



OFFICE OF THE
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
TOWN HALL, 511 MAIN STREET
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Conservation Commission Minutes
February 28, 2011

Meeting was called to order at 7:33pm by Chair, Leah Basbanes
Members present: Alan Chaney, Bill Moeller, Judy Larter and Jeff Haight
Members absent: Juan Amodei and Marilyn Pike
Meeting held: At the Dunstable Town Hall – lower level

Meeting Minutes of February 14, 2011

Alan made a motion to approve, as submitted, the minutes from the February 14th meeting. Judy 2nd the motion. – Motion passed unanimously.

Bills/Payroll

No bills. One payroll slip was signed for the Secretary.

Open Space & Recreation Plan

No update.

Certificates of Appreciation

Need Marilyn and Juan's signatures.

Rules and Regulations for Conservation Properties

The Secretary contacted Attorney Larkin regarding setting fines for violations of our proposed Rules and Regulations. A public hearing will be set up for the end of March after the Commission decides on the amount of each violation.

Vote to Utilize Part Time Help

Alan made a motion to utilize Robert Bacon from the Highway Department as part time help for Conservation Commission projects. Bill 2nd the motion. – Motion passed unanimously. The Secretary will notify Accountant Kim Fales.

Woodward Mill Dam – corner of Pond Street and Pleasant Street

At our last meeting, Selectman Walter Alterisio asked the Commission to comment on the January 2010 Woodward Mill Dam Inspection/Evaluation Report from Haley and Aldrich. Bill agreed to review the document and mentioned calling Denis Bell (Haley and Aldrich) for a more in-depth explanation of the proposed repair.

When contacted about the estimate of \$25,000 to repair the downstream wall, Mr. Bell explained that his recommendation was to chip away and fill some of the damaged concrete on the wall. Bill asked Mr. Bell if he had any knowledge of the structure of the wall behind the stone facing.



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Mr. Bell did not. Bill explained that work had been done on the dam in the 1980's when the road was repaired. He suggested that Mr. Bell contact MassDOT to get a copy of the as-built to get a better idea of how the dam was constructed. Bill also asked the Secretary to see if someone from the Highway Department had a copy of the plans. The Commission will report back to the Selectmen after their review is completed.

Charlie Tully – Forest Cutting Plan – Hollis Street

Mr. Tully attended the meeting to discuss his Hollis Street Forest Cutting Plan. The Division of Fisheries and Wildlife sent him a letter requesting that no work be conducted at the project site until additional information is provided and reviewed by NHESP. Mr. Tully told the Commission that he has already called Natural Heritage seeking clarification on the potential violation mentioned in the February 14th letter from Thomas W. French, Ph.D. Mr. Tully will work with Craig Birch (Plan Preparer) to provide the requested information. The Commission told Mr. Tully to let them know if he needs them to discuss his Forest Plan with either Thomas French or Jacob Kubel (Conservation Scientist from Natural Heritage).

Plowing of Conservation Properties

Joe Vlcek approached Judy asking if the town could plow out a parking area at some of the frequently used conservation areas during the winter. The Commission will approach the Highway Department on this next winter.

Blanchard Hill

The Commission discussed the vandalism of the panorama sign and tables on Blanchard Hill. The tables were tipped on end and the sign was pulled out of the ground and thrown over the hill.

Signs

Judy will contact TWS Graphics regarding the Howard's Brook sign. Alan mentioned that a sign should be made for the Holmes Property that was purchased back in 1977.

Sweet Restoration

Leah will call Dave Cordell for an update on the Sweet restoration project.

Motion made to close the meeting at 8:20pm. Motion 2nd.—Motion passed unanimously. The next meeting of the Dunstable Conservation Commission will be held on Monday, March 14, 2011 at 7:30pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl A. Mann
Secretary
Dunstable Conservation Commission