

BLACKSTONE CONSERVATION COMMISSION
MINUTES OF MEETING
AUGUST 25, 2008

Jesse Bousquet, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 7:03 in the Senior Center of the Town Hall.

Present Were:	Jesse Bousquet	James Pitler
	Lisa Brita	Maggie Plasse
	James Plasse	

Absent Was: Lawrence Cannata

William Halsing, Stanley Irza, and Marc Nyberg of Marc Nyberg Assoc. were present to discuss the railroad property in the Mill River Street area. Mr. Bousquet gave them a copy of the report from Tonya Brainard of Natural Resource Services. Mr. Bousquet read the report aloud. Mrs. Brainard is recommending that they file a Notice of Intent with the Commission. Mr. Nyberg said that they are in the process of doing the field work for the Notice of Intent.

Michael Paul of 17 Paul Drive, an abutter, said that the work has already been done. Ed Reynolds, also an abutter, said that they are taking the valuable materials and leaving the rest.

Mr. Irza, Mr. Halsing, and Mr. Beauchmin were notified on August 22nd that they violated the Cease and Desist Order. They were continuing work in the wetland area and cutting brush. Mr. Paul said that they were walking over their properties. Mr. Pitler stressed that the Conservation Commission is only concerned with wetland matters. Mr. Paul wanted to know if they were fined for the violation. The Commission answered that they were not fined.

Kenneth Bianchi, Town Administrator, was present at the meeting. He said that he would be going to the Worcester Registry of Deeds. There are concerns that some of the rail line may be owned by the Dept. of Conservation and Recreation. He also pointed out that a Cease and Desist Order is an act of law, which means that no work should be done on the property. That includes the staking of the property.

Mr. Bianchi and the members agreed that the Commission should retain the services of a Conservation Commission Agent. He would like some members to attend the next Selectmen's Meeting. They will hopefully vote to lift the hiring freeze, so an Agent could be hired.

Mr. Nyberg said that he was hired to locate the property line for the Notice of Intent. He has staked the property line twice, and both time the stakes have been ripped out. Mr. Bianchi told Mr. Nyberg that he can't stake the property while the Cease and Desist Order is in effect.

Mr. Bianchi suggested that the members vote to have the town's attorneys do the research at the Registry. Mr. Pitler made a motion to that effect. Mr. Plasse seconded the motion. The motion was passed by Unanimous Vote.

Mr. Bousquet said that for Mr. Nyberg to do his job and prepare the Notice of Intent he has to stake the property. Mr. Plasse said that maybe we have to clarify the Cease and Desist Order. Mr. Bianchi asked Mr. Nyberg to send an e-mail to his office asking him to call the town's attorney concerning putting stakes in the ground.

Mr. Bianchi gave the members an e-mail from Larry Cannata stating that he is resigning from the Commission.

John Castagnaro and Carl Fabbriotti – They would like to get an Amended Order of Conditions for 42 ½ Farm Street. The original Order states that they need to install a split rail fence which serves no purpose. Mr. Castagnaro would like to put up placards 50 feet from the lake instead of the fence. Mr. Fabbriotti said that the lot is small and narrow. Mr. Bousquet said that the house is further away from the water than originally intended. They don't want to limit the owner access to the pond. Maybe placards can be placed on posts. Mrs. Brita suggested a post be placed in front of the tree. Ms. Plasse said that she didn't agree with amending the original Order. The Commission at the time wanted a split rail fence there for a reason.

Mr. Plasse made a motion to grant them an Amended Order of Conditions without the split rail fence. Instead they will have to put up three posts with placards on them 50 feet from the water. One post will be in front of the stockade fence, one will be in front of the tree, and one on the hill. Mrs. Brita seconded the motion. The motion was passed by Majority Vote.

Mr. Castagnaro said that he would also like to get a Certificate of Compliance for 6 Summer Street. Work was finished about three years ago. They just forgot to come to the Commission to get the Certificate of Compliance. Mr. Bousquet said that he checked it out and there are no problems. The secretary will prepare the Certificate and the members can sign it at the same time the Amended Order is signed.

Steve Salois was present to discuss the on-going sewer project at the High School. He said that he saw it two weeks ago and water was percolating out of the sewer hole. He also said that the haybales were a mess and there was a lot of run-off. He would like to know whose watching and monitoring the project. Mr. Bousquet said that he has been inspecting the project as it goes along. He has inspected it three times.

Mrs. Brita made a motion to accept the Minutes of the May 12th meeting. Mr. Pitler seconded the motion. The motion was passed by Unanimous Vote.

Mrs. Brita made a motion to accept the Minutes of the June 23rd meeting. Mr. Plasse seconded the motion. The motion was passed by Unanimous Vote.

Mr. Plasse made a motion to accept the Minutes of the July 14th meeting. Ms. Plasse seconded the motion. The motion was passed by Unanimous Vote.

Mr. Pitler made a motion to accept the Minutes of the August 4th meeting. Mr. Plasse seconded the motion. The motion was passed by Unanimous Vote.

All members present signed the secretary's payroll sheet.

Mrs. Brita made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Pitler seconded the motion. The motion was passed by Unanimous Vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa A. Larue
Secretary