

**Peterborough Conservation Commission Meeting Minutes
January 18, 2018, Peterborough Town House, 7 p.m.**

Present: Jo Anne Carr, Swift Corwin, John Kerrick, John Patterson, Francie Von Mertens, Robert Wood

November's minutes were approved as were annual NHACC dues and CNBRLAC dues.

Zoning changes

Utility-scale solar. Francie Von Mertens updated group on effort to bring solar-friendly ordinance to town vote in May. She and Jo Anne Carr are on the group drafting the ordinance—an effort in response to proposed 20 MW project on a leased 100-acre parcel in town. There is a desire to be alternative-energy supportive balanced with concerns over natural resource impacts. Von Mertens said the few ordinances that exist rarely mention natural resources other than stating preference for brownfields and already impacted areas.

Swift Corwin mentioned soil compaction as the greatest impediment to forest recovery after a project's likely life (25 years); Robert Wood cited potential stormwater issues (erosion / runoff) given impervious surfaces.

"Form-based" zoning overhaul of WPOZ I and II.

Von Mertens said that again, as with WPOZ I and II, ConCom was not included in early stages of the zoning changes despite ConCom valuable contributions when we requested a joint meeting at late stages of WPOZ II. This latest round includes expanding 80% coverage and no minimum lot sizes to the Eneguess Field, Morison sandpit, and a few other areas. Carr stated concerns over allowing expanded density over the Groundwater Protection Overlay zone. Although late in the process, members agreed to request a joint meeting with the Planning Board. Von Mertens will.

Old Business

Wood said he had not heard back from Town House about ConCom request to Select Board to take over Water Resources Advisory Board role. He will follow up again.

Agenda

Approve Nov. minutes / attached (several action items in minutes)
Approve budget items NHACC annual dues / Trail Guide reprint (maybe)
/ CNBRLAC annual dues (Matt unable to attend)

Zoning

Utility-scale commercial solar— update on drafting progress / natural resource impacts / ConCom input Francie
Form-based zoning (basic overhaul of WPOZ I and II) and Groundwater Protection District impacts Jo Anne

Taking over Water Resources Adv. Board role

Goal / projects / outreach

Decreasing plastics (water bottles) likely related to that role What's needed to move that along?

Neonics campaign. Francie. Regarding TruGreen treatments (Hospital, Belletetes, Funeral Home on Concord St., etc. in town). Compared to standard neonic **imidacloprid**, **acelepryn** as a grub control has reduced risk to pollinators as it is not systemic.

Laura Gingras at hospital determined this when I gave her information about the neonic imidicloprid that TruGreen applied at MCH (control Japanese beetles, mostly, I think). Acelepryn is more expensive, Laura said. I'll work up information sheet with information on the neonic, its ban in many towns/countries, likely impact on pollinators. Costs of alternative. Basic question: Is grub control necessary? Would be nice to know what TruGreen standard treatment is when contracted. Options?

Jocelyn Duffy offer of giving one of the Speaking for Wildlife presentations under CC auspices. Our response.