

Burlington Conservation Board

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



Conservation Board Meeting Minutes

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

Attendance

- **Board Members:** Zoe Richards (ZR), Jeff Severson (JS), Matt Moore (MM), Stephanie Young (SY), Miles Waite (MW), Scott Mapes (SM), Sean Beckett (SM), Don Meals (DM)
- **Absent:** Ellen Kujawa (EK)
- **Public:** Gannon Osborne, Chris Boget, & John Bossange (BCLF item), Frasier __, Natalie __, Lauren Barnes (UVM Students)
- **Staff:** Scott Gustin (Planning & Zoning), Dan Cahill (Parks & Rec)

MM, Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m.

Minutes

December 4, 2017 meeting minutes

A MOTION was made by ZR and SECONDED by DM:

Approve as written.

Vote: 5-0-0, motion carried.

February 5, 2018 meeting minutes

ZR noted the correct spelling of “Boget.”

A MOTION was made by MW and SECONDED by SY:

Adopt as corrected.

4-0-0, no action taken. Defer to April meeting.

Board Comment

DM mentioned the City Hall Park project. He’s received questions about the Conservation Board’s take on City Hall Park. We’ve not reviewed it, but he thinks we should have reviewed and commented on it. The project involves trees and soil permeability. If we need to change the review triggers, we should do so. Discussion of potential to review any applications in city parks. SG said that we could propose review of anything significant and define what “significant” is. MM asked about the Natural Resource Overlay map. SG displayed. Board members noted the absence of several city parks. ZR said that it seems like Parks Commission review would be appropriate, not necessarily BCB review. MM, if people have a desire to change our review triggers, feel free to bring it up for discussion.

Public Comment

None.

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Open Space Subcommittee

1. BCLF Application – Arms Forest

John Bossange provided background to this conservation project. He spoke on behalf of the Parks' Foundation. The bike path rehab has been their signature effort. He said that we realized that the path runs through the Arms Forest and Rock Point property. Consideration has been given to the bike path serving as a key entry point to these properties and in conserving them. Discussion has involved multiple property owners and stakeholders. There is broad-based support among the parties. There are a number of potential donors with interest in the project and are waiting to see what support the city gives to this effort. He would like the Conservation Board to play a significant role in this effort.

Dan Cahill thanked Mr. Bossange for his leadership. He is looking for a cohesive effort across the property boundaries to make this project work. This effort has evolved over time. It is complex and involves fee simple and conservation easements.

Chris Boget noted the recently completed conservation easement. LCLT is committed long term to this conservation effort.

MM reiterated this is phase 1 of a 2 phase project. Phase 1 is up for action. Phase 2 is informative at this point. A subsequent BCLF application will be needed for Phase 2.

MW, where did the \$195K number come from? Mr. Cahill said we've included the cost of 2 years trail construction with VYCC. About \$70K is for the cost of trail heads, blazes, and other marking.

SY asked about parking access. Mr. Cahill noted the friendly relationship with the North Avenue Alliance Church and their allowance of public access from their property.

ZR, likes to see the detail budget proposal that the applicants have provided. There is a real plan to provide access for people to enjoy this area.

SB noted that this is a perfect showcase of multiple parties coming together to make things happen.

JS greatly appreciates the expansion of how this project was laid out by the applicants to convey the full picture.

A MOTION was made by DM and SECONDED by SM:

Recommend approval of the requested \$98,488 expenditure of BCLF monies.

Vote: 8-0-0, motion carried.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:26 PM.