



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** **Monday, August 13, 2012**

Meeting was called to order at 7:32pm by Leah Basbanes  
Members present: Jeff Haight, Alan Chaney, Juan Amodei, Judy Larter & Marilyn Pike  
Member absent: Bill Moeller  
Meeting held: At the Dunstable Town Hall– 511 Main Street-lower level– Grange Room

### **61 Valley Street – Brenda Carter**

Ms. Carter (and her son) attended the meeting at the request of the Commission. Her abutters (Mr. & Mrs. Chellis from 67 Valley Street) were also in attendance. The Commission explained to both parties that during a recent site visit members noticed that fresh fill had been placed on the edge of wetlands, clearly within the Conservation Commission's jurisdiction. These materials may have been placed by a landscaping contractor that uses 61 Valley Street for his business. Both parties agree that it is not clear who actually owns the wetland area in question. Furthermore, Ms. Carter explained that the owner of 61 Valley Street, Harry Allard, is deceased. She is not the owner of the property and will not be until his will has been probated. Mr. Chellis told the Commission that he has contacted a surveyor who will be staking off his property within the next 3 weeks. Both parties were told that until the owner of the property in question is determined, all activity in that area must cease by all parties including the landscaper. Alan said that once the owner has been determined, they will be asked to stop contributing materials to the area, pull back the existing materials and stabilize the slope. He went on to say that responsibility lies with not only the landowner, but whoever is placing the fill in/near the wetlands.

Ms. Carter asked that her address for future correspondence be changed to: P.O. Box 145, Dunstable, MA 01827.

Once the Chellis property has been surveyed, all parties will be asked to meet again to resolve this issue.

### **Request for Determination – 535 Forest Street - Stephen Richardson**

Leah opened the public meeting for 535 Forest Street. Members reviewed the Request for Determination as well as the submitted plan. The proposed garage will be 61 feet away from the wetlands. Leah said that some members were out at the site, reviewed the wetland line and are in agreement with Cornerstone Land Consultants, Inc. Marilyn made a motion to issue a negative 3 determination. Alan 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. Motion passed unanimously with the condition that a line of erosion control (either hay bales or



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straw wattles) be placed along the back of the property close to the line of work for about 20 feet. Approved plan: Wetland Submission RDA Application, 535 Forest Street, dated June 27, 2012, no revisions, Job. No. 2012-142

### **Meeting Minutes – July 23, 2012**

Juan made a motion to approve the meeting minutes, as submitted, from the July 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting. Jeff 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. – Motion passed unanimously.

### **Review and Sign Bills**

Alan made a motion to sign the invoice in the amount of \$11.50 for certified mail. Jeff 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. – Motion passed unanimously.

### **Review and/or Sign Payroll**

Alan made a motion to sign the Secretary's payroll slip for week ending 8/11/12. Judy 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. – Motion passed unanimously.

### **Knotweed Control**

Leah reported that Mike Barry from Bay State Forestry Service will be out in September to eradicate the knotweed at Flat Rock Hill and Blanchard Hill.

### **Christmas tree Funds**

Alan made a motion to, as per Article 8 of the Annual Town Meeting - May 14, 2012, transfer the amount of \$1,475 from the General Fund to the Conservation Land Fund. This is the amount that the Conservation Commission sold in Christmas trees during 2 weeks of December of 2011. Judy 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. – Motion passed unanimously. The Secretary will forward a letter to the Town Accountant.

### **Wetland Permit Extension – Governor Patrick**

On August 7, 2012, Governor Patrick signed a bill extending some permits through August 2014, "An Act Relative to Infrastructure Investment, Enhanced Competitiveness and Economic Growth in the Commonwealth."

### **431 Forest Street – McNamara - Restoration of Backyard**

Alan will go out to the McNamara residence to check on the stability of the swale which was to be completed by July 31, 2012.

### **285 Forest Street – Derek Bernard**

Leah reported that Mr. Bernard has had his wetlands delineated. The Commission is awaiting his Notice of Intent submittal for the proposed garage.



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### **Additional Topics Discussed Not Noted on the Agenda**

#### **Authorization for Town Accountant to Release Check for Best Triangle Parcel**

Alan made a motion to authorize Leah Basbanes to sign a letter to the Town Accountant to release a check in the amount of \$15,000 from the Timber Fund to the Best Family attorney for the purchase of the Best Triangle Parcel. Judy 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. – Motion passed unanimously.

Alan told members that the surveying has been completed and the plan should be signed off by the Planning Board on Monday, August 20<sup>th</sup>, with the closing scheduled a day or two after.

#### **Eagle Scout Projects**

Best Triangle: Leah mentioned that cleaning out the foundation on the Best Triangle parcel may be a good Eagle Scout project.

Water Bars: The Commission asked the Secretary to find out when the water bars will be completed at Flat Rock Hill

Jeff made a motion to adjourn at 8:12pm. Alan 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. – Motion passed unanimously. The next meeting of the Dunstable Conservation Commission will be held on Monday, August 27, 2012 at 7:30pm at the Dunstable Town Hall.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl A. Mann  
Secretary  
Dunstable Conservation Commission