



OFFICE OF THE  
CONSERVATION COMMISSION  
TOWN HALL, 511 MAIN STREET  
DUNSTABLE, MA 01827-1313  
(978) 649-4514 FAX (978) 649-8893  
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## **Conservation Commission Minutes** **November 28, 2011**

Meeting was called to order at 7:34pm by Chair, Leah Basbanes

Members present: Marilyn Pike, Bill Moeller, Judy Larter, Jeff Haight, Juan Amodei and  
Alan Chaney (8:00pm)

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

### **431 Forest Street – Enforcement Order/Restoration Plan – McNamara**

Mr. McNamara attended the meeting, however, he did not present the restoration plan for his property, and Steve Eriksen from Norse Environmental was not in attendance. Commission member, Bill Moeller had been out to the site earlier in the day and observed the following: most of the ditch was filled in (with exception of 90-100 feet), the area is rough and muddy, the northwest corner of the property has been seeded (nothing has come up yet), the silt barriers are holding but are filled with sediment, water is flowing out from beneath the brush piles.

Commission members expressed frustration with the fact that the restoration plan that was suppose to be presented in October, has not been completed. After discussion, the Commission requested the following of Mr. McNamara **by Monday, December 12, 2011:**

- a) Mr. McNamara and Steve Eriksen must both be in attendance at the next Conservation Commission meeting which is currently scheduled for Monday, December 12<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm.
- b) A restoration plan for 431 Forest Street must be submitted by Monday, December 12th.
- c) Thick mulch hay or 1” of wood chips must be spread over the disturbed area to stabilize the property (not the seeded area).
- d) Since the erosion control is burdened with sediment, it must be cleaned out.
- e) The silt fence must be reinforced by installing hay bales.

### **Notice of Intent Hearing - 355 River Street – Lot 2 – Christopher Deturk**

Jeff Hannaford attended the hearing, representing the applicant, Christopher Deturk. Jeff told the Commission that there is an area of wetland, an intermittent stream, and a culvert all located on the property. Mr. Deturk is interested in building a single family dwelling on 3.43 acres. A good portion of the house and leaching area will lie in the buffer zone. The cart path will serve as Mr. Deturk’s driveway. Neighbors in attendance stated their concern about runoff from the project flowing onto neighboring properties. Leah asked Jeff about test pit data. Jeff said it was 5 feet at the shallowest. Leah explained to the neighbors that because the wetlands aren’t going to be altered and the proposed work will be done on a hilly area, they won’t have a problem with additional runoff. Bill said that the impervious area will not have any impact downstream or cause a measurable increase in the pond. Bill also mentioned that the Commission has the right to condition the project by having a storage pool built and can require a permeable driveway.



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DEP assigned the file number 147-0279 to the project, however, the hearing won't be closed until members can get out to the site and 30 days has passed from the filing with Natural Heritage. The Commission will meet at the location on Friday, December 2<sup>nd</sup> at 11:00am. Steve then asked for a continuance, which was granted. The hearing will be continued to: Monday, December 12<sup>th</sup> at 7:40pm.

### **Dan Calderan – Eagle Scout Project**

Dan had met previously with the Commission regarding planting some chestnut trees on town property, however after doing some research, he's decided to plant disease resistant Valley Forge Elm trees. He will purchase these 2-3 foot high trees from a grower in Leominster. A few trees will be planted in the town cemetery. Dan said that he would like to know where to plant the remaining 7 trees. Dan told members that the boy scouts will take care of the saplings during the first year to help them get established. The Commission will get back to Dan about other locations to plant the trees. Alan made a motion that the Conservation Commission sponsor Dan's Eagle Scout project. Juan 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. – Motion passed unanimously.

### **Meeting Minutes of November 14, 2011**

Jeff made a motion to approve the minutes from the October 24th meeting. Judy 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. – Motion passed unanimously.

### **Review and Sign Bills**

None

### **Review Payroll**

The Secretary's payroll for 11/6/11-11/19/11 was reviewed by the Commission.

### **Flat Rock Hill Conservation Area**

Leah mentioned to the Commission that Japanese Knotweed has taken over the Flat Rock Hill area and it needs to be eradicated before it gets worse. Alan made a motion to authorize Leah to investigate removal of the knotweed. Juan 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. – Motion passed unanimously.

Judy asked about the culvert repair at Flat Rock Hill. It was decided that the Commission would call Kevin Smith for an estimate on restoring the culvert.

Judy told members that there are individuals cutting Christmas trees on Mill Street without permission. Some have even wandered onto the Joyce's private property and there is concern about liability if someone should get hurt while cutting down a tree. It was decided that Jeff will post a sign telling people that if they want to cut a tree outside of the sale dates, they must call the office for written permission. Anyone removing a tree without the approval of the Commission may be prosecuted.



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**Demolition of Garage at Woods Court**

No update

**Discussion on Damaged Bridge at Unkety Woods Preserve**

No update.

**Christmas Tree Sale**

The Secretary handed out the list of dates and times that members signed up to work the Christmas tree sale on December 3<sup>rd</sup> and December 10<sup>th</sup>.

**GPS – Trail Maps – Diana Dalida**

No update.

**58 Groton Street – Dead Trees – Jessica Costa**

Jeff went out to 58 Groton Street to see a resident who reported that two trees on Conservation property were in danger of falling onto her property. Jeff said that one tree is dead and the other is nearly dead. The trees “may” possibly fall on Ms. Costa’s property if they were to fall. As with the property on Kemp Street, the Commission asked the Secretary to inform Ms. Costa that if she is concerned that the trees will fall, she has permission to hire someone, with the appropriate insurance, at her expense to remove the two trees. She may have them dropped on our property and leave them to rot. If she chooses to do this, she must contact the Conservation Commission and submit a copy of the contractor’s insurance to the office.

Bill made a motion to close the meeting at 8:46pm. Alan 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. – Motion passed unanimously. The next meeting of the Dunstable Conservation Commission will be held on Monday, December 12, 2011 at 7:30pm at the Dunstable Town Hall.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl A. Mann  
Secretary  
Dunstable Conservation Commission