



Falmouth Conservation Commission
Minutes of November 28, 2016

Meeting convened at 4:00 p.m.

Members present: Sarah Boudreau, Paul Burlin, Susan Gilpin, Jerry Goodall, Nancy Lightbody, Steve DeCrosta

Also present: Councilor Ned Kitchel, Councilor Caleb Hemphill, Karen Jacobsen (resident), Mike Peaslee (Modern Pest Services), Ashley & Kaila (UNE Students), Colin Ellis (Forecaster News).

Pesticide Restriction Ordinance

Susan opened the subject of this ordinance on pesticide restriction and brought forward a proposed process outlining the issues to be considered. Guests were invited to ask questions and express any concerns at the end of the Commission's discussion.

Susan discussed all issues with the Commission resulting in the following:

Issues to be considered:

- What is the evidence of pesticide and fertilizer use in Falmouth?
- What are the effects of pesticide and fertilizer use on humans, pets, insects, aquatic life?
- What is known? What is unknown? What is probable?
- How are pesticide and fertilizer control ordinances working in other towns?
- Which situations in Falmouth may require particular care:
- School playgrounds? Golf courses? Playing fields?
- Shore land properties? Invasive species?
- Ticks?
- What are the options: chemicals, IPM, organic, cultural practices only?
- What is to be regulated: sales or use?
- Would regulations be phased in over 2 or 3 years, or not?
- Would there be a waiver process? A waiver board?
- How to enforce: with fines, or not at all, or voluntarily?
- How best to educate the public?

Collect data and then weigh options by going online and also meeting individually and in groups with interested parties:

- Scientists: State Board of Pesticide Control, researchers at GMRI, Friends of Casco Bay, USGS, UMaine, UNE, St. Joseph's College, Cumberland County Soil and Water District, Maine Audubon, MOFGA, State Apiarist
- Healthcare providers: Falmouth vets, area physicians, state CDC
- Nurseries in Falmouth
- Golf courses in Falmouth



- Falmouth Public Works Department
- Falmouth public schools
- Falmouth landscape companies
- Falmouth lawn care companies
- Pesticide applicators working in Falmouth
- Falmouth beekeepers
- Falmouth farmers, UMaine Agricultural Extension
- Falmouth lobstermen, clam diggers, and fishermen
- Other residents of Falmouth

The following Commission members were then assigned contacts to proceed with the first phase of attaining information (Scientists), and to return any info to Nancy by mid-December.

Steve-State Board of Pesticide Control

Jerry-Casco Bay Estuary Project/Friends of Casco Bay

Susan-DMR, physicians and Vets

Sarah-State CDC

Nancy-Friends of the Presumpscot River/Cumberland County Soil and Water Conservation District

Paul-Maine Audubon

Questions and concerns were then opened to the public and guests.

Karen Jacobsen (resident) suggested to contact other towns who have moved forward with these issues. Also mentioned making contact with listing farmers and beekeepers.

Review of Minutes

Minutes of the November 7, 2016, meeting were unanimously approved.

Subcommittee Reports

- **LMAC** (Paul) No report
- **Planning Board** (Nancy/Steve) No report
- **Wetlands/Vernal Pools**
- **Water Quality/Erosion**
- **Invasive Species** (Nancy/Sarah/Jerry) No report
- **Update of website and video** (Paul) No report
- **Ad-Hoc Zoning Committee** (Steve) No report
- **Ad Hoc Route 1 North Committee** (Paul) Initial discussions have begun
- **Greening of Falmouth 2.0** (Sarah) Preliminary meeting took place Nov 10th. History, concerns were discussed with a plan of short intensive meetings planned for the future. Sarah offered to continue following this and will plan to attend when possible.

Other Business/Other Ideas



- **Pine Grove Park:** (Paul) Management plan now in the works. Residents are asking to be a part of future discussions.
- **Native Species Mini-Park at Town Green** (Susan/Jerry) Discussions are at the initial stage in the area considered OceanView next to Lunt school. Oceanview is offering to supply products and provide maintenance.
- **Presumpscot River Watershed Coalition** (Nancy/Sarah/Jerry) Saccarappa Dam in Westbrook to be taken down to allow fish access.
- **Knotweed** (Jerry) No update received from Troy Barry at this time.
- **Other Business:** Paul has resigned from the Conservation Commission; however, he will still be available as needed until a replacement is found.
- **FCC meetings in 2017:** Will meet on January 4 (instead of January 2) at 7:00 p.m. First Monday of each month for subsequent Commission meetings in 2017.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

Next meeting is January 4, 2017 (Wed) at 7:00 p.m.

Submitted by Steve DeCrosta.