

Burlington Conservation Board

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



Conservation Board Meeting Minutes

Monday, July 2, 2018 – 5:30 pm
Planning & Zoning Conference Room – City Hall Lower Level
149 Church Street

Attendance

- **Board Members:** Scott Mapes (SM), Zoe Richards (ZR), Matt Moore (MM), Miles Waite (MW), Stephanie Young (SY), Don Meals (DM), Ellen Kujawa (EK)
- **Absent:** Jeff Severson (JS)
- **Public:** Andrea & Steve Charest, Andy Rowe, Susan Coddaira, Esther Lots, and Erik Sandbloom (75 Briggs St)
- **Staff:** Scott Gustin (Planning & Zoning)

MM, Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Annual Organizational Meeting

A MOTION was made by MW and SECONDED by DM:

Create Chair for the Open Space Subcommittee.

MM described his work with the Open Space Subcommittee. Discussion as to need to create this position ensued.

Vote: 7-0-0, motion carried.

A MOTION was made by MW and SECONDED by EK:

Nominate MM to be Chair of the Open Space Subcommittee.

Vote: 6-0-1, motion carried.

A MOTION was made by DM and SECONDED by MM:

Nominate MW as BCB Chair.

Vote: 6-0-1, motion carried.

A MOTION was made by MW and SECONDED by DM:

Nominate ZR to be Vice Chair.

Vote: 6-0-1, motion carried.

A MOTION was made by DM and SECONDED by MW:

Nominate EK to remain the BCB's representative on the LRPC.

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Vote: 6-0-1, motion carried.

Minutes

Meeting minutes of June 4, 2018

SM noted on pg. 3, 2nd paragraph, 2nd sentence the word “dovelike” should be “device.”

MW noted on pg. 3, 3rd paragraph, last sentence that “CAS” should be “KAS.” MW also noted on pg. 5, 7th paragraph, 6th sentence should be preceded by “In response to Martha Lang’s question about money, MW said that...”

A MOTION was made by MW and SECONDED by ZR to accept the June 4 minutes as corrected.

Vote: 5-0-2.

Board Comment

DM asked about status of the open meeting law litigation. SG responded that the court dismissed the suit last week.

SM asked about the Surf Club buildings at Blodgett beach. SG responded that the applications come to the BCB this past spring. DM noted that they were reviewed after the fact.

Public Comment

None.

Open Space Subcommittee

1. Burlington Wildways Coalition update

ZR provided an overview of what the coalition is presently doing and how it’s organized. There are three goals: better collective conservation, improved connectivity for people and wildlife, and better access to these open space lands. The organization is networked – a coordinated organization of various groups. A lot better collaborative stewardship is taking place. The next thing we want to achieve is connected, signed trails across the city. We are working to put together a logo and launch a website. We have \$10K in funding to work with. Consideration as to optimum sign markers is underway. It feels like we have a well-organized functional structure.

MM said that ZR has done a great job getting the groups together. The Rock Point/Arms Forest area is a current case study of what we’d like to see more of. The concept of a trail network around Burlington is really powerful.

MW wondered if any funding could come from the BCLF. ZR said that MM has been in touch with Richard Dean. He is interested in the legacy fund and what it can be used for. We can have discussions in the coming months as to what items it can be used for. SY, is there a benefit to become a nonprofit? ZR said that the WVPD is basically acting as a surrogate nonprofit for the group.

SM said he was impressed by the survey. He said that it could segue well into mapping and wayfinding.

ZR reiterated the amazing resources and potential we have in Burlington. ZR also mentioned that Alicia Daniels is leading an effort to review the urban wilds and how they fit into this mix. There’s also another individual working on interpretative signage for Rock Point.

MM mentioned that the final approval of BCLF for Rock Point has been pending resolution of final details for the conservation easement. He’d like to see improved coordination between City Council, BCB, and the applicants.

ZR asked MM his opinion as to the situation. MM said that there's a lack of coordination between BCB feedback, what Parks & Rec wants for legal rights, and what the City Council thinks. It's something that needs to be talked about and decided upon.

SM remarked that its growing pains of the legacy program, not necessarily questioning the conservation value of the property.

V. Update/ Discussion

1. Bylaws amendment

Clarify actions by quorum.

A MOTION was made by DM and SECONDED by MW:

Approve the proposed changes.

Vote: 7-0-0, motion carried.

VI. Project review

1. 18-1208CA/MA; 75 Briggs St (ELM, 5S) Onion River Cooperative / Charest Alpinism

Construct a new health club/climbing center including a new building and site improvements

Andrea & Steve Charest, Andy Rowe, Susan Coddair, Esther Lots, and Erik Sandbloom appeared on behalf of the application.

Steve Charest overviewed the proposal. It will double the size of their existing climbing facility. The site layout is similar to that reviewed during sketch plan review.

Andy Rowe addressed stormwater management. Presently, there is no stormwater management onsite. The site is presently about 93% impervious. As proposed, just under 60% will be impervious. Proposed stormwater management includes several bioretention areas. All are lined because of onsite soil contamination. The predevelopment peak is 2.2, and post development is about 1/10 of a CFS. Most of the site drains towards Oakledge. There is a strip along Briggs Street that goes into the combined sewer system.

Erik Sandbloom addressed the corrective action plan. There will be a cap onsite over contaminated soils. Stormwater management will not involve infiltration. Some additional soils investigation needs to be done.

Mr. Rowe said that grading plans have gone through some revisions, but in general, as much soil will be kept onsite as possible. Some will have to be hauled offsite for disposal.

MW asked if there's any chance of getting a variance from ANR for the 18" thick cap. Mr. Sandbloom did not think so.

SM, could you document the proposed improvement as to sediment removal from stormwater runoff? Mr. Rowe, sediment removal should be very high as compared to existing conditions. SM agreed but would have liked to see the data behind it.

MM, is the proposed stormwater system separate from City Market? Mr. Rowe, yes. MM, what's going to happen with the public street down there? Mr. Charest, Briggs Street will not be improved until the Southern Connector comes through. Both roads will be parallel in front of the new climbing center. Mr. Rowe said that runoff from Briggs St would be handled with that from the Southern Connector.

MW, are you leasing the land? Mr. Charest, no, we will be buying it.

A MOTION was made by SM and seconded by ZR:

Support the application as proposed.

Vote: 7-0-0, motion carried.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:47 PM.