

Minutes of the Ashburnham Conservation Commission
January 24, 2011

Present: MD: Marshall Dennis, Chairman
AA: Alana Archangelo

CP: Christopher Picone

7:39 PM MD opened the meeting of the Ashburnham Conservation Commission under the MA Wetlands Protection Act, M.G.L. Chapter 131, Section 40, and in accordance with the Ashburnham Wetlands Protection Bylaw and associated Rules and Regulations.

7:40 PM MD reopened the Hearing for an **RDA for the application of herbicides by Pan Am Railways at selected locations in South Ashburnham along the railroad line**. This was a continuation from the December 27th meeting of the Commission. The Commission requested more information from Pan Am as to how they were selectively applying the herbicide; i.e. by changing hose pressure, by choosing to spray particular plants over others, etc. MD sent them an email to the Applicant's representative requesting additional information, notably the manner in which project area wetlands had been delineated. In response, the representative indicated that the delineation had not been based on site-specific field investigations, but that the methodology used was consistent with the State Pesticide Board guidelines. Accordingly, it was decided to issue the RDA.

CP- Motion to close the Hearing
MD- Seconded the Motion
Motion carried unanimously 3-0

CP- Motion to issue a Positive Determination relative to the confirmation of wetland boundaries
AA- Seconded the Motion
Motion carried unanimously 3-0

7:45 PM MD presented the **Request for an Extension Order for Ernest and Florence Henrie of 93 Williams Road (DEP File # 092-0673)**. CP questioned whether the extension automatically fell under the State Permit Extension Act. Regardless, the Commission thought it would be better to officially issue the requested Extension Order to create a 'paper trail' for the file.

MD- Motion to issue an Extension Order for 93 Williams Road
CP- Seconded the Motion
Motion carried unanimously 3-0

Other Business:

- MD presented a request from an attorney for the issuance of a **Certificate of Compliance for 210 West Lakeshore Drive on Lake Watatic (DEP File # 92-396)**.

AA- Motion to issue the Certificate of Compliance for 210 West Lakeshore Drive.

CP- Seconded the Motion

Motion carried unanimously 3-0

- The Commission reviewed all the minutes from February 8, 2010 through December 27, 2010.

MD- Motion to approve all minutes from February 8, 2010 through December 27, 2010.

CP- Seconded the Motion

Motion carried unanimously 3-0

- MD spoke with a representative from the Massachusetts Department of Transportation regarding the future paving of Route 101 scheduled to begin in 2012.

- Jessica Veysey, a doctoral student at the University of New Hampshire, attended the meeting to present her request for the Commission's participation relative to her doctoral thesis on a Comparative Analysis of Wetland Protection Strategies in Massachusetts and New Hampshire. She is interested in analyzing the social and ecological effectiveness of two rural towns, one in each state, on how they implement their respective wetland protection statutes and regulations. While supportive of Ms. Veysey's request, MD suggested she also meet with and obtain the approval of Doug Briggs, the Town Manager. He told Ms. Veysey he would contact the Town Manager and advise him that the Commission supported Ms. Veysey's proposal.

8:50 PM AA- Motion to adjourn
CP- Seconded the Motion
Motion carried unanimously 3-0

Respectfully submitted by:

Alana Archangelo, Member
February 27, 2011.