

Calais Conservation Commission Minutes
1 February, 2023, 7:00 p.m.
Zoom meeting
Approved

Calais Conservation Commission (CCC) members present all Via Zoom: Larry Bush, Mark Brown, Julie Hand, Stephanie Kaplan, Tracy Coolidge

Guests all Via Zoom: Noreen Bryan, Teri Page, Scott Bassage (recorder), Peter Harvey, Peg Bowen,

The meeting was called to order at 7:15 pm.

- Additions to Agenda:
 - None.

- Minutes 2/1/23 5:38PM
 - The commission approved the minutes of December 7th, 2022. (Brown, Bush)
- Curb cut ordinance revisions (0:13:00)*
 - Working from *New Calais Curb Cut Ordinance-REVISED.doc* 2/1/23 5:38PM, the group discussed and revised the sections in bold in the draft.
 - “Approach.” Remove bold text about driveways.
 - “Sensitive natural resources.”
 - Suggest to applicants that they look at the ANR maps of Calais natural resources.
 - Larry said that it would be good to reduce driveway lengths to avoid encroaching on forest blocks, but it should be done with Zoning.
 - Replace “Curb Cut” with “Property Access” in places
 - Include Historic and Resources (e.g. stone walls, cellar holes)
 - “Permit required”
 - Farmers and loggers need to apply for a permit along with everyone else because a tractor or logging truck going or coming onto a town road with inadequate sight distances could be just as dangerous as any other vehicle.
 - “Deputy Tree Warden”
 - Applicant must receive approval before cutting trees over what is specified in the Shade Tree Plan, so r
 - Refer applicant to Shade Tree Plan
 - Process
 - (52:01 Neal will draft revisions.
 - (54:00) We need to get something to the Selectboard before their meeting on 2/13.
 - Put “Wildlife Crossings” back in the draft
 - Who will manage Curb Cut applications?
- Zoning Administrator? Director of Public Works?
- CCC Should be notified
- Selectboard should make the final determination.
- Applicant does not get permit until the project is complete and the access has been inspected.

- Neal: Leave out Fire Department
- Leave in B-71
- (1:33) Should there be performance standards? Consensus that it's a case by case consideration so mandating distances isn't appropriate..
- (1:38) Stephanie will draft the idea of Selectboard making the final decision

- Shoreland Zoning revision update (1:42)
 - Noreen mentioned the summary document and the SHROD section of the draft revisions to the Zoning Ordinance.
 - Noreen said that she hopes that CCC will support the revisions as a group.
 - Larry said that it would help if the group said "This is good enough. We as a group support it. Lakes and Streams have decided to accept the idea of an overlay"
 - (1:49) Noreen is glad that non conforming structures are prevented from expanding into the buffer zone. Noreen said that the protections that are now included are significant.
 - (1:56) Noreen recommends that members of CCC read the whole thing then discuss whether CCC supports it.
 - (2:00) Stephanie asked the group to review comments on the earlier draft and discuss which were not carried forward. The group prefers 10% slope.
- (2:04) Dealing with invasives.
 - Stephanie said that the Selectboard has included \$15,000 from ARPA funds for a study of invasives. We'll talk about it at another meeting.
 - Stephanie will contact everyone about having a special meeting next week to finalize the proposed curb cut ordinance to send to the Selectboard.

To Do List:

* Time mark on audio tape