Hanover Conservation Commission
Minutes – December 11, 2019

Present: Vicki Smith, Rob Houseman, Whit Spaulding, Jim Kennedy, Peter Christie, John Trummel, Hugh Mellert, Bill Mlačak, Joel Wood, Joanne Coppinger, Audra Klumb, Jason Rouillard, Will Mudge

The meeting opened at 7:13 pm in the Board Room of Hanover Town Hall.

1. 10 Hilton Field Lane Report

- December 9 site visit minutes were reviewed
- plan:
  - some renovation mainly in interior
  - improving esthetics
  - adding accessible walkway and other accessibility improvements
  - footprint will be slightly reduced
- changes per site visit
  - will remove stairs from project
  - will add seasonal ramp (winter only) to plan
  - wetland flags are top of bank not water edge
  - will have surveyor include wetland flags for plans
  - will resubmit drawing to address encroachment of bank
- new drawings will be available for ZBA hearing at end of January
- for drainage and possible filter system, concern about system that requires annual maintenance
  - could instead change pitch of ramp to direct where stormwater goes
  - runoff can go to planted areas instead of pond
  - some to central area, and some to current drainage area
- concern about proximity to pond
- roof run-off is going to drip edge, which is an improvement over current status
- annual maintenance plans are in place for Ledyard Canoe Club, and others, so it could be done here
- main problem is sand, and those filters are not effective with sand
- area is too small for a sump pump, so rain gardens would be a better choice
- concern about ramp drainage, and plan should keep sand and salt out of Occom Pond
- need to indicate on plan where netting is supposed to go
- need to do more investigation about conduits
- unused wire and conduit will be removed
- pond outflow has channel, but there is 10" drop below pipe
- need to indicate addition of stone on plan
- motion made to support the project application with the following changes:
  - Removal of the proposed stairs
  - Delineation of the top of bank
  - Adding to the plan the existing ramp which is used seasonally
  - Adding to the plan a stormwater management element that will prevent untreated sand and salt used to maintain the proposed ramp from reaching the pond
  - Operations and maintenance protocol for all stormwater management features
- Adding to the plan erosion control netting in the area where the paved driveway will be removed in the southeast portion of the site
- Reinforcing with stone the existing drainage pipe outlet to the pond outfall area
- Adding to the plan the proposed area of disturbance to eliminate as many as possible of the conduits that cross the pond outflow
- Adding to the plan how the existing light in the tree to the north west of the DOC House will be served once the electrical service is moved to the new pole

- motion approved
- revised plan will be submitted for the January 8, 2020 meeting
- materials should be submitted by Jan. 2 for distribution to Commission

2. **5 Sugar Maple Lane Project**
   - Peter Christie recused himself
   - September 9 site visit minutes reviewed
   - revised plan submitted
     - includes north arrow and setback distances added
   - motion to support application as submitted on December 11
   - motion approved

3. **Parks and Recreation Management of Open Space Lands**
   - ad hoc committee has met twice
   - Joel prepared spreadsheet
   - Jim prepared area maps
   - list was streamlined to properties that have higher use and are more park-like
   - added invasive species as additional maintenance
   - John Sherman plans to include this in his budget request
   - needs to educate staff person on invasive species
   - Bill would like to see more management plans for the areas

4. **Budget for FY2020**
   - Budget approved as submitted

5. **Trails Committee Report**
   - Bill referenced report submitted by email earlier in the day
   - Quabbin to Cardigan: most of deliverables obtained and provided to Vicki
   - UVTA has other materials, and Bill will get them at next meeting
   - for Partridge to Woodcock trail, survey whiskers are in place
   - request to add unlocked gate to Class VI Plummer Hill Road
   - Bill will check with abutters first
   - revised maintenance policy submitted to Commission but postpone discussion until next Commission meeting
   - concern about public visibility of Trails Committee documents
     - Vicki suggested adding link to Google Drive on Trails Committee web page
6. Minutes from November 12 and 13, 2019

- November 13 minutes approved as submitted
- November 12 site visit minutes approved as submitted
- December 9 site visit minutes approved as submitted

7. Other Business

- DES Wetland Rules
  - Jim is doing a study of changes to rules going into effect December 15
  - many procedures have changed
  - new checkbox for Commission to waive right to review
  - 4 new lower priority permits
  - requires changes to existing zoning ordinance
  - would be
  - Jim has prepared draft language
  - general sense that language revisions are ok
  - Jim will proceed to review with Planning Board staff

- Trescott Company
  - Peter reported on recent Board meeting
  - lots of work done at lesser expense than predicted
  - Board wants to protect watershed
  - recreation expense will be part of town budget
  - less logging will be done in future

- Occom Ridge
  - Hugh inquired about stairway construction
  - nothing done yet

Meeting adjourned at 8:58 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Bill Mlačak