

## **Town of Ayer Conservation Commission**

Town Hall \* One Main Street \* Ayer, MA 01432 \* 978-772-8249 \* 978-772-8208 (fax)  
Minutes for 1/12/12 – Approved 2/23/12

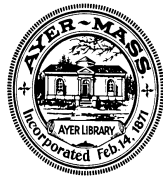
Location: Ayer Town Hall, 2nd Floor

Members present: Bill Daniels (BD, Chair), George Bacon (GB), Takashi Tada (TT), Jessica Gugino (JG, Clerk), Warren Ball (WB), Becky DaSilva-Conde (CA, Conservation Administrator)

APAC taped: No

### **7:12 PM – Open Meeting**

- **Confirmation of Agenda**
  - GB moved to approve the agenda, with some items rearranged, as amended; TT 2<sup>nd</sup>.
    - Motion approved unanimously.
- **Discussion: Certificate of Compliance (COC), Richard Coke, 88 Central Avenue (DEP# 100-0295)**
  - BD performed a site visit on 1/7/12 and found no problems.
  - GB moved to issue the COC; TT 2<sup>nd</sup>.
    - Motion approved unanimously.
  - Mr. Coke was reminded to record the COC at the Registry of Deeds.
- **Discussion: COC, Roger Kanniard, 4 New England Way (DEP# 100-0306)**
  - CA performed a site visit on 1/4/12.
    - Issues related to the Enforcement Order of 4/08 were completely resolved.
    - Landscaping has all grown in and the lot now looks fine.
  - CA said the OOC included Special Condition #37 requiring ongoing maintenance of the stormwater management system in perpetuity.
  - GB moved to issue the COC with that ongoing condition; TT 2<sup>nd</sup>.
    - Motion approved 4-0 (WB abstained).
- **Announcements**
  - Middlesex Savings issued notice for a 4/12/12 foreclosure on the Shaker Hills Golf Club, a small portion of which is located in Ayer.
  - Mass DOT (Department of Transportation) issued a courtesy notification for planned geotechnical boring work within the buffer zone along Rte. 2A westbound by Balch Dam (Dam # 00135).
    - The purpose of the work is to investigate a potential source of flooding onto private property.
    - The contact person listed at Mass DOT is Robert Bennett (617-973-7886).
- **Accounts Payable**
  - Lowell Sun: \$62.90, for public hearing legal notice for 138 Snake Hill Road, amendment to the NOI.
    - GB moved to pay \$62.90; TT 2<sup>nd</sup>.
      - Motion approved unanimously.

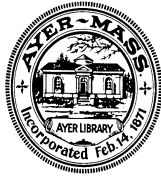


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- Aquatic Control Technologies (ACT): \$1080, remaining payment for 2011 weed control treatment on Sandy Pond and Pine Meadow Pond.
  - BD opened recent email documents for public display from ACT's Dominic Meringolo with additional post-treatment inspection report information as requested by ConCom.
    - One of the emails contained revised GPS point maps showing pre and post treatment for Sandy Pond.
      - It was agreed that the point maps indicated the 85% threshold of treatment was met.
    - However the document containing the GPS point maps for Pine Meadow Pond only contained the pre-treatment point map.
  - It was decided to withhold payment of this bill until the post-treatment point map was received, as well as a clear statement from ACT in the post-treatment inspection report indicating the percentage of weeds successfully treated (as required in the RFP).
    - BD will communicate this to ACT.
- **Meeting Minutes Approval**
  - GB moved to approve the meeting minutes for 12/1/11 as written; TT 2<sup>nd</sup>.
    - Motion approved unanimously.
  - GB moved to approve the meeting minutes for 12/15/11 as written; JG 2<sup>nd</sup>.
    - Motion approved unanimously.
- **Discussion: FY 2013 Budget**
  - ConCom will appear before FinCom to discuss its budget on 1/17/12 at 8 p.m.
- **Discussion: Editing of Wetlands Permit Application Information Packet**
  - The goal is to finalize this document for handing out at the office and posting on the web.
  - ConCom's next meeting (1/26/12) is an open agenda and will be held at the police station conference room which has screen projector capabilities.
- **CA Updates**
  - The Willows Enforcement Order
    - CA will be meeting on 1/13/12 with MassDEP's Joe Bellino as well as representatives from The Willows, including developer Bruce Wheeler of Habitech, Project Manager Kevin Hunt, Glen Brice, wetland consultant Mary Trudeau, and a new consultant, Desheng Wang, working with Ms. Trudeau.
      - Mr. Bellino was pleased with the hiring of Mr. Desheng, of Carr Research Laboratory Inc. in Wellesley.
        - Mr. Desheng is experienced in stormwater management and has already made several excellent suggestions for improved winterization of The Willows site.
    - CA did a site inspection at The Willows the previous week.



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- The primary retention basin is now being pumped into a flocculent tank for more effective treatment rather than pumped uphill as previously.
  - While Mr. Bellino would like to see a bigger tank, turbidity readings are improving.
    - Once over 1000 NTUs, the turbidity readings are now just over 400 NTUs.
    - This is not clean enough but is a significant improvement now that the developers are finally willing to more aggressively treat the basin and clean up the site.
  - The upper wall on the retention basin is in place but the lower wall is still a dirt berm.
    - Mr. Desheng has proposed an additional berm within the basin to slow the water down further to allow for more treatment exposure to flocculents.
  - CA said MassDEP is now in favor of allowing the developer to excavate and pour a few new foundations so that these can be used as temporary collection and flocculent treatment basins.
  - CA said the site is finally improving at a better pace in the wake of the December meeting where MassDEP's attorney was present along with attorneys for the developers and developer Bruce Wheeler himself.
    - That meeting finally succeeded in conveying the seriousness of the situation to the developers.
  - Pingry Hill, Hickory Way at Rte. 2A and nearby Bennetts Brook
    - CA indicated that the roadway is clean and there is no buildup of sediment over the catchbasins.
      - The filter fabric in the catchbasins needs to be cleaned, however.
    - Rick Roper, of Crabtree Development, sent 3 sets of photos to CA of the area at the base of Hickory Way and adjacent to Bennetts Brook.
      - The photos are from 12/1-12/2/11, 12/10/11, and 1/11/12.
      - Given recent snowfall and road sanding, it was hard to tell from the photos whether Bennetts Brook had yet been cleaned out.
        - CA indicated it didn't look as though it had.
    - CA will be meeting with Joe Bellino on 1/13/12 to inspect The Willows and will at that time ask Mr. Bellino to take a look at this area of concern re Pingry Hill as well.
- **Member Updates**
  - WB announced that Fire Chief Pedrazzi has been given the lead to take charge of the Dam and Pond Management Committee.
    - Its first meeting will take place in Town Hall at 7 p.m. on 1/30/12.
- **9:36 PM – Adjourn Meeting**
  - GB moved to adjourn; TT 2<sup>nd</sup>.
    - Motion approved unanimously.