

Town Manager's Report

Monday, March 3, 2014

To: Board of Selectmen
From: Christopher Whelan, Town Manager

Following are some of the matters reported on this week by various Town Departments:

PLANNING & LAND MANAGEMENT

Natural Resources Division

Natural Resources Commission: At the Wednesday, March 5 meeting, the NRC will hear the following matters: an Extension Request from the Annursnac Hill Association for pond management; a Notice of Intent to demolish and reconstruct a single family home at 108 Laurel Street; and a Request for Determination of Applicability to determine the extent of riverfront area at 163 Lindsay Pond Road.

Estabrook Woods Map: The Trails Committee has completed a long awaited map for Estabrook Woods, which can be downloaded from the Town website at: concordma.gov/pages/ConcordMA_NaturalResources/subcomm/Final%20Estabrook%20-%208.5x11.pdf.

Concord Clean-up: Sign up now for the Concord Clean-up! The annual clean-up of roadside litter and trash begins on Saturday, March 29 and continues through Sunday, April 6. The Division of Natural Resources will supply yellow bags for miscellaneous litter and clear bags for recyclables (bottles and cans only – no paper). Individuals, families, neighborhood groups, clubs, and organizations are encouraged to contact the Division of Natural Resources for route assignments and bags.

Building Inspections Division

Personnel Change: The Building Inspections Division is sad to say farewell to Local Inspector Ray Matte, as he begins a new job in the solar energy field. Ray was with the Town for 8 years starting as a part-time inspector and then becoming full time as construction activity increased. We wish him all the best in his new job.

New West Concord Eateries: The Building Inspections Division has been working with two new proposed restaurants locating on Commonwealth Avenue in West Concord. One will be located in the former Mandrioli's West Concord Market at 24 Commonwealth Avenue, and the other possible restaurant locating in the former Concord Outfitter's retail space at 84 Commonwealth Avenue.

Health Division

Healthy Concord Event, Building Resilience, All Ages-All Stages: This event was held on Saturday, March 1 at the Willard Elementary School. Dr. Ronald Siegel was the keynote speaker talking about Mindfulness and the New Science of Happiness. 175 residents registered to attend this event.

Planned Residential Development at 140 Commerford Rd.: On-site septic design plans have been received for a shared septic system for 22 homes in the planned residential subdivision at 140 Commerford Rd. Assistant Health Director Stan Sosnicki is reviewing these plans.

Rabies Clinic: All resident cat- and dog-owners are welcome to attend the annual rabies vaccination clinic which will be held Saturday, March 15 from 1-2:30 p.m. at the Public Works Building, 133 Keyes Rd. Vaccine will be administered to dogs from 1-1:45; all dogs must be on a leash. Cats will be vaccinated from 1:45-2:30; all cats must be in a cat carrier.

Beach Water Sampling Contracts: The Town of Concord's contract with G&L Laboratories for water sampling of semi-public beaches during summer 2014 has been sent to G&L for their signature. All three semi-public beaches have responded that they will participate in the sampling program again this summer.

Planning Division

Planning Board: The Planning Board met Tuesday night to review the draft Zoning bylaw amendment presentations for the March 4 public hearing; to review an application to extend the Concord Center Business District uses 30 feet into the Residence C zoning district at 24, 26 and 28 Walden Street and an application to allow construction in the Flood Plain Conservancy District at 310 Lexington Road; the Board voted to recommend that the Board of Appeals grant these applications. The Board also heard a presentation for a 22-unit Planned Residential Development on approximately 42 acres off Commerford Road – this item was continued to the March 18 meeting.

Bruce Freeman Rail Trail: Director Marcia Rasmussen, working with other Town staff, prepared responses to frequently asked questions identified by the BFRT Advisory Committee which will be discussed at the next BFRT Advisory Committee meeting on March 13. The BFRT Advisory Committee also met on Friday and heard from petitioner Sharon McGregor.

POLICE

Operational Services: On Monday February 24, Officer Soll responded to Concord Municipal Light Department for a report of a past theft. Officer Soll learned that an unknown individual(s) had stolen a large amount of copper from a container outside the facility. The theft occurred sometime in either January or February. This theft appears to be related to a

series of thefts involving copper throughout the region. Investigators are coordinating with other departments in an effort to identify those responsible.

On Friday February 28, Sergeant Connell and Officer Young responded to Dunkin Donuts on Thoreau St. for a report of an altercation in the parking lot. Officers identified the parties responsible along with witnesses and conducted interviews to learn what occurred. Based on the results of their investigation one subject was summonsed to Concord District Court on charges of assault by means of a dangerous weapon and disorderly conduct.

On Friday February 28, Sergeant Flynn, Detective Camilleri and Officer Moore responded to a White Ave residence for a report of a fight. Officers arrived and located the subjects involved. Officers determined that one of the participants had struck the other with a ceramic mug which caused injury. That subject was arrested and charged with assault and battery by means of a dangerous weapon. This suspect was also charged with several counts of possession of illegal narcotics as the officers located the contraband while conducting their investigation.

On Friday February 28, Sergeant Troiano and Officer McGrath responded to Bedford Street for a report of a motor vehicle collision. Officers arrived to learn that one of the operators was injured requiring transportation to Lahey Clinic in Burlington. The operator of the other vehicle was determined to be intoxicated and should not have been driving. That individual was arrested and transported to the Station for processing. The subject taken to Lahey was admitted with serious injuries. Given the severity of this crash, an accident re-constructionist was called in to assist with the investigation. The operator who was arrested was charged with drunk driving, operating a motor vehicle negligently and failure to stay in the right lane.