

Manchester Conservation Commission

July 11, 2019

Present: Garry Hinkley, Jeff Reardon, Shenna Bellows, Sara Kingdon(assoc) , Fred Snow (assoc), Jeff Janell

Excused: Jean-Luc Theriault, Annie Reiter , Deborah Plengey

Guest: April Gay, Manchester asst treasurer

Minutes from the April meeting were reviewed and approved

DEP recycling grant update: We were requesting \$35,000 and received \$7,500. They do not want to cover costs of hauling. Considering doing fencing around the bullet with double gates. The haulers would only have access to the bullet. Question if it would be located at the Town Office or if it would do better at the Fire Station. Hope that haulers would be motivated to keep it clean and pack it prior to having it shipped. The town will be enforcing the licensing requirement of getting a hauler's license by offering recycling. The market for recycling is starting to expand and the purchasers are starting to be more local. Want to maintain consumer awareness and responsibility as well as maintain a relationship with EcoMaine. It was debated if we have to maintain the location if we return to individual access. The MCC approved the acceptance of the grant to site and construct a fence in a unanimous vote.

National Park Service grant is approved for consideration , should hear in August. Grant is for consultation on potential trails in town from Bog Pond east to Hallowell. There is no money involved but direct technical assistance is provided.

Street light proposal—Several towns have taken over their street lights from CMP and installed LED lights. Payback is generally within 3-4 years. There are approximately 150 streetlights in town. Plan is for town to take over lights and re-install LCD lights. Question is how to get the up front money on the project. The MCC made a motion to offer a loan to the town out of its Conservation Reserve Fund that will allow for the start up of the conversion. There will be regular paybacks from the town over a period of four years. We will also require the contractor to consider making amendments to the lighting to comply with Dark Sky ordinances.

Garry Hinkley and Jeff Janell were re-appointed to the MCC. Annie Reiter is also up for re-appointment.

Shenna gave a listing of a number of conservation bills that have passed in this session. It was an impressive year with many accomplishments. Shenna anticipates that recycling is likely to be a big issue in the upcoming year. The CMP corridor remains a divisive issue.

Jeff Reardpm gave planning board updates, but there have been very few new developments. There is an electric car charger at Mulligans.

Fred reported that MEACC had its conference as outlined in their newsletter. There has been a positive response from towns following this. Looking to re-doing the ordinances guiding Conservation Commissions around the state.

The Apple Fest is for Oct 4,5,6 and is evolving into an 0435-fun event. Conservation Commission is encouraged to have a presence and to offer associated events such as trail walks. There is talk from the committee working on this of looking at working with the Country Club to achieve beach access.

Meeting adjourned at 8:35 PM.