

**HARVARD CONSERVATION COMMISSION  
MINUTES OF MEETING  
JANUARY 20, 2011  
APPROVED: January 31, 2011**

Vice-Chairperson Wendy Sisson called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm in the Town Hall Meeting Room.

**Members Present:** Wendy Sisson, Don Ritchie, Charlie Gorss, Jim Breslauer, Janet Waldron, and Patrick Doherty

**Others Present:** Peter Warren and Ron Ostberg

**Municipal Buildings Committee Update**

Ron Ostberg of the Municipal Buildings Committee summarized his Committee's progress to date and explained that they would be submitting their recommendations to the Selectmen on February 1<sup>st</sup>. He shared copies of their Report detailing options for Town Hall, Hildreth House and the Old Library.

In the course of the Committee's investigations, Mr. Ostberg learned from Paul Willard that the Reed conservation land at the foot of the Common was left to the town with the stipulation (in the deed) that it would be left as green space, with cars and buildings prohibited. The Committee proposes that the Town remove the no-name street that runs along the south end of the Reed parcel and reconfigure the curb lines of the intersecting streets in front of the Old Library to improve pedestrian safety and also to define parking spaces. Plans of two proposals locating 35 parking spaces near the old library were shown.

The Commission offered support of the removal of the no-name street with a motion by Jim Breslauer, seconded by Charlie Gorss, "If there is a road on the Reed Land, the Conservation Commission supports its elimination." The motion was passed unanimously.

**Continuation of a Notice of Intent Hearing – Transformations, Inc., Stow Road (Map 36 Parcels 85 & 86.1), DEP#177-586, Harvard#1010.01.** Opened at 7:30pm

**Bromfield Science Fair**

Wendy Sisson offered to purchase two prizes and judge for the Commission on Feb. 4<sup>th</sup>. She will ask Deb Pierce to present for the Commission in the evening, unless Don finds he is able to attend.

**Approval of Minutes**

Don Ritchie made a motion to accept the minutes of January 16, 2011 as amended. Patrick Doherty seconded the motion. The vote was unanimously in favor of the motion.

### **Conservation Fund**

Charlie Gorss explained that the Community Preservation Committee voted not to fund the Conservation Commission this year since the Commission was planning to request funding from the Town budget. Don Ritchie made a motion to send the letter already drafted to the Selectmen requesting a warrant article for Town Meeting for \$100,000 for the Conservation Fund. Jim Breslauer seconded the motion. The vote was unanimously in favor of the motion.

### **Tree Cutting Policy**

A discussion of the policy revealed that some members felt that a Request of Determination of Applicability (RDA) may be overly burdensome for permitting the removal of one or two trees that pose a safety hazard. Jim Breslauer pointed out that the Harvard Wetlands Bylaw defines “alter” as excluding the removal of trees that are hazards to safety. Consequently, an RDA wouldn’t be necessary. Commissioners encourage Liz Allard to prepare a form to document instances when the Agent or Commissioners give permission to remove trees considered to be safety hazards. They also felt that the tree cutting policy should be posted on the Town Conservation Commission website rather than mailed out as a brochure. Mr. Breslauer offered to review the wording of the policy.

### **Open Space and Recreation Plan (OSRP) Implementation**

Patrick Doherty notified the members that assignments had been made to implement the goals of the OSRP. It was suggested that Liz Allard re-circulate the document requesting comments by email that Mr. Doherty can incorporate before the February 14<sup>th</sup> meeting when the Commission can sign off on the plan.

### **Massachusetts Congress of Lake and Pond Association, Inc. Annual Workshop**

Jaye Waldron would like to attend this workshop on January 29<sup>th</sup> and requests to be reimbursed for the \$25 attendance fee. Patrick Doherty made a motion to reimburse Jaye Waldron for the attendance fee to the above mentioned workshop. Jim Breslauer seconded the motion. The vote was unanimously in favor of the motion.

### **Adjournment**

Don Ritchie made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:50 pm. Charlie Gorss seconded the motion. The vote was unanimously in favor of the motion.

Respectfully submitted,

Wendy Sisson, Vice Chair

**Harvard Conservation Commission**  
**Continuation of a Notice of Intent Hearing Meeting Minutes**  
**Transformations, Inc., Stow Road, (Map 36 Parcels 85 & 86.1)**  
**DEP#177-586, Harvard#1010-01**  
**January 202011**

The public hearing was opened at 7:303pm by Vice Chair Wendy Sisson under the Massachusetts Wetland Protection Act, Ch. 131 §40 in the Town Hall Meeting Room.

**Members Present:** Wendy Sisson, Don Ritchie, Charlie Gorss, Jim Breslauer, Janet Waldron, and Patrick Doherty

**Others Present:** None

This hearing was continued from December 16, 2010 on a Notice of Intent filed on behalf of Transformations, Inc., for the construction of a roadway, 17 residential buildings, septic system and public water supply source within the 100' wetland buffer zone, to include the installation of a new culvert along an intermittent stream on Stow Road (Map 36 Parcels 85 & 86.1)

The applicant requested in writing that the hearing be continued to January 31, 2011 at 8:30pm. Jim Breslauer made a motion to continue the hearing until January 31, 2011 at 8:30pm. Patrick Doherty seconded the motion. The vote was unanimously in favor of the motion. It was noted that Jim Breslauer and Patrick Doherty will not be able to be present on the 31<sup>st</sup>.

Respectfully submitted,

Wendy Sisson, Vice Chair