

**MINUTES OF THE
HALIFAX CONSERVATION COMMISSION
May 2, 2017**

A meeting of the Halifax Conservation Commission was held on Tuesday, May 2, 2017, in the Conservation Commission office. Chairperson Gerry Fitzgerald opened the meeting at 7:00pm.

In Attendance: Gerry Fitzgerald, Chairperson; Chris Hadorn, Clerk; April Letourneau, Member; John Peck, Member; Ed Lane, Associate Member.

Hearings and Discussions:

Open 7:00 – Violation – Corner of Paradise Lane and Monponsett St.

Mr. Robert Hayes and Mrs. Ann Hayes were present to discuss the cease and desist that was issued on their property. Mr. Brown from 91 Paradise Lane was also present as an abutter. The bog on the property has been filled with debris and the trees and brush surrounding it has been cleared. No permits have been filed. They have owned the property for several years and this is the second time they have “debrushed” it. They do not use the property as a functioning bog. They are trying to sell the 3 acres but it looks awful so they have explored many options but thought that cleaning it up would help. People think it is a dumping ground for trash, furniture, appliances, etc. They put up a gate and it was stolen. The abutters have reported that the canals have been filled with dirt. Mr. Brown corrected that statement and said the mulch from the brush grinding went in the channels. That is a major concern of the abutters. There should be no work done out on that property due to the 50’ no touch. The 50’ no touch line was fully explained so that everyone was clear. Mr. Brown explained about the overlays on the property and getting access to the different areas of the site. April suggested calling DEP to find out what exactly is entailed in making the area a working bog again. Mr. Brown wanted to be sure that NHESP was going to be included and notified. Chairman Fitzgerald suggested that the Hayes’ find out what they would be allowed to do by contacting DEP and NHESP before we issue a final restoration plan. When they come in to file an RDA, we will also discuss the options and put a restoration plan in place. They should go and rake the mulch out of the channels of the bog. That material should be removed from the bog as a machine put it there.

Mr. Hayes would like to put up some posts to keep people from driving down there and dumping trash. The Commission would love to see him protect his property. He will just have to file an RDA as it is in the 50’ buffer zone. When they come in to file an RDA, we will also discuss the options and put a restoration plan in place. They should go and rake the mulch out of the channels of the bog. That material should be removed from the bog as a machine put it there.

Bills

\$280.00 – Express Newspapers

Motion: April Letorneau

Second: Chris Hadorn

AIF

Secretarial:

DCR Dam Safety Order. The Commission feels that this Dam is controlled by the City of Brockton and they will need to file with us. Kendra will review it with Charlie after Town Meeting.

Tree NOI. Joe Perry, the “Tree Warden” from the State of MA called the office. Kendra filled in the Commission on the conversation. Mr. Perry said that he would be forwarding a copy signed by him, but basically the property is automatically considered Agricultural because of the work being done so they don’t have to adhere to any of the wetland bylaws. John Peck reminded everyone that it doesn’t matter how the property is zoned, if it is over 5 acres it is automatically considered agricultural, it does not have to be 61A.

Mail:

The mail folder was reviewed by the Commission.

Motion to adjourn the meeting at

Motion: Chris Hadorn

Second: John Peck

AIF

Respectfully submitted,

Kendra Kelly
Secretary