

**HARVARD CONSERVATION COMMISSION  
MINUTES OF MEETING  
MARCH 3, 2011  
APPROVED: April 7, 2011**

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

**Members Present:** Wendy Sisson, Don Ritchie, Jim Breslauer, and Patrick Doherty

**Others Present:** Rich Nota and Steve Colwell (FinCom)

**Update of Discovery Meeting with FEMA & Communities within the Concord Watershed**

Rich Nota, Highway Director, briefed the Commission on a FEMA meeting he attended that discussed the risk factors in the Concord watershed, which includes Harvard. FEMA has given this area a very low priority due to the rural characteristics of the town (little development) and the small geographic area within the Concord watershed. Harvard is at the head of both the Nashua River and the Concord River watersheds. Mr. Nota gave the Commission a full sized map (obtained at the meeting) showing the flood risk areas within that watershed. Mr. Nota also gave the Commission information on contact persons should the Commission notice other areas that are flood prone.

**Discuss Conservation Fund Request with Finance Committee Liaison**

Steve Colwell was present to discuss the Conservation Commission's request for funds this year. Paul Willard expressed the opinion, via email through Liz Allard, that it might be good to withdraw the request this year given the fiscal realities and use some of the money the Commission has for specific projects. Once those projects have been completed the Commission may be in a better position to ask for funding for other projects in the future. A full discussion followed. Since the funding request was a citizen's petition, the Board of Selectmen approved the warrant article at their last meeting. A withdraw of the petition would need to be done on the floor of Town Meeting.

**Review and Discuss Tree Cutting Policy**

Liz Allard has developed the form for the emergency review of sites for tree removal as requested at the previous meeting. Jim Breslauer circulated his recommended changes to the policy as previously drafted. Members present agreed to discuss this subject matter at the next meeting.

**Discuss Land Gift on Bolton Road**

Members present briefly discussed the offer to donate a parcel of land on Bolton Road (Map 22B Parcel 22). The use of this land as municipal land was discussed as it connects to another piece of town owned land that has frontage on Mass Ave. Wendy Sisson will get in touch with Betsy Williams to discuss the matter further. Ms. Sisson will report back to the Commission at the next meeting.

### **Review & Discuss Planning Board Zoning Amendment – Floodplain Bylaw**

As requested at the last meeting, Liz Allard provided information on the different types of zones as indicated within the draft Floodplain Bylaw. The new Floodplain Maps were also made available this evening. Ms. Allard has not had an opportunity to compare the new maps to the old to confirm there have been no significant changes. Ms. Allard has recommend that a member or members of the Commission attend the Planning Board (PB) meeting on Monday, March 7<sup>th</sup>, at which time the PB will be discussing the amendment. Don Ritchie volunteered to attend the PB meeting on behalf of the Commission.

### **Approval of Minutes**

Jim Breslauer made a motion to approve the minutes of January 31 and February 14, 2011 as amended. Patrick Doherty seconded the motion. The vote was unanimously in favor of the motion.

### **Adjournment**

Don Ritchie made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:45pm. Patrick Doherty seconded the motion. The vote was unanimously in favor of the motion.

Respectfully submitted,

Liz Allard  
Land Use Administrator/  
Conservation Agent

### **\*\*\*PLEASE NOTE\*\*\***

A quorum was not available to continuation the hearings for Bare Hill Rowing Association, Bare Hill Pond, Harvard#0111-02 or Transformations, Inc., Stow Road (Map 36 Parcel 85 & 86.1), DEP#177-586, Harvard#1010-01.

New Legal Notices shall be placed in the local newspaper for the Continuance to take place on March 17, 2011 at 7:25pm and 7:45pm respectfully.

## **DOCUMENTS & OTHER EXHIBITS**

### **Update of Discovery Meeting with FEMA & Communities within the Concord Watershed**

- Concord Watershed Town of Harvard, MA Suggested Study Types Map, Source Date: MassGIS, FEMA, RSC
- Memo from Harvard Public Works Director Richard C. Nota, Concord Watershed Study, Concord Watershed Discovery Meeting, February 7, 2011
- Points of Contact
- Map Modernization & Risk MAP Timelines
- FEMA Flood Risk Products, December 2011
- FEMA Flood Insurance and Grandfathering Rule, November 2010
- FEMA What is Risk MAP?, December 2010