



OFFICE OF THE
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
TOWN HALL, 511 MAIN STREET
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Conservation Commission Minutes
Monday, December 28, 2015

Approved: January 11, 2016

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

Meeting Minutes of December 14, 2015

Juan made a motion to approve, as submitted, the minutes of the December 14th meeting. Alan 2nd the motion. – Motion passed unanimously.

Bills and Payroll

Bills and payroll were signed.

Fiscal Year 2016 Expense Report

The Secretary handed out the current expenditure sheet for fiscal year 2016 for review.

2015 Annual Report

Members reviewed, discussed and made changes to the draft 2015 Annual Report. Bill made a motion to accept the annual report as modified. Jeff 2nd the motion. – Motion passed unanimously.

Fiscal Year 2017 Budget

The Secretary prepared the draft budget for members to review. The department is asking to level fund for fiscal year 2017 expenses.

Discussion on Moving Meeting Time

Leah asked members if they'd like to change future meetings from 7:30pm to an earlier time. After the discussion, it was decided at this point to keep the 7:30pm time slot.

Update on Miller Conservation Restriction LAND grant

Alan told members that the Conservation Commission received word from the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs that the Town has been awarded a \$166,500 grant in order to purchase a Conservation Restriction on the Miller property.

Off Pond Street Possible Wetland Violation

The Commission was contacted about a possible wetland violation on Off Pond Street. A few members went out to the site and agreed that a violation may have occurred. As



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there is question as to which property the work is occurring, the Commission asked the Secretary to send certified letters to two properties requesting their appearance before the Commission.

Westford Street Property Conservation Restriction

Alan Chaney left the room for the discussion. Members discussed whether they want to support applications for both Community Preservation Act funding and State Land Acquisition for Natural Diversity (LAND) funding to purchase a Conservation Restriction (CR) on 87 acres on Westford Street. It was agreed that without the support of both organizations (CPC and State), the purchase of the restriction will not happen. Jeff mentioned that since approximately \$20,000 of funding would come from timber funds, the Commission should require that if the owner of the property logs the parcel, the money should be split up to the \$20,000 that is taken from the timber fund. Motion was made that the Commission submit an application to the Community Preservation Committee in the amount of \$250,000 to put towards the purchase of a CR on 87 acres on Westford Street and that if approved, the Commission further apply for a state LAND grant in the amount of \$405,000. Purchase of the CR is contingent upon support from both organizations. Motion 2nd. – Motion passed unanimously. Alan returned to the meeting.

Additional Topics Discussed Not Noted on the Agenda

Special Permit Hearing Notice

Members asked for an update on the Special Permit for Thorndike Street mentioned at the last meeting. The Secretary said that the hearing is scheduled for next week and that Attorney Larkin is looking into the question of the Conservation Restriction.

Spaulding Proctor – Bridge Area

Jeff told members that he spread 12 five gallon pails of stone dust around the bridge at Spaulding Proctor to stabilize the area.

Bill made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:25pm, Jeff 2nd the motion. - Motion passed unanimously. The next meeting of the Dunstable Conservation Commission is scheduled for Monday, January 11, 2016, 7:30pm at the Dunstable Town Hall.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl A. Mann
Secretary, Dunstable Conservation Commission