tenhave commented you can anticipate the Ordinance will result in some raising concern the Commission is going to try and limit hunting, which is not the intent of the revised ordinance.

Chairman Tenhave stated a desire to amend the draft language by including in § 128-4 C2, language that appears in § 128-4 C3, which reads: "where such activity is not otherwise prohibited by deed, by state law or federal law, or by the Town of Merrimack Code of Ordinances. See, e.g., RSA 644:13, Town of Merrimack Code of Ordinances, Chapters 111, 128, and 142." or that the language is made general to the entire paragraph. The proposed language should also be amended by replacing "The Town of Merrimack School District" with "the Merrimack School District".

Chairman Tenhave spoke of the list of Town owned parcels, and commented some of the parcels that are listed as Town of Merrimack also fall under the Commission.

The consensus of the Commission was to support the language in the draft Ordinance with the proposed amendments.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Annual Report and Annual Review with the Town Council

Commission to discuss draft annual report submission for the Town's 2015 annual report.

Commission to also discuss goals for 2016 and a draft presentation for the annual review with the Town Council scheduled for 1/14/2016.

Chairman Tenhave noted the format of the Annual Report is similar to that used for the past two years. The monetary information provided, under the slide titled Finances, represents balances at the end of the fiscal year (June 30, 2015). He noted \$400,000 has been expended from Fund 53 since that time. The next time a property comes out of current use, the fund will receive some revenue. He noted the Chestnut Hill project will eventually come out.

The Commission reviewed the PowerPoint presentation that would be presented to the Town Council as part of the Commission's Annual Review.

2. Land Donation

Commission to discuss moving forward with a donation of land and accepting all associated costs for Tax Map 6B-159.

Chairman Tenhave commented attempts to acquire all of the parcels along Baboosic Brook have been hinted to previously. The current landowners of the parcel in question are brother and sister. Their parents originally owned the property. Chairman Tenhave commented the owner mentioned to him that his Father had put a camp on the parcel, and as children they used to go down and camp out. They grew and moved out of town, and eventually the parcels changed hands. The Deed includes language around access to Bean Road, but it is so vague that the location is unclear. It is not recorded on a direct map. The Commission owns the parcel north of it, which has direct access to the road.

The owners are looking for the Commission to take the parcel, cover all legal fees, and write up the Purchase & Sales for their signature. The only expense the Commission would have beyond that is associated with the desire of the owners for the Commission to cover outstanding taxes, which include the December tax bill from last year and anything that is on there now. That equates to somewhere between \$230 and \$250 for five acres of land.

Chairman Tenhave noted with filing and attorney fees in addition to the outstanding taxes, the expectation is the total cost to purchase the land would be a few thousand dollars. Through the purchase, the Commission will have protected a large portion of Baboosic Brook.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER CARON TO ACCEPT THE LAND DONATION OF REAL PROPERTY, KNOWN AS TAX MAP 6B/159 AND COVER COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH TAXES, RECORDING FEES, ATTORNEY FEES, TITLE SEARCH, AND ANY OTHER RELATED COSTS IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED TEN THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$10,000)

MOTION SECONDED BY MEMBER GLENN

MOTION CARRIED

5-0-0

Chairman Tenhave stated he would move forward with scheduling of the Public Hearing, and placing the matter on an agenda of the Town Council.

Chestnut Hill

Chairman Tenhave noted the Commission voted to accept an easement of the two parcels surrounding the Chestnut Hill Development (approx. 120 acres). Ken Clinton, President and Chief of Survey at Meridian Land Services went forward to the NHDES. The NHDES suggested, rather than have 72 landowners and the Commission have an easement of the land on top of those 72 landowners, that the Town of Merrimack own it, and the Commission have an easement over it. Chairman Tenhave stated the latest negotiation he and Mr. Clinton have had was to suggest that the Commission own the parcels in fee. There would be no easement involved, which differs from the current wetland rules. The rules typically require someone own it and a separate entity having the ability to enforce an easement and hold an easement on it.

Chairman Tenhave informed the Commission he has written a letter to the NHDES stating the Commission has done this previously in Grater Woods, these parcels are a part of Grater Woods, and the Commission is actively managing Grater Woods and has the funds to do the monitoring/management. The proposal fits completely with the efforts of the Commission, the Biodiversity Plan for conservation focus areas, the Town Master Plan, etc. The letter stated the desire of the Commission to own the parcels in fee.

The project, because of its wetland impact, has to acquire approval of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and the Army Corps of Engineers. They would have to agree with the way in which the construction is being done, e.g., that culverts are done properly, etc. When they were reviewing the project it was with the idea that there would be an owner and an easement. They had stated the Commission should be given a fee/money to do the monitoring to ensure that occurs. There is a requirement to monitor wetland rules and report annually, if the NHDES chooses to impose it.

It was noted, when following the established formula for mitigation, what is required is 5 acres. A request was made of the Commission to write a letter to the Army Corps of Engineers, the EPA, and NHDES indicating the Commission would forego the fee as the Commission has the means to monitor the land and because the Commission is gaining much more than 5 acres.

Chairman Tenhave questioned the will of the Commission. Vice Chairman Caron questioned if oversight of the wetland crossing would continue by NHDES, EPA, and Army Corps of Engineers. Chairman Tenhave stated they have to agree with the project plan. That is what is occurring currently.

The unanimous decision of the Commission was to agree to accept the 120 acres in fee, and to forward a letter to the NHDES, Army Corps of Engineers, and the EPA stating a willingness to forego the monitoring fee.

OTHER BUSINESS

- Update on Annual Seedling Giveaway

The Commission was provided with a listing of the items purchased in 2014, 2015, and those proposed for the 2016 Giveaway. Commissioner Perry spoke of having met with Bob McCabe who is the Chairman of the Agriculture Commission as well as a Certified Arborist. Mr. McCabe provided information on plants that he sees a need for in Town and those which he likes to see. He was particularly excited about Sugar Maples. He had commented people are killing the Sugar Maples by tapping so many of them so consistently.

The price per plant has gone up slightly. It is less expensive to purchase packages. Being proposed this year is the purchase of 1 package and assorted seedlings.

Commissioner Perry noted the cost cited includes a delivery fee. As the plantings are picked up at the nursery a discount on the delivery charge will be achieved. However, the amount of the discount is not known until the order is placed. The event is scheduled for the weekend of May 7, 2016.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER TENHAVE TO MOVE FORWARD WITH THE SEEDLING PURCHASE AS PROPOSED

MOTION SECONDED BY MEMBER CARON

MOTION CARRIED

5-0-0

- Beaver Policy and Water Control Activities

Commissioner Perry stated there to be no updates to provide at this time.

- Confirm Nat Fairbanks as a full-time member of Grater Woods Sub-Committee

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER CARON TO APPOINT NAT FAIRBANKS AS A FULL MEMBER TO THE GRATER WOODS SUB-COMMITTEE FOR A TERM TO EXPIRE JUNE 30, 2018

MOTION SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER PERRY

MOTION CARRIED

5-0-0

- Update on HHNP Parking Lot Expansion

Chairman Tenhave informed the Commission he has reached out to Kyle Fox, Deputy Director, Public Works Department, for assistance with the Request for Proposal (RFP).

- Annual Winter Carnival on 2/20/16

The Annual Winter Carnival will be held on Saturday, February 20, 2016. The Commission has participated in past years. Chairman Tenhave questioned if members wished to participate in this year's event. In the past, the Commission has set up a table with informational material as well as maps of some of the Commission parcels, and discussed activities of the Commission with residents who stop by.

Commissioner Perry suggested it would be helpful to provide a map of the proposed pipeline route. As the availability of Commission members was not believed likely, Chairman Tenhave suggested if members are aware of any active local groups that might wish to raise awareness of the proposed pipeline project the suggestion could be passed along.

Information on the event will be passed along to the Commission's sub-committees.

- Summer Programs

Chairman Tenhave spoke of having been contacted by Matt Casparius, Director, Parks & Recreation Department, with regard to partnering with the department on summer programs.

Commissioner Boisvert suggested each sub-committee conduct an educational activity on the property it serves. Commissioner Boisvert was asked, and agreed to follow up with Director Casparius, and bring information back before the Commission at its next meeting.

- Merrimack River

Commissioner Perry spoke of having had the opportunity to walk along the Merrimack River with Mr. McCabe. Of the two embankments that were slated for repair, one has been completed (first corner and into the cover). There are 8 logjams out into the river now, which extend a good 12' out from the bank. The intent was for the logjams to slow water down in the inlet to allow solids to fall out. Inside of every channel it is iced indicating the water is fairly still. Just on the outside of that area the river is moving and there is no ice on it.

PRESENTATION OF THE MINUTES

Merrimack Conservation Commission. December 21, 2015