

**HARVARD CONSERVATION COMMISSION  
MINUTES OF MEETING  
February 7, 2008  
Approved: March 5, 2009**

Chairman Paul Willard called the meeting to order at 7:06pm in the Hildreth House

**Members Present:** Paul Willard, Wendy Sisson, Charlie Gorss and George Watkins

**Others Present:** Liz Allard (LUB Admin), Scott Nutting, Pam Browning, Valerie Hurley (Harvard Press), Michelle Girard, Bruce Leicher, Gary Shepard (Ross Assoc.), Rick Wood, Joe D'Eranco, Worth Robbins, Richard and Roxanne Mace

**Potential Associate Member – Pam Browning & Scott Nutting**

Pam Browning presented a letter expressing her back round. Ms. Browning is interested in horse trails in Town and working with the Commission to open the line of communication between the Commission and equestrians. Ms. Brown informed the Commission that Bay State Trail Riders has funds available to assist communities with trail maintenance.

Scott Nutting worked for as a Federal Environmental Officer; he has an agricultural back ground and enjoys hiking, biking and skiing.

Both individuals were encouraged to stay for the rest of the meeting and to attend several more to get a sense of what it is the Commission does before making a decision on being an associate member.

**Continuation of a Notice of Intent Hearing – Richard & Roxanne Mace, 38 Peninsula Road, DEP#177-548, Harvard#1207-1. Opened at 7:31pm**

**Community Garden on Littleton Road Conservation Land**

Rick Wood, of the Harvard Garden Club, was present to discuss with the Commission the use of the Conservation land on Littleton Road for community gardens. The Club determined in the past water was an issue for this location. Paul Willard explained that the Club would be on their own with everything they may need to maintain the gardens. Wendy Sisson asked if the Club was thinking about installing a well for water. Mr. Wood stated that had not, but ideas have been discussed to pump water out of the stream. Terms for using the garden have not been determined as of yet. The Club would like to prepare the land so that individuals will just have to come in and plant rather than prepare the land and then plant. It was explained to Mr. Wood that any permanent structures would need to be approved by the Commission and any structure less than 120 square feet would not need a permit from the building department. The deed of the lot will need to be reviewed to determine if there are any restrictions to the allowed uses of the property. Michele Girard asked who would be using the land. Mr. Wood stated he has had requests from ten (10) people for small lot, but once word gets out maybe the Club may need more. Mr. Willard suggested the Commission go out in the spring to determine

that the area being used is the proper location. It was suggested the area be staked out before the site walk. It may be ideal in the future to take a look at other locations within town to be used. Ms. Sisson asked if it is possible to get off the road in that location. Mr. Wood stated yes and added the road is pretty wide and straight in that area. Mr. Wood stated he has done some research on bylaws for community gardens. Mr. Wood asked if the Commission would like to see that information. Mr. Wood was informed the Commission would definitely like to take a look at that information as well as any other information as it pertains to this use and area. Mr. Wood stated the Club is thinking they want people to stick to organic practices.

Mr. Wood will contact the Commission in the spring to schedule a site walk and will forward information when available. The Commission agreed that this location would be ideal for a community garden.

#### **Land Stewardship Sub-Committee Appointments**

Wendy Sission made a motion to appoint Michele Girard to a two (2) year term, to expire March 31, 2010 and to re-appoint Pam Durrant to another three (3) year term to expire March 31, 2011 to the Land Stewardship Sub-Committee. George Watkins seconded the motion. The vote was unanimously in favor of the motion.

#### **Adjournment**

George Watkins made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:25m. Wendy Sisson seconded the motion. The vote was unanimously in favor of the motion.

Respectfully submitted,

Liz Allard  
Administrator/Conservation Agent

**Harvard Conservation Commission**  
**Continuation of a Notice of Intent Hearing Meeting Minutes**  
**Richard & Roxanne Mace, 38 Peninsula Road, DEP#177-548, Harvard#1207-1**  
**February 7, 2008**

The public hearing was opened at 7:31pm by Chairman Paul Willard under the Wetland Protection Act, MGL Chapter 131 §40 and the Code of the Town of Harvard, Chapter 119 the Wetland Protection Bylaw in the Hildreth House

**Members Present:** Paul Willard, Charlie Gorss,

**Others Present:** Liz Allard (LUB Admin), Gary Shepard, Richard and Roxanne Mace

This hearing was continued from January 3, 2008 for a Notice of Intent filed on behalf of Richard & Roxanne Mace for the proposed restoration/planting in response to an Enforcement Order and associated grading and driveway construction within 200' of Bare Hill Pond at 38 Peninsula, Harvard.

Paul Willard asked the Mace's who had done the actual cutting of the trees. Richard Mace stated it was Flagg Tree Service out of Ayer. Gary Shepard presented a revised plan to the Commission. The trees on the revised plan are more similar to what was there previously. High bush blueberries and sweet pepper bush have been added to the plan as well. A note has been added to the plan in regards to the existing stumps. The silt fence was installed as requested. Paul Willard stated this is a starting point with restoring the look that was there previously. George Watkins suggested for speed of growth you may want to allow spouts to come out of the existing stumps. Wendy Sisson stated she did not want to rely entirely on that process. Mr. Willard suggested the Order have a time period to establish the growth. If growth has not taken place in the allotted time period then additional remediation will be needed. Ms. Sisson is concerned that this is a landscapers plan and does not bare any relationship as to what is there. Ms. Sisson would like to look at this site when there is no snow on the ground and determine where the stumps are. Mr. Watkins likes Mr. Willard's idea of a co-operative plan to go out several times over the course of several months and determine what is surviving. Mr. Willard suggested keeping the hearing open until locations of stumps can be located and work from there.

Mr. Mace wanted to explain the ground cover was not there when they took over the property and he is spending a lot of money to replant the area. It was explained to Mr. Mace that the Commission is concerned with restoring the canopy.

Bruce Leicher stated that on behalf of the Pond Committee he would support the co-operative work on this property. Mr. Leicher stated after careful review of several different pictures it has been determined that the under story was cut prior to the Mace's taking ownership. The only disagreement here is when the under story was cut. Mr. Mace stated the picture from the previous meeting was not his house. Mr. Willard added that he believes there was a bit of time between the Johnson leaving and the Mace's moving in.

Mr. Shepard stated he would like to avoid having the hearing go on longer than need be and would like to discuss the proposed garage. Ms. Sisson stated the Commission can and will view that location at the time of the site walk. Mr. Shepard stated the garage will be eighty (80) feet from the edge of the pond and will include a recharge trench.

George Watkins made a motion to continue the hearing to April 3, 2008 at 7:30pm. Charlie Gorss seconded the motion. The vote was unanimously in favor of the motion.

Respectfully submitted,

Liz Allard  
Administrator/Conservation Agent