

**Temple Planning Board
Minutes
Tuesday, June 6, 2023
7:00pm, Temple Town Hall
*Zoom Recording available***

Present: Christine Robidoux, Chair; Bruce Kullgren, Jr, Vice Chair; Carter Sartell, Secretary; Keith Charlton

Absent: Murray Collette, Brian Kullgren, George Willard, Russ Huntley

Guest: Sean Radcliff, Temple Conservation Commission

The meeting was called to order at 7:01pm.

Board Chair Christine Robidoux chaired the meeting.

Approval of Draft Minutes

April 18, 2023 Meeting

Christine tabled this item, noting that all who attended the meeting were not present.

May 16, 2023 Meeting

The minutes were discussed and Keith motioned to approve the minutes as amended. Bruce seconded. Approved by a roll call vote with all in favor.

Public Input:

None.

New Business:

1. Preliminary Review for a two lot Subdivision Map 2A Lot 60, Old Peterborough Rd (Odell Magus/Middleton): Christine noted that the name of the road is now Peterborough Road. Wendy Odell Magus shared that she and her aunt, Julie Middleton, want to subdivide Julie's property to create a lot to build a single family home. The application has been revised to list Russ Huntley as the primary contact and to include additional signatures. Regarding the waiver requests:
 - Soils Data: Pete Caswell was consulted and he did not recommend waiving this given his past experience.
 - Driveway: Kent Perry was consulted and he agreed with waiving this.
 - Final Plat: There was concern about the wetlands on the property, however there are protections in place through Temple Zoning and NH DES.

- Bruce motioned to approve the preliminary application conditional on the test pit data, and to schedule the hearing for the July 18 meeting. Keith seconded. Approved by roll call vote with all in favor.

Old Business:

1. InvestNH HOP Grant
 - a. Steering Committee Update: The committee has met twice to discuss the scope of work and how to engage with the community. Postcards and flyers will be used to invite residents to events, and the grant will cover all costs of printing, mailing, and events.
2. NFIP – New FEMA Flood Maps: The Contoocook Watershed map is in the final approval phase. They identified a very small area on West Road, shown in blue on the map, where flood insurance would be federally required. The brown area does not require flood insurance. Both of these areas are in current use with no buildings on them. The Souhegan Watershed map is being updated; the previous version can be found on the Planning Board page of the town website.
3. Driveway Regulations: No update.
4. Tax Map Updates: No update.

Other Business:

1. Upcoming Webinars/Conferences
 - a. NH Housing Toolbox - hosted by NH OPD every Thursday in June online from 12 PM – 1 PM; recordings are available. Last week was an overview, this week is Housing in Nature: Open Space Custer Housing Ordinances.
<https://nhhousingtoolbox.org/training/>
 - b. SWRPC Annual Meeting - June 13th In Person at Keene Public Library
“Planning for our Energy Future” with Don Kreis, NH Consumer Advocate
<https://www.swrpc.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/The-SWRPC-Annual-2023-Meeting-is-June-13-2023.pdf>
 - c. The Infrastructure Challenge: Housing Solutions for Communities without Public Water or Sewer - June 15th In Person at Flag Hill Distillery and Winery in Lee, hosted by Workforce Housing Coalition of the Greater Seacoast
<https://www.seacoastwhc.org/whcevents>

Public Forum — “Temple’s Natural Resources Inventory, A Presentation of the 2023 DRAFT Report ” presented by Sean Radcliff:

- Last year the Planning Board (PB) worked with the Conservation Commission (CC) to make a plan for updating the Natural Resources Inventory (NRI). Temple residents place a high level of importance on green space and protecting natural resources, so updating the NRI was necessary because the last NRI was done in 2004 by Antioch University. Moosewood Ecological was ultimately selected to conduct this work; Jeff Littleton is the lead Ecologist.
- Jeff completed the data review and analysis (Phase 1) and is now beginning field surveys (Phase 2), looking for rare and conservation species, invasive plants, insects, unique habitats. The surveys will continue into the fall. Jeff provided the CC with a list of properties that he is interested in surveying, as well as a permission form which the CC will mail to these property owners: Jeff needs written permission from the landowner before walking the property. The CC is considering working with Jeff to present a BioBlitz using the iNaturalist app. This encourages residents to explore outside and take pictures of plants, insects, and wildlife which the app then identifies.
- The draft NRI is organized by resources and each section includes how the resource is identified, interesting statistics, and maps.
 - The water section includes wetlands, watersheds, surface water, and groundwater, as well as maps of wetlands and stratified drift aquifers. These maps are particularly important to guide us in protecting our drinking water.
 - The section on ecological resources contains information from the NH Wildlife Action Plan and shows the various habitats that exist in town, highlights areas of importance for conservation, and notes two species of special concern: Smooth Green Snake and Wood Turtle. The BioBlitz could help us identify these and additional rare species. Unfragmented land supports greater diversity, and this map could inform Temple’s future zoning.
 - The agriculture and forest resources section includes maps of land which has been logged or farmed, soil types, and conserved and public lands.
 - The last section contains Jeff’s recommendations, which could inform Temple’s zoning.
- After the field surveys are done, Jeff will integrate the survey data into the NRI. If the BioBlitz occurs, that data will also be incorporated in the NRI. Then Jeff will offer a presentation of the completed NRI to the town, likely towards the end of this year.

- **Public Discussion:**

- The PB has not received the contract for Phase 2. Some of Jeff's recommendations include reviewing Temple's zoning; could this work be added to Phase 2? Would we consider the Conservation Overlay District in other places that the NRI highlights? Also, is it possible to have the aquifer map overlaid with the tax map in the NRI, with the resulting map presented to voters for adoption into Temple zoning. Sean will follow up with Jeff.
- Jeff was unable to find the GIS version of Temple's tax maps, which allows him to easily overlay multiple maps and is also useful for residents. SWRPC has done this in the past and Keith will ask them for a quote to do this work.
- What does Jeff recommend we do about farmland of local significance? Sean will follow up with Jeff about how we use this information.
- The draft NRI is on the PB page and on the Master Plan page of the town website.
- Residents who want Jeff to survey their property can reach out to the CC for a permission form to fill out and then drop off the completed form in the town office. Jeff may not be able to survey properties beyond the list he identified. The CC email is templeconcom@gmail.com.
- Ken suggested that the CC have a templeh.org email account. Sean will follow up with Bill Ezell.
- Scott Hecker shared that Jeff has primarily selected properties that are large or have waterways. Scott regularly identifies birds, trees, wildlife, reptiles, and amphibians on his travels around town. Residents can watch the Friends of Temple Conservation group on FaceBook to see Scott's findings along with information about upcoming guided walks. The NRI is basically a database which will inform our discussions about open space, zoning, and corridors, and the new maps are much more useful than the previous maps thanks to advances in technology.
- Residents are encouraged to use the iNaturalist app on their own properties. It's free and easy to use. <https://www.inaturalist.org/>
- Many thanks to the CC and Jeff for the work on the NRI.
- For further questions and comments please email: templeplanning@templeh.org

Summer meeting schedule: The PB typically meets only once in July and August. Bruce motioned to recess on July 4 and August 1 and meet only on July 18th and August 15th. Carter seconded. Approved by a roll call vote with all in favor.

Bruce motioned to adjourn the meeting and Keith seconded. Approved by a roll call vote with all in favor. Adjourned at 8:19 pm.

Next Planning Board Meeting: Tuesday, June 20th at 7:00pm, Temple Town Hall

Minutes respectfully submitted by Cathy Joly.

Attachments:

1. Contoocook Watershed Map
2. Odell Magus/Middleton Subdivision Plan
3. Odell Magus/Middleton Subdivision Application
4. Odell Magus/Middleton Subdivision Abutters List
5. Odell Magus/Middleton Subdivision Waiver Requests