



OFFICE OF THE  
CONSERVATION COMMISSION  
TOWN HALL, 511 MAIN STREET  
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## **Conservation Commission Minutes**

**April 25, 2011**

Meeting was called to order at 7:30pm by Chair, Leah Basbanes

Members present: Alan Chaney, Juan Amodei, Marilyn Pike, Bill Moeller and Jeff Haight

Members absent: Judy Larter

Meeting held: At the Dunstable Town Hall – lower level – Grange Room

### **Karen King/Frank King – 427 Groton Street - driveway**

Karen King asked to speak to the Commission regarding her driveway at 427 Groton Street. The driveway is owned by her neighbor (433 Groton Street); however, Ms. King has a deeded “right of way access” to her property. Hers is the only residence that uses the driveway. She explained that the driveway has a lot of ruts, very little in the way of gravel and her car has been stuck (especially in the winter). She talked to her neighbor who supports her efforts. There was an Order of Conditions on the property when the house was originally built; however, the driveway is out of the buffer zone, therefore, no filing will need to be done with the Commission.

Although members agreed that they do not have any jurisdiction over what Ms. King chooses to do with the driveway, they indicated that they would rather see Geo Textile and gravel in lieu of pavement.

### **Site Visits – 37 Lower Dam Way & 35 Lower Dam Way – Removal of Trees**

The Commission went out to both 37 & 35 Lower Dam Way on Saturday, April 16<sup>th</sup> to discuss, with the homeowners, the removal of trees near the lake. Jeff Haight went out to the sites earlier the day of our meeting (4/25). The Commission discussed the removal of trees that posed a danger to structures versus ones that owners may want removed for aesthetic purposes. After their discussion, the Commission agreed to go out on Saturday, April 30<sup>th</sup> at 10:00am to mark the trees that may be removed. Bill then made the following motion, “Any tree within the jurisdiction of the wetlands and because of its height and condition poses a threat to a structure, may be designated by those Commission members in attendance at the site visit on Saturday, April 30<sup>th</sup> to be removed.” Marilyn 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. – Motion passed unanimously. Although Ms. Blanco was at the meeting, the Secretary will send a notice out to both homeowners to inform them of the site visit.

### **Meeting Minutes of April 11, 2011**

Marilyn made a motion to approve the minutes from the April 11<sup>th</sup> meeting. Bill 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. – Motion passed unanimously.

### **Review Bills and Payroll**

No bills were presented. One payroll slip for the Secretary was signed off.



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### **Open Space and Recreation Plan**

Leah forwarded the map of unique features to the Secretary to incorporate into the Open Space and Recreation Plan. The Secretary will work with Alan to complete the last section.

### **Howard's Brook Conservation Area – Board of Health Dumpster**

No one from the Commission attended the last Board of Health (BOH) meeting to request a dumpster for the Howard's Brook Conservation area. The Commission asked the Secretary to send a note to the Joan (BOH secretary) requesting permission to borrow a dumpster for one (1) week and have it delivered to the Howard's Brook Conservation area on Hardy Street.

### **Regulations and Fine Schedule for Conservation Properties**

After the hearing on the Regulations and Fine Schedule for Conservation Properties, the Secretary talked to Attorney Larkin about the fine that was set for starting a fire. Attorney Larkin stated that the Commission could not assess a fine of more than \$100. Bill made the following motion, "I move to correct section #2 of the "Town of Dunstable's Conservation Land and Open Space Regulations and Fine Schedule-effective April 11, 2011" which was passed at a public hearing held on Monday, April 11, 2011 to provide for a penalty of \$100 instead of \$250 due to the fine limitation listed in MGL Chapter 40, Section 8C. Marilyn 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. – Motion passed.

### **David Sweet**

A Conservation Plan completed by Dan Lanthall was submitted by David Sweet for his farm and pond area. After review, it was decided that the Commission needed clarification and additional information.

### **Town Meeting – May 9<sup>th</sup>**

Alan reminded members that Town Meeting will be held on Monday, May 9<sup>th</sup> and support is needed for the article to sell the Beagle Club property to Fish and Game.

### **Salmon Brook – Jeff Haight**

Jeff said that while canoeing on Salmon Brook, he noticed some orange highway barrels and other debris which he plans on removing. He also mentioned the large amount of erosion damage done by ATVs.

Motion made to close the meeting at 9:00pm. Motion 2<sup>nd</sup>.– Motion passed unanimously. The next meeting of the Dunstable Conservation Commission will be held on

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl A. Mann  
Secretary - Dunstable Conservation Commission