

OFFICE OF THE CONSERVATION COMMISSION TOWN HALL, 511 MAIN STREET DUNSTABLE, MA 01827-1313

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Approved: March 28, 2016

<u>Conservation Commission Minutes</u> <u>Monday, March 14, 2016</u>

Meeting was called to order at 7:29pm by Chair Leah Basbanes

Members present: Marilyn Pike, Judy Larter, Jeff Haight, Alan Chaney and Bill Moeller

Member absent: Juan Amodei

Meeting held: At the Dunstable Town Hall—511 Main Street-lower level—Grange Room

Meeting Minutes of February 22, 2016

Judy made a motion to approve, as submitted, the minutes of the February 22nd meeting. Alan 2nd the motion. – Motion passed unanimously.

Bills and Payroll

Jeff made a motion to approve the expenditure of 62.99 for office supplies and the Secretary's payroll. – Alan 2^{nd} the motion. - Motion passed unanimously.

Associate Members - Neighbor to Neighbor

Leah brought up that it might be good to see if there are any interested residents that would like to be Associate Members of the Conservation Commission. An ad will be placed in the Neighbor to Neighbor.

<u>Dennis & Fran Zannoni – Results of Site Visit to Pond Street</u>

The Zannoni's were in attendance along with their contractor, Mr. Longo. A site visit had taken place back in January. The Zannoni's would like to replace the existing steep granite stairs (10' apart) with landscape timbers. Members discussed other options for the Zannoni's. Leah reminded the Zannoni's that they will need to file a Notice of Intent with the Conservation Commission prior to starting any of their work.

New Hampshire A-9 & A-12 Forms for Real Estate Tax Exemption

These are the yearly forms that need to be filled out in order for the Conservation Commission to be exempt from paying real estate taxes on a sliver of property they own in New Hampshire near the Stone Arch Bridge. Bill made a motion to file for our annual exemption. Alan 2nd the motion. – Motion passed unanimously.

10 Lake Circle – Dock Permit Discussion

The Secretary told members that she had received an email inquiry on whether or not the resident at 10 Lake Circle had applied for a dock permit. The Secretary said that she had, at the request of the Commission, sent a letter to the resident requesting that



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they go through the state approval process. She was waiting to hear from them.

Stone Arch Bridge Walkathon

The Secretary said that she received an e-mail from the Town Administrator regarding the use of the Stone Arch Bridge area for a school walkathon. Children from the "Academy for Science and Design" school in Nashua, NH would like to hold this event. Members expressed that the area is open to the public and as long as the principle "Leave no Trace" was followed, they were in favor of the event.

Note: Jeff told members that he took down some dead trees at the Stone Arch Bridge area, straightened a sign and removed a rope from a tree. There was discussion about the beaver dam and what if anything could be done to insure the area is not damaged.

Miller Conservation Restriction LAND Grant Update

The Secretary is waiting for the sign to be finished. Alan will check with Attorney Larkin regarding the Conservation Restrictions he was working on.

Westford Street Conservation Restriction Update

Note: Alan abstained from the discussion and vote. The Secretary reported that to date, the Agricultural Committee has not held a meeting to discuss support for the Westford Street parcel. As of this morning, the fiscal year 2017 information on the LAND grant has not been released. The Secretary asked members which account they wanted to take the approximately \$15,200 from. Jeff made a motion to spend \$15,200 from the Pierce/Gage Town Forest Timber Fund to be used for the Westford Street CR. Judy 2nd the motion. – Motion passed unanimously. These funds will only be used if the property is awarded a LAND grant from the state of Massachusetts.

Odor on Main Street

Leah told members that she had spoken to Laura Maul from the Department of Agriculture regarding the odor on Main Street. The state agency met with one of the McGovern's and strongly suggested that he contact the NRCS regarding putting a farm plan in place to address some of the issues out at the site which could be causing or contributing to the odor on Main Street. Leah will contact Dan Lenthall to see if he has been contacted by McGovern Farm. Alan will talk with the McGovern's about possible violations of the Wetlands Protection Act.

Route 113 Road Construction near the Cemetery

Two conceptual design layouts were presented – layout C & D. Layout D included



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sidewalks. Members reviewed both designs and agreed that they were open to discussion on layout C with some modifications.

<u>Additional Topics Discussed Not Noted on the Agenda</u>

Rose Russell Conservation Restriction Update

Members asked what the update was on the Rose Russell restriction. Alan said that he thought Ms. Russell and Attorney Larkin had been in contact.

Motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 8:48pm, Motion 2nd. - Motion passed unanimously. The next meeting of the Dunstable Conservation Commission is scheduled for Monday, March 28, 2016, 7:30pm at the Dunstable Town Hall.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl A. Mann Secretary Dunstable Conservation Commission