

**HARVARD CONSERVATION COMMISSION
MINUTES OF MEETING
February 21, 2008
Approved: June 5, 2008**

Chairman Paul Willard called the meeting to order at 7:03pm in the Town Hall Meeting Room

Members Present: Paul Willard, Charlie Gorss, Jim Breslauer, Don Ritchie, Otto Solbrig and George Watkins.

Others Present: Liz Allard (LUB Admin), Tim Bragan, Pam Browning, Ted Van Dusen and Suzan Dutkewych

Executive Session

Jim Breslauer made a motion to go into executive session to consider the purchase of real property only to reconvene in open session. Charlie Gorss seconded the motion. Chairman Paul Willard took a roll call. The vote was unanimously in favor 6-0.

George Watkins made a motion to come out of executive session to reconvene open session. Jim Breslauer seconded the motion. The vote was unanimously in favor of resuming open session.

Conservation Fund Request

George Watkins made a motion to allocate funds from the Conservation Fund not to exceed \$19,900 upon written receipt confirming this allocation as an appropriate use of funds for the appraisal of a parcel of land.

Conservation Land Trail Usage

Due to school vacation week Wendy Sisson was absent from the meeting, the Commission decided to table this subject until another date. Pam Browning was present and stated that Candy Frazer has sent out a survey to the local horse owners that was due back today. Ms. Browning has established a yahoo group to advise against poor trail conditions. The yahoo group can have a data base there that would describe Harvard stabled horses to help in rounding up loose horses. Ms. Browning will send the information on the yahoo group to the Commission so it can be posted on the town web site.

Otto Solbrig brought up the issue of snowmobiles using the trails on Conservation Land. Mr. Solbrig stated the Holy Hill area is a busy area with walkers; he and others have had incidents in which they have almost been run over by snowmobiles; he also stated dogs are at risk. It was suggested that Mr. Solbrig contact Tony Shaw, chairman of the snowmobile club with this issue. It was noted that snowmobiles are not allowed unless there is four inches of snow on the ground.

Minutes

Don Ritchie made a motion to accept the minutes of November 15, 2007 and December 6, 2007 as amended. Jim Breslauer seconded the motion. The vote was unanimously in favor of the motion.

Jim Breslauer made a motion to accept the minutes of January 17, 2008 as amended. George Watkins seconded the motion. The vote was unanimously in favor of the motion.

Jim Breslauer made a motion to accept the minutes of December 17, 2007 as written. Don Ritchie seconded the motion. The vote was unanimously in favor of the motion.

Chapter 147 Wetland Protection Bylaw Rules Amendments

Liz Allard suggested changes to Forms A – F to reflect the new regulations approved in February 2007. The Commission made minor adjustments to those changes. Those adjustments will be incorporated for the next meeting.

Mrs. Allard recommended incorporating Department of Environmental Protection policy, DWW Policy 85-4, Amending Orders. This policy allows for relatively minor amendments to an Order that will have unchanged or less impact on the interests protected by the Act. All other changes would require the filing of a new Notice of Intent. The Commission was agreeable to this recommendation. Jim Breslauer will draft language to be included in §147-31.

Mr. Breslauer suggested within §147-4 the elimination of “of greater than 500 square feet in area” from the definition of fresh water wetland. The Commission was agreeable to this change.

Adjournment

George Watkins made motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:18pm. Don Ritchie seconded the motion. The vote was unanimously in favor of the motion.

Respectfully submitted,

Liz Allard
Land Use Administrator/ Conservation Agent