

Town of Conway

Minutes of the Conway Planning Board Meeting, February 4, 2016

Present: Chairman Joseph Strzegowski, Mary McClintock, Sue McFarland and David Chichester.

Absent: Tami Borton and Andy Jaffe (A).

Chairman Strzegowski opened the meeting at 7:05 p.m. in the Conway Town Office.

Guests: Kimberly MacPhee and Nicolas Miller

1. The minutes of the January 28, 2016, regular meeting were approved as written. Unanimous.
2. Ms MacPhee (FRCOG) was present to update the Planning Board, as she had done at the November 5th meeting, on the progress of the South River Wetland Corridor Protection Area project. According to her, the grant to fund this work will expire at the end of March, 2016, and they are working to extend that date.

Mr. Miller spent considerable time discussing the elements of his field observations and analysis of the South River. He presented many maps showing the details of the length of the River through Conway, its dynamics, its sensitivities and vulnerabilities of the embankments, drainage and surrounding areas. The goal of the project is to identify detailed aspects of the Corridor which call for remedial attention and to define the risks and potential problems in the future...both for the Town and for individual homeowners who could be at risk. The final report will be submitted to the Town in the future, and the Planning Board will be given the opportunity to consider whatever actions are ultimately deemed appropriate.

Ms MacPhee and Mr. Miller will be conducting informational meetings in the near future for Ashfield and Conway residents and officials. They will publicize the dates when finalized. They also plan to attend the Planning Board meeting on March 17th to provide further updates.

3. The PB reviewed the details and logistics for presenting the Proposed General Bylaw on **Noise, Earth Removal and Related Disturbances for Large Scale Industrial and Commercial Facilities** at the upcoming Special Town Meeting on February 8th. The plan is for Ms McClintock to review the handout with the audience and then Mr. Strzegowski will discuss the amendments.
4. Mr. Strzegowski reported that the Four Town Pipeline Coalition is planning to undertake studies on the Pipeline's potential affect on air quality, water quality and roadways in each town.
5. Ms McFarland opened discussion on the continued viability and continuance of Conway's *Ad Hoc* Pipeline Committee. As the PB knows, this committee has been very active and has recorded many accomplishments during its existence. Some questions have now been raised: What is the Committee's role today and for how long should it continue? What is its current mandate? How does it related to the Four Town Coalition and the Regional Pipeline Committee? Who should be on it? The PB thought these were legitimate questions and Ms McFarland agreed to address them with the Committee.
6. The PB became aware of a UMass student who has expressed an interest in providing some temporary assistance to the Town in researching or facilitating project areas needing additional

thoughtful attention. This would be of a temporary nature (at no cost to the Town) and would work to support her graduate level pursuits. Several projects were discussed. The PB agreed this might be useful.

ACTION ITEM:

Mr. Strzegowski will talk with her to determine if there is something that meets both parties' interests.

7. In the context of the upcoming Town Caucus, there was a discussion of PB membership and, particularly, Board positions that will be expiring this year. Mr. Chichester advised that, regrettably, he will not be accepting nomination for another term. Other possibilities were discussed for filling the two vacancies.

There being no further business, the members voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 9:40 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: The next regularly scheduled meeting will be on Thursday, February 18, 2016, 7:00 p.m. at the Conway Town Office.

Respectfully submitted,
David I Chichester