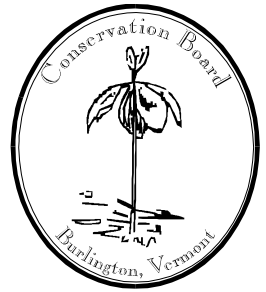


Burlington Conservation Board

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*Miles Waite, Chair
Zoe Richards
Scott Mapes
Don Meals
Jeff Severson
Matt Moore
Ellen Kujawa
Stephanie Young
Ryan Crehan*



Conservation Board Meeting Minutes

Monday, November 5, 2018 – 5:30 pm
Planning & Zoning Conference Room – City Hall Lower Level
149 Church Street

Attendance

- **Board Members:** Zoe Richards (ZR), Matt Moore (MM), Miles Waite (MW), Ryan Crehan (RC), Scott Mapes (SM), Jeff Severson (JS), Stephanie Young (SY), Ellen Kujawa (EK)
- **Absent:** Don Meals (DM)
- **Public:** Bill Calfee (147 South Cove Rd)
- **Staff:** Scott Gustin (Planning & Zoning)

MW, Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m.

Minutes

Meeting minutes of September 10, 2018

MW noted on pg. 3, paragraph 6, 7th sentence, "coal tar" should be in quotes.

A MOTION was made by ZR and SECONDED by SM to accept the September 10 minutes as corrected.

Vote: 5-0-2, motion carried.

Board Comment

SM, has City Center reported on their urban soils conditions? SG, not to my knowledge. He will follow up. MW said that he was aware of corrective action underway.

MW noted the upcoming CCRPC meeting of regional conservation commissions. MM said that he had never attended on. It's November 16 from 6-9PM.

(JS appeared at 5:39PM.)

ZR said that she attended a meeting organized by a local botanist pertaining to Native American sites in the Intervale. She said she'd share some of the follow up information with the Board. She said the sites date back 3,000 years and possibly further. She noted that the botanical make-up of the Intervale still reflects this early farming activity. Jess Robinson, the state archaeologist, has led the research.

EK noted the International Joint Commission has a study underway evaluating flood impacts along the lake. They are holding a public hearing in South Burlington later this month at the Burlington Double Tree hotel.

Public Comment

None.

Project Review

1. **19-0305CA; 147 South Cove Rd (WRL, 5S) William & Lara Calfee**
Installation of temporary modular home.

The programs and services of the Dept. of Planning and Zoning are accessible to people with disabilities.
For accessibility information call 865-7188 (865-7142 TTY).

Bill Calfee appeared. SG recapped the project and stated that the riparian and littoral conservation overlay zone affects the entire property. The overlay limits tree clearing and stormwater outfalls. Minimal tree clearing inland of the house site and no new stormwater outfalls are proposed.

Mr. Calfee overviewed the proposal. The house will be set on helical piers. He's looking to install pervious pavers for driveway modifications. He's aiming for a net zero building. His background is in energy efficiency. Three white pine trees will be removed to allow additional sunlight in. A dying elm tree will also be removed. Some new fruit trees will be installed.

SM, when was the prior home demolished? Mr. Calfee, it was demolished in the spring.

SM, what's the purpose for building a home on piers? Mr. Calfee, we want to live here soon. Doing so enables us to be there soon. We plan to decide on a more permanent home.

JS, on sheet C1.0, there's a nonconformity noted. SG pointed out that's a setback to the lake.

MW, did they stub the sewer and water lines? Mr. Calfee said that they extend down the driveway.

A MOTION was made by SM and SECONDED by MM:

Recommend approval for project as proposed.

Vote: 8-0-0, motion carried.

Update & Discussion

1. Municipal Development Plan

Meagan Tuttle appeared on behalf of this item.

Meagan Tuttle provided project background. The draft plan has been updated to reflect BCB input from this past spring. She's looking for additional comments that the Board may have. The plan is being totally transformed into an integrative structure. The plan is organized into a plan for action (policies) and future land use. (How do the policies translate to different parts of the city?) Conserve, sustain, and grow are the three basic categories. Our natural environment is the foundation for our city. The first policy is how we will protect our natural resources. Our next theme is about Burlington as a dynamic city. The next theme pertains to Burlington as an inclusive city. The final theme is about Burlington as a connected city. We will grow through benefit of holistic thinking. Policy #16 speaks to preserving the quality and connectivity of our natural resources. It addresses protection of sites with marginal development potential and considers the impacts of climate changes. We want to have many and diverse recreational activities in the city but they need to be managed in an appropriate way so as to minimize impacts to our open green spaces. The last two pieces pertain to areas we're looking to protect and sustain (our residential districts) and areas where we're looking to grow (such as downtown).

Ms. Tuttle touched on prior board comment. She said that information included pertained more to big picture items rather than particular passages. The text of the plan has changed. There was comment as to access to our natural areas. A comment was received pertaining to green infrastructure. It should not be limited to public infrastructure. It should be incorporated into private property as well. The draft plan includes goals to this effect. Comment was received as to increasing funding for the BCLF. That is a proposal in the plan. Within these updated action items, we know that some are underway. We tried to focus on things that are really new or created a policy hole if we didn't mention them at all. We tried to avoid repeating goals in place and underway.

MM, is the BCB subject to any action items? Ms. Tuttle said that another update to the OSPP is noted. ZR said that the original OSPP is the original foundational document. The 2014 update

was something of an addendum rather than a replacement. Going on 20 years since the original, it may need to be comprehensively reworked.

MM, is updating the OSPP an action item? Ms. Tuttle, yes. If we feel a more comprehensive update or new plan is warranted, that can be incorporated.

Ms. Tuttle said that comment could be provided individually or as a board.

MW, has staff put the update together? Ms. Tuttle, yes.

SM, the last sentence in "connected city" is pretty far reaching. There are a number of different entities with a stake in all of this. Having gone through the permitting process, he thinks this is very important. We want to invigorate and invite appropriate development rather than frustrate it. Ms. Tuttle cited the need for better coordination early on for project proposals. She noted co-location of permitting entities within the city.

JS questioned what a "net zero energy community is." What kind of factors go into that? Ms. Tuttle said that we'll source at least a much renewable energy as we consume in our thermal, transportation, and electrical sectors.

JS asked about the reference to gaps in the housing tenure ladder. Ms. Tuttle said that at the lowest end are things like short term housing and emergency shelters. The housing ladder goes up from there.

ZR, is it Planning & Zoning's decision to update the OSPP? Ms. Tuttle said that the Department would manage the effort. ZR said she also has a bunch of specific comments. She can email them and cc the board. Ms. Tuttle said email is fine and noted that the board could provide comments together versus individually.

MW asked if the Urban Reserve plan needs to be dusted off and reevaluated or reworked. Ms. Tuttle said that the document is unlikely to be updated. The harbor management plan; however, will be updated. Policy for the Urban Reserve may be defined as part of the plan for the city's entire harbor area.

JS, does the plan speak at all to our relationship with neighboring communities? Ms. Tuttle, yes it does. He pointed out the accessibility gap in the south end for getting to the Price Chopper Plaza or Shaw's plaza on the South Burlington side.

RC, on the neighborhood center, there is varied zoning such as neighborhood activity center. Ms. Tuttle said that the designation does not change the zoning. The maps in the plan articulate where we want to concentrate neighborhood activity. The plan does not change the zoning designation.

ZR said she was pleased with the conservation language throughout the plan.

MM suggested board comment as to the Urban Reserve and as to permit reform. MW suggested an agenda item for discussion at the Board's December 3 meeting.

Send comments to SG by 11/26 to put into a list for inclusion in the 12/3 packet.

2. Burlington Wildways

ZR provided a status update as to the activities of the Wildways coalition. She provided a hand-out with activities in chronological order and discussed each in turn. Trail signage is initially proposed along existing trails. EK said if interpretative signage is proposed, she noted the Basin Program signage that has been done. The same resource may be useful here. ZR is aware of it and may go through that same program.

SY, it may be helpful to use the QR phone codes to link to information about the site. SM mentioned a trail app on his cell phone that helped him navigate a poorly marked hiking trail. It may be something to consider as part of this effort.

3. 2019 Meeting Schedule

MM, 2nd EK approve the meeting schedules.

Approve meeting schedules as proposed.

Vote: 8-0-0, motion carried.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:20 PM.