



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 **Monday, June 11, 2012**

Meeting was called to order at 7:33pm by Alan Chaney
Members present: Bill Moeller, Juan Amodei, Marilyn Pike, Jeff Haight and Leah Basbanes
Member absent: Judy Larter
Meeting held: At the Dunstable Town Hall– 511 Main Street-lower level– Grange Room

Building Permit – 1011 Main Street – Michael & Amy Stevens

Builder David Daley attended the meeting to request a signature on a building permit for 1011 Main Street. Work being done is outside of the 100ft. buffer zone. Marilyn made a motion to sign the building permit for 1011 Main Street. Juan 2nd the motion. – Motion passed. *The following document was introduced at the meeting: plan of house placement - filed in the Planning Board folder for 1011 Main Street.*

Wes Goss - Update on Greenhouse/Field on Pleasant Street

Wes asked to address the Commission to update them about the removal of some trees that are shading his field on Pleasant Street. He plans on starting the work in the fall, after he gets Natural Heritage approval. He is also working with NRCS on a shallow well irrigation system for crop watering. Bill suggested he look into a horizontal tunnel well. The Commission told Wes that he should probably have his wetlands delineated. The Commission can then go out to the site to help him determine the area of tree removal. *The following document was introduced at the meeting: sketch of approximate wetland line - filed in folder for 446 Pleasant Street.*

Steve Richardson – 535 Forest Street – Addition

Mr. Richardson attended the meeting to inquire about what he needs to do in order to build a garage within 100 feet of a wetland. After reviewing Mr. Richardson's plans, the Commission asked him to hire an actual wetlands consultant to confirm the "approximate" wetland line on the surveyor's plan. After that has been completed, he is to file a Request for Determination. *The following document was introduced at the meeting: packet of proposed addition – filed in folder for 535 Forest Street.*

James & Sharron Considine – 97 Adam Street – Addition

The Considine's did not attend the meeting.



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Meeting Minutes – May 15, 2012

Alan made a motion to accept the meeting minutes, as submitted, from the May 15th meeting. Jeff 2nd the motion. – Motion passed unanimously.

Review and Sign Bills

Invoices for certified mail and stamps were signed.

Flat Rock Hill Culvert Repair

Kevin Smith e-mailed the Commission on June 6th regarding the start date for the Flat Rock culvert repair. The Secretary reminded him that the price is \$3,400 to do as much as he could for that price. Payment would be \$2,000 when the job is started and the remaining \$1,400 some time after July 1st (as soon as the Accountant transfers the money from the general fund to our account). *The following document was introduced at the meeting: e-mail from Kevin Smith and response - filed in folder for Flat Rock Hill in desk file draw.*

398 Groton Street – Removal of Materials in/near wetlands – McKenna

Mr. McKenna called the office to say that he had removed the materials from the wetlands. Members will go out to the site to check on the property next Saturday.

Fence in a Resource Area – David Sweet – 7 Sweets Pond Road/Main Street

The Secretary brought up the e-mail from Leah stating that Dan Lenthall said that David Sweet's fence in Salmon Brook is allowed under an agricultural exemption. *The following document was introduced at the meeting: e-mails from Dan Lenthall and Leah Basbanes - filed in folder for 7 Sweets Pond Road.*

285 Forest Street – Derek Bernard – Cement Pad Near the Wetlands

Juan, Judy and Jeff went out to 285 Forest Street to assess the location of the cement pad that Mr. Bernard had installed on his property. The impervious pad may be within 60 feet of a wetland. The Commission asked the Secretary to contact Dana Barnes (Building Inspector) to ask if Mr. Bernard should have pulled a building permit for the pad. Leah asked the members that were at the site if they felt that the entire pad was within 60 feet of the wetlands or if just a small portion was. Members weren't sure. After the discussion, the Commission decided that they will require Mr. Bernard to hire a wetlands consultant to flag the wetlands. They will then go out the site to check the wetland line and decide what should be done with the cement pad.

285 Forest Street – Derek Bernard - Notice of Intent Filing for Garage

After reviewing the NOI filing, the Commission decided that the filing was incomplete, therefore, a hearing will not be scheduled at this time until the following is received: a)



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abutters list, b) 2 checks for fees to town as stated on our website (www.dunstable-ma.gov), c) plan/specifications of proposed structure, d) filing must be sent either hand carried or by certified mail to Planning Board, Board of Appeals and Board of Health, e) filing must be submitted to DEP, f) form must be filed out completely. The Secretary will contact Mr. Bernard and let him know.

431 Forest Street – McNamara – Restoration

The Commission will stop by the McNamara's on the 23rd of June to check if the restoration has been completed.

Certificate of Compliance - Westford Street – Moy, DiMaria, McNamara

The Commission has set up a site visit for Saturday, June 23rd at 9:30am to see if a Certificate of Compliance can be issued. Members will meet at the site.

Wetland Protection Act Fund

The Commission discussed using approximately \$1,000 of Wetland Protection Act funds to eradicate Knotweed from the Flat Rock Hill and Blanchard Hill Conservation areas. The invasive species has been spreading rapidly and the Commission would like to bring someone in to apply a foliar herbicide. The Bureau of Accounts Informational Guideline Release (IGR) No. **98-101** of February 1998, states: *Monies in the Wetlands Protection Fund may only be used to carry out the Conservation Commission's duties under the Wetlands Protection Act, not for other commission activities. The avoidance of spreading the invasive species is a Conservation Commission duty under the Wetlands Protection Act. On the MACC website under "Conservation Commission Jurisdiction" it says, "...Because the introduction of invasive species can alter the ecology of resource areas (by changing the plant and wildlife composition, shading and temperature regimes, and the erodability of slopes, among other things), Conservation Commissions have the authority to regulate any activity that may introduce invasive species to a site or lead to further spreading of existing invasive species populations.* The Commission asked the Secretary to get the Selectmen's approval for the expenditure.

Additional Topics Discussed Not Noted on the Agenda

Elizabeth Olivera – Hollis Street - Barn

Ms. Olivera had met with the Commission previously about building a barn on her property. Her plans were to build it 110 feet from the wetlands; however, when removing some trees she decided to keep some birch trees and she now wants to move the barn to within 75' from the wetlands. The Commission said that because there will



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be some excavating and grading done to pour the slab foundation, she will need to file a Notice of Intent if her plans are to move the barn from its original spot.

“Geyser” on Main Street

The Secretary told the Commission that she had received an e-mail from a resident inquiring about a “geyser” in a marsh on Main Street. There was a U-tube video posted. The Commission reviewed the video and decided that Alan and Bill will go out to the site Tuesday morning to determine if a violation has occurred.

Best – Triangle Piece – Special Town Meeting

Alan reminded everyone that there is a Special Town Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, June 26th at 7pm at the Swallow Union Elementary School to purchase the Best-Triangle parcel.

Bill made a motion to adjourn at 8:46pm. Marilyn 2nd the motion. – Motion passed unanimously. The next meeting of the Dunstable Conservation Commission will be held on Monday, June 25, 2012 at 7:30pm at the Dunstable Town Hall.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl A. Mann
Secretary
Dunstable Conservation Commission