



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 12, 2017**

Approved: July 10, 2017

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

**Building Permit – Lot 1 – 477 Forest Street – Luis Vazquez**

Mr. Vazquez did not attend the meeting, however requested through the Administrative Assistant that his building permit for 477 Forest Street be signed. There is a recorded Order of Conditions on the property. Leah made a motion to sign the permit. Alan 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. – Motion passed unanimously.

Members asked if Neil Gorman from Ross Associates submitted a new plan for Forest Street as requested by the Commission. Since he did not, members asked that he be reminded to do so.

**Building Permit – 47 Lower Dam Way – Dan Locapo**

Mr. Locapo explained that he had a house fire back in February of 2016 and is now starting the process of rebuilding his home. He put down silt fence which Jeff inspected and found to be installed correctly. The proposed structure will be located on the same footprint. The foundation has been deemed substandard; therefore, a new one will be poured in the same location. The house will be 70+ feet from the water with no work proposed near the lake. The materials from the existing house will be excavated off the lot by way of the street. The roof will pitch the same way as the previous building. Alan made a motion to sign the permit. Bill 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. – Motion passed unanimously. Jeff reminded Mr. Locapo that technically he does not have a permit from the Commission for the work in the buffer zone however because these are extenuating circumstances, the site is stable and the foundation will be located in the same spot, they are signing the building permit. He was reminded that members will be checking on the site and it would be to his benefit to make sure work is completed properly and as he described.

**Introduction**

Leah introduced Kieran Meehan, a resident of Dunstable who may be interested in joining the Conservation Commission. Members explained what is expected of members.

**Meeting Minutes – May 22, 2017**

Leah made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting with an amended correction. Juan 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. – Motion passed unanimously.



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### **Bills/Payroll**

A bill for Voss signs and the Administrative Assistant's payroll were presented. Alan made a motion to sign both. Juan 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. – Motion passed.

### **Elect Community Preservation Committee Member**

The Commission decided table this discussion until the next meeting.

### **Certificate of Compliance – 147-101 – Colonial Gas**

The Administrative Assistant explained that someone from Coneco sent in a Request for a Certificate of Compliance for a 1989 Order of Conditions for Colonial Gas. She was trying to close out old Orders. The work entailed the laying of gas pipelines on Hall, School, Groton and Kemp Streets. Leah made a motion to issue the Certificate of Compliance. Bill 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. – Motion passed unanimously.

### **Discussion Changes to Wetland Regulations**

Leah brought up that she would like to see a limit to the amount of impervious surface allowed on a lot as well as adding a 25' zone of natural vegetation to the wetland regulations. This will be discussed in more detail at a future meeting.

### **Sky Meadow Earthwork**

The Commission decided that since Sky Meadow Golf Course did not return their call regarding the possibility of earthwork in/near a wetland, they would like to meet with a representative of the golf course this Saturday, June 17<sup>th</sup> at 10:15am. Members will meet at the Town Hall and drive to the Sky Meadow Golf Course.

### **Westford Street Grant**

The CR Reviewer returned the Conservation Restriction with edits. To save time, Attorney Falk had a conference call with all concerned parties. Details are still being worked out and the final CR will be sent to the state by midweek. The Commission would like a closing date of the week of June 19<sup>th</sup>. One question that Attorney Falk had was regarding hunting on the property. Members felt that the owner of the property had the right to allow hunting as long as she and the hunters followed state regulations and local discharge of firearm bylaw. There was discussion about paying for the title search with members asking for Board of Selectmen approval to use Wetland Protection Act funds.

### **Kendall Cranberry Bog Grant**

The Administrative Assistant asked members to sign forms to go with the application for the state LAND grant. The grant application should be mailed out by next week.



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### **Open Space and Recreation Plan**

The Administrative Assistant received the Master Plan survey.

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

#### **Kennedy Conservation Area**

There was a message on the answering machine from someone working for a local advocacy group who is concerned with ATVs driving through a sensitive spot of the Kennedy Conservation Area. This area has **vertical fen with sundos** and the predatory tiger beetle. He mentioned helping the Commission with the ATV problem. Leah will contact the gentleman to discuss this with him.

#### **Mowing Stone Arch Bridge Area**

Sharon Flanagan called regarding permission to cut the grass at the beginning of the Stone Arch Bridge Conservation area. The Commission has the area cut once or twice a year but she is interested in mowing it in-between cuttings (at her expense) so that she and others can use the space for horseback riding. Members asked the Administrative Assistant to contact Town Counsel for his opinion on liability.

#### **Beavers and Beaver Dam**

Leah had received a call from David Sweet regarding a beaver dam causing water to back up onto his property at Sweets Pond Road. Members discussed that the rainy spring is part of the cause of excess water and that a picture Highway Superintendent David Tully provided showed water flowing over the dam.

#### **Invasive Species**

Juan mentioned the issue of bittersweet vines overrunning areas in Dunstable and how difficult it was to eradicate them off his property. Leah said that that is a problem all over the state.

Leah made a motion to close the meeting at 7:50pm. Alan 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. – Motion passed unanimously. The next meeting of the Dunstable Conservation Commission is scheduled for Monday, June 26, 2017, 6:30pm at the Dunstable Town Hall.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl A. Mann  
Administrative Assistant  
Dunstable Conservation Commission