



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, September 11, 2017**

Approved: September 25, 2017

Meeting was called to order at 6:37pm by Vice Chairman Alan Chaney  
Members present: Juan Amodei, Kieran Meehan and Leah Basbanes  
Members absent: Marilyn Pike and Jeff Haight  
Meeting held: At the Dunstable Town Hall– 511 Main Street-lower level– Grange Room

### **Discussion on Flat Rock Hill – Tim Joyce and Maria Amodei**

Mr. Joyce and Ms. Amodei attended the meeting to ask what plans the Commission has for the Flat Rock Hill field where Christmas trees were once sold. Alan said that Anthony Longo will be removing the remainder of spruce trees in the field, grinding the stumps to ground level, chipping and mowing the field. The chips will be used to fill in a sunken area on the property. Ms. Amodei asked if she could use approximately 5 acres of the field for her sheep to graze. She indicated that she would restore the fertility of the soil since currently it isn't appropriate food for sheep. This would save the Conservation Commission from mowing the field as well as allowing an agricultural use. Access to Flat Rock Hill would not be prevented. The only thing she asked was for the Commission to let her know if they plan on spraying for knotweed as was done in the past. Alan said that he would call the state to make sure that the use is permitted under an agricultural use.

Tom Joyce attended in support of Ms. Amodei and mentioned that he would like to block access to vehicles that drive on Flat Rock Hill in the middle of the night. This happens often and Mr. Joyce has had to call the Police numerous times. He said he'd be willing to place boulders on the access points in order to block the area that cars should not have access to. Alan agreed to meet Mr. Joyce in the next few days to check out the area.

### **Meeting Minutes – August 28<sup>th</sup>**

Leah made a motion to accept the minutes of the August 28<sup>th</sup> meeting, as submitted. Kieran 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. – Motion passed unanimously.

### **Bills/Payroll**

Alan made a motion to sign the Administrative Assistant's payroll. Kieran 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. – Motion passed unanimously.

### **Westford Street Grant Update**

The Administrative Assistant told members that the Town received the reimbursement check for the Westford Street Grant.



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### **Kendall Cranberry Bog Grant Application Update**

No update. Alan said that he would contact Ms. Henry to let her know the status of the grant application.

### **Thorndike Street Complaint**

Alan let it known that he is on the Board of Directors of the Dunstable Rural Land Trust (DRLT) and although DRLT does not own the property, they have an interest in the estate; therefore, he would not take part in this discussion. The Conservation Commission received word that there may be a wetland violation at the property on Thorndike Street across from the McLoon barn. There are a number of items scattered around the property with some possibly in/near the wetland. One member said that if there is a violation, it is minor and will be addressed when the issue with the resident is resolved.

### **Open Space and Recreation Plan – Seven Year Action Plan**

Leah asked that this be put on the agenda for the September 25<sup>th</sup> meeting.

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

#### **Amos Kendall Conservation Area**

Leah said that a resident contacted her about digging up some spruce trees at the Amos Kendall Conservation Area. She said that they would pay the \$20 per tree. It was fine with members as long as the resident fills in the holes.

#### **Complaint – Obscenities on Trees**

Jeff told members that someone contacted him about spray painted obscenities on trees in the Stone Arch Bridge area.

#### **Bear Hill Estates**

Alan told members that he had gone out to the Bear Hill Estates site and thought a few too many trees may have been removed from the site. He saw the developer who indicated that he would be willing to mark the boundaries of each lot. Alan said that 17+ acres had been transferred to the Dunstable Rural Land Trust. A Conservation Restriction will be placed on that parcel. A Conservation Restriction or Deed Restriction will be placed on portions of all house lots.

#### **Forest Cutting**

Alan said that all of the trees have been marked. There was an advertised showing of the



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proposed areas to be cut. There are 4-5 interested buyers and bids will be opened this week. Five to six pine trees slated to be removed from near the trail were taken off the list.

Leah made a motion to close the meeting at 7:34pm. Kieran 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. Motion passed unanimously. The next meeting of the Dunstable Conservation Commission is scheduled for Monday, September 25, 2017, 6:30pm at the Dunstable Town Hall.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl A. Mann  
Administrative Assistant  
Dunstable Conservation Commission

APPROVED