

**HARVARD CONSERVATION COMMISSION  
MINUTES OF MEETING  
May 1, 2008  
Approved: August 7, 2008**

Chairman Paul Willard called the meeting to order at 7:08pm in the Town Hall Meeting Room

**Members Present:** Paul Willard, Jim Breslauer, Wendy Sisson and George Watkins

**Others Present:** Liz Allard (LUB Admin), Josh Gould, Al Combs, Candy Frazer, Phil Knoettner, Bob Blanck, Judy Gustafson, Sherlie La Pierre, Bob La Pierre and Bill Johnson (BHPWMC)

**Powell/Abbot/Reed Land Trail Relocation**

Al Combs and Candy Frazer were present to discuss with the Commission the relocation of the trail on the Powell/Abbot/Reed land. Jim Breslauer had accompanied Mr. Combs and Ms. Frazer on a site walk. After a review of the proposed trail location Wendy Sisson made a motion to allow the relocation of the trail. Jim Breslauer seconded the motion. The vote was unanimously in favor of the motion.

**Maxant Land**

Al Combs stated a portion of the trail on the Maxant land would need to relocate on to private property. Paul Willard will follow up on this for the Commission.

**Bare Hill Wildlife Sanctuary**

A resident has requested that he be allowed to cut down bitter sweet that has over grown on the Conservation Commission property along with several trees. The Commission agreed that the bitter sweet could be removed but not the trees. Wendy Sisson will contact the resident and inform them of the decision. Phil Knoettner offered to assist with the bitter sweet removal.

**Williams Land Signage Approval Hearing**

Wendy Sisson explained that the Williams Land use to have meadow lark and bobolinks and it has been suggest that limited use of that area by dogs and humans will aid in their return. A sign stating "For the protection of Ground nesting bids and hay production dogs shall be leashed from April 1<sup>st</sup> – August 1<sup>st</sup>" was suggested. The Commission also requested that they are notified prior to the cutting of the hay. Wendy Sisson made a motion to accept the previously stated language to be added to the signage on the Williams Land. Jim Breslauer seconded the motion. The vote was unanimously in favor of the motion.

**Continuation of a Notice of Intent Hearing – Richard & Roxanne Mace, 38 Peninsula Road, DEP#177-548, Harvard#1207-1. Opened at 7:32pm**

### **ZBA Comments – Transformations, Inc. Stow Road (Map 36 Parcels 85 & 86.1)**

The Members discussed portions of the Wetland Protection Bylaw they do not want the ZBA to waiver in regards to the Chapter 40B application on Stow Road. Those items include the 200 foot vernal pool buffer, the 50 foot & 75 foot setbacks, §147-21 & 22 Replication. Wendy Sisson made a motion that the Commission should relay to the ZBA that they are not interested in waiving any of the Wetland Protection Bylaw without a request to the specific portions of the bylaw. Jim Breslauer seconded the motion. The vote was unanimously in favor of the motion.

### **Representative to the Master Plan Implementation Committee**

Jim Breslauer made a motion to appoint Paul Willard to the Master Plan Implantation Committee as the Commissions representative. Wendy Sisson seconded the motion. The vote was unanimously in favor of the motion.

### **Bare Hill Pond Watershed Management Committee**

Bob Blanck was present to update the Commission on the activities of the Pond Committee. Mr. Blanck stated there have been issues with the pump, the pump is freezing up and the Committee is not sure why. Efforts are being made to rectify the problem. The weed harvester is being repaired by DPW. The Committee has reviewed the Open Space and Recreation Plan 5-year action plan and has made the appropriate adjustments and comments to it. A weed pull is being organized.

The Commission stated they would be looking for the Committee to take a year off from the draw down. Mr. Blanck is hoping this year will be a non-draw down year.

Bill Johnson stated the Committee is finishing up the application for a 319 Grant for Storm water treatment. Mr. Johnson took the Commission through the process, but was not looking for approval of the application this evening. Mr. Johnson stated that Bare Hill Pond is one of the most endangered water bodies in the State; first in part due to the weeds and secondly in part to the excessive phosphorus contamination. Based on ENSR review the draw downs are having a major impact on the weeds. The Committee would like to continue over the next few years to bring the draw down deeper. The next phase would be to address the excess phosphorus in the pond. Decaying heavy weed growth returns excess phosphorus to the pond.

The Committee needs to tackle both sediment in the pond and sediment coming into the pond. The majority of the inflow comes from the northeast corner of the pond. The Committee will focus their attention to this area. The Committee is still trying to figure out how to get rid of the sediments in the pond. An experimental dredging was completed over the winter. The dredging resulted in far less wet soils than anticipated and shallower depths of the sediment than previously thought. The sediments dredged were rich in nutrient and the DPW is happy to use it as mulch.

### **Minutes**

Wendy Sisson made to accept the minutes of March 20, 2008 as amended. George Watkins seconded the motion. The vote was unanimously in favor of the motion.

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

**Adjournment**

Jim Breslauer made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:00pm. George Watkins seconded the motion. The vote was unanimously in favor of the motion.

Respectfully submitted,

Liz Allard  
Land Use 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**  
**May 1, 2008**

The public hearing was opened at by 7:32pm 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 Town Hall meeting room

**Members Present:** Paul Willard, Jim Breslauer, Wendy Sisson and George Watkins

**Others Present:** Liz Allard (Agent)

This hearing was continued from April 17, 2008 on a Notice of Intent filed on behalf of Richard & Roxanne Mace, for the proposed restoration/plantings in response to an Enforcement Order and associated grading and driveway construction within 200' of Bare Hill Pond at 38 Peninsula Road, Harvard.

The applicant's representative requested the hearing be continued to the May 15, 2008 meeting of the Commission. Jim Breslauer made a motion to continue the hearing until May 15, 200 at 7:30pm. George Watkins seconded the motion. The vote was unanimously in favor of the motion.

Respectfully submitted,

Liz Allard  
Land Use Administrator/  
Conservation Agent