

OFFICE OF THE CONSERVATION COMMISSION TOWN HALL, 511 MAIN STREET DUNSTABLE, MA 01827-1313 (978) 649-4514 FAX (978) 649-8893 mailto:concom@dunstable-ma.gov

# **Conservation Commission Minutes** January 23, 2012

Meeting was called to order at 7:30pm by Chair, Leah Basbanes Members present: Bill Moeller, Jeff Haight, Marilyn Pike, Alan Chaney, Juan Amodei and Judy Larter Meeting held: At the Dunstable Town Hall – lower level – Grange Room

## 441 Forest Street – Dave and Sue Young

Mr. and Mrs. Young attended the meeting to discuss some work that was done on a neighboring property which is causing water to collect on the Young's lot. This past fall, the Conservation Commission notified the homeowners at 431 Forest Street that they were in violation of the Wetlands Protection Act. Although, the Commission has started working with the homeowners to rectify the situation, there are additional items that must be completed by mid May 2012. The Young's stated that the neighbor has created a berm. This berm altered the water flow so it now sits and pools on the Young's property. Leah said that when you have a high water table and remove trees in or near wetlands, you are likely to create a situation like what the Young's are experiencing. The Commission told the Young's that they will incorporate into the restoration plan, any new issues caused by the neighbor's violation. Members discussed that the altered wetland may actually be larger than they had first believed. Leah asked and received permission from Mr. & Mrs. Young to stop by their property over the weekend to view the site.

## Meeting Minutes of January 9, 2012

Marilyn made a motion to approve the minutes from the January 9<sup>th</sup> meeting. Bill 2nd the motion. – Motion passed unanimously.

#### **Review and Sign Bills**

Jeff made a motion to send the Secretary to the MACC conference on March 3<sup>rd</sup> at Holy Cross College in Worcester and to use funds from the Wetlands Protection Act. Judy 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. - Motion passed. The Secretary will ask permission from the Selectmen to use the funds.

#### **Spaulding Proctor**

Judy mentioned that the Highway Department placed a berm near the entrance to the Spaulding Proctor property because of the drop when they reopened the culvert. Alan will stop by and take a look.

#### Flat Rock Hill Culvert

No update



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#### **Demolition of Garage at Woods Court**

No update

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

No update.

## Fiscal Year 2013 Budget

The Secretary brought up a conversation she had with Dick Choate regarding paying Bob Bacon for mowing some of the Conservation properties. Bob is now a town employee and no longer can be paid as a consultant. Instead of paying him out of our budget, members decided to pay Bob out of our special funds (i.e. Christmas tree funds). After the discussion, Bill made a motion to request a fiscal year 2013 budget of: \$1,285 for "Operations" and \$13,159 plus the finance committee's recommendation for salary increases for town employees. Alan 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. – Motion passed unanimously.

## <u>Annual Report</u>

The Commission discussed the changes to the 2011 Annual Report and asked that the revised copy be sent to the Selectmen's office.

## **<u>Certificate of Appreciation</u>**

The Secretary brought the "Certificate of Appreciation" for Alex Webb's Eagle Scout Project to the meeting. Members signed the certificate so it can be forwarded to Alex.

Bill made a motion to close the meeting at 8:10pm. Marilyn 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. – Motion passed unanimously. The next meeting of the Dunstable Conservation Commission will be held on Monday, February 13, 2012 at 7:30pm at the Dunstable Town Hall.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl A. Mann Secretary Dunstable Conservation Commission