



OFFICE OF THE
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
TOWN HALL, 511 MAIN STREET
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Conservation Commission Minutes
Monday, January 23, 2017

Approved: February 27, 2017

Meeting was called to order at 6:30pm by Chairman Jeff Haight
Members present: Leah Basbanes, Bill Moeller, Judy Larter, Alan Chaney and Juan Amodei
Member absent: Marilyn Pike
Meeting held: At the Dunstable Town Hall– 511 Main Street-lower level– Grange Room

ANRAD continuation – 489 Forest Street – Christopher Bertrand

Jeff announced the continuation of the hearing for an Abbreviated Notice of Resource Area Delineation (ANRAD) for 489 Forest Street. The DEP file number, 147-0296, was received. Leah told members that the corrections requested at the last meeting had been made on the plan. No one was in attendance for the hearing. Alan said that if/when an Order of Conditions for the property is issued; a condition should be that the setback be permanently marked. Alan then made a motion to close the hearing at 6:38pm and that file with DEP that the boundaries are accurate for a Bordering Vegetated Wetland. Judy 2nd the motion. – Motion passed unanimously.

Pleasant Street Extension – Possible Wetland Violation

Mr. and Mrs. Dalida were in attendance at the request of the Commission to discuss the wetland violation off Pleasant Street Extension. The violation has actually occurred on National Grid property. Earlier in the day, Darrell Oakley from National Grid called the office stating that he had just received the certified letter from Conservation. He could not attend tonight's meeting however agrees (by looking on google earth) that there are poles and wood in the wetland on their property. This was not done by National Grid. He plans on coming out to the site to review what damage has occurred. Members asked that he contact the office when he plans on coming to Dunstable so that someone from the Commission can meet him. The Dalida's said that they weren't aware of ATV traffic coming onto their lot through National Grid's and support the Commission posting "no trespassing" signs.

Meeting Minutes – January 9, 2017

Juan made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 9th meeting. Alan 2nd the motion. – Motion passed unanimously.



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Bills/Payroll

Alan made a motion to sign invoices for \$59 worth of office supplies, \$6.47 for certified mail and the Administrative Assistant's payroll.

February 13th Meeting

The Administrative Assistant told members that she will not be at the February 13th meeting. Members will hold the meeting with Judy taking the minutes.

461 Forest Street – Tree Removal in the Buffer Zone – Dennis Chartier

Members met with Mr. Chartier to discuss removing a large number of 120 foot high pine trees on his property. Work that he proposes will be out of the wetlands but within the buffer. The area is flat. Conservation walked the site and told Mr. Chartier he may remove the trees (no stumping) without having to file with the Commission.

While at the site, it was noticed that the neighbor at 477 Forest Street has been working on the lot without first filing their Order of Conditions at the Registry of Deeds. The silt fence that was placed to protect the wetland has not been properly installed. Members asked that a "cease and desist" letter be issued requesting that the erosion control be repaired and hay bales or straw wattles be placed to reinforce the fence (must be done by Saturday January 28th), they must record the Order at the Registry of Deeds by February 1st and provide the recording information to the office by February 2nd. The building permit will not be signed by the Conservation Commission until this has been completed. Fines may also start occurring if the violation continues.

Possible Wetland Violation – Off Pond Street

Alan spoke with the Police Chief who will have his officers keep a closer eye on ATV activity at Off Pond Street. Alan attempted contact with Mrs. Staples but has not been able to discuss the issue with her as of yet.

MACC Request – Letter to Governor Baker on Gas Pipelines

The Conservation Commission received a request from the Massachusetts Association of Conservation Commissions (MACC) asking them to send a letter to the Governor requesting him to end his support for the new interstate gas pipeline. Members discussed that they did not approve of the letter as written. Alan made a motion not to send the letter as drafted. Bill 2nd the motion. – Motion approved with Judy opposing.

Westford Street CR Grant Application Update

The Administrative Assistant is waiting for the state to return the signed Standard



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Contract. She received two quotes for the sign. Members agreed that they would like the sign to be 48"x30". She will have the companies re-quote the job.

The Commission would like to know if GPS points at every corner shown on the Assessor's map is adequate for a survey points. The Admin will find that out.

Flat Rock Field/Blanchard Hill Maintenance

Alan reported that he did not receive a quote for work on top of Blanchard Hill and feels that it is important to remove the trees and chip the stumps at Flat Rock field. The Commission will review funding to see what is available.

Additional Topics Discussed Not Noted on the Agenda

Update Open Space Plan by December 2017

The Town Administrator received approval to use the Northern Middlesex Council of Governments (NMCOG) for 85 hrs. to update our Open Space & Recreation plan.

Timber Cut on Hogg Property

Alan brought up that he would like to have a timber cut done on twenty-seven (27) acres of the Helen Hogg property located on the east side of Salmon Brook off High Street. This would be a legacy cut and a chipping operation.

Conservation Restrictions

Jeff asked members to think about requiring contracts for landowners when they enter into an agreement with the Conservation Commission to either sell or sell the rights to their property.

Motion was made to close the meeting at 8:08pm. Motion 2nd. – Motion passed unanimously. The next meeting of the Dunstable Conservation Commission is scheduled for Monday, February 13, 2017, 6:30pm at the Dunstable Town Hall.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl A. Mann
Administrative Assistant
Dunstable Conservation Commission