

**HARVARD CONSERVATION COMMISSION
MINUTES OF MEETING
FEBRUARY 2, 2012
APPROVED: February 7, 2013**

Chairman Paul Willard called the meeting to order at 7:00pm in the Town Hall Meeting Room

Members Present: Paul Willard, Charlie Gorss, Wendy Sisson and Patrick Doherty

Others Present: Liz Allard (LUB Admin), Chris Glew and Erik Johnson

Review Order of Conditions with New Owner – 106 Massachusetts Ave, DEP#177-597

Chris Glew was present to discuss the Order of Conditions issued to the Patendeau/Frank property at 106 Massachusetts Avenue for the installation of an upgraded septic system. Mr. Glew stated he has no intention of having horses on the property. The Commission explained that under the existing Wetland Protection Bylaw the turn out and housing of a horse is not allowed within 100' of a wetland. Mr. Glew is aware of the wetlands around his property and the current Order of Conditions. Mr. Glew asked about removing the DEP sign. Liz Allard explained that the area in which the septic system was installed is still not stable enough to remove the erosion controls and issue a Certificate of Compliance. Since the site is still active the DEP sign must remain. The Commission thanked Mr. Glew for attending the meeting.

Review & Discuss Eagle Scout Project – Ginny Thurston Trail by Erik Johnson

A site walk was conducted on January 12th with Eagle Scout Erik Johnson and Conservation Commission members Paul Willard and Don Ritchie. Mr. Johnson stated that the cost for the rental of the equipment will be \$3000. Wendy Sisson believes Park & Recreation should be paying for the work; the Commission is only regulating the work as it relates to the Wetland Protection Act. Ms. Sisson stated the area in which Mr. Johnson would like to install a trail on is a perennial wet area and is a bad place for a trail. The members agreed that a Request for Determination of Applicability should be filed for the activity. The Commission does not want stone dust used for the trail, fine stone or pea stone would be best for the area. Mr. Johnson will come to the office to obtain the proper forms for filing.

Science Fair

Wendy Sisson stated that she cannot judge the Bromfield Science Fair this year and suggested that if no one else wants to do this, the Commission discontinues judging and giving awards at the annual science fair. She noted that 4 or 5 other local environmental organizations give generous awards to a limited number of environmentally oriented projects. The members agreed to discontinue the Commission's participation. Ms. Sisson will inform the proper person of this decision.

Request for Determination of Applicability Hearing – Terrence Holt, 20 Warren Avenue, Harvard#0112-02. Opened at 7:35pm

Approve Allocation of Funds for Annual MACC Conference

This year's Massachusetts Association of Conservation Commissioners (MACC) annual conference is being held on March 3rd at the College of the Holy Cross in Worcester. Charlie Gorss and Jaye Waldron have submitted their registrations to attend, along with Liz Allard. This year's conference is \$110 per person. Ms. Allard will be using the \$100 education grant she received from the Harvard Garden Club to pay for all but \$10 of her registration fee.

Wendy Sisson made a motion to allocate the funds required for attendance at this years MACC conference. Patrick Doherty seconded the motion. The vote was unanimously in favor of the motion.

Bare Hill Pond Watershed Management Committee Update

Jaye Waldron was unable to attend this evening's meeting, but sent an overview of the recent Bare Hill Pond Watershed Management Committee meeting to Liz Allard. Ms. Allard shared the overview with the members. (See Attachment A)

Beavers & Baseball at the Ryan Playing Field

A recent string of emails has indicated that unauthorized individuals have been breaching the beaver dam at the rear of the Ryan Playing fields. Liz Allard has informed the individuals that they can no longer breach the dam without proper permits. Wendy Sisson would like to discuss the installation of a beaver deceiver at that location to resolve the issue. Paul Willard stated that due to the elevation at that location a deceiver would not work. The Commission would like to try and find a better and more lasting solution to the problem.

Adjournment

Patrick Doherty made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:28pm. Wendy Sisson seconded the motion. The vote was unanimously in favor of the motion.

Respectfully submitted,

Liz Allard
Land Use Administrator/
Conservation Agent

Harvard Conservation Commission
Request for Determination of Applicability Hearing Meeting Minutes
Terrence Holt, 20 Warren Avenue, Harvard#0112-02
February 2, 2012

Chairman Paul Willard opened the meeting under the Wetland Protection Act, M.G.L. Chapter 131, Section 40 and the Harvard Wetland Protection Bylaw, Chapter 119 of the Code of the Town of Harvard in the Town Hall Meeting Room at 7:35pm

Members Present: Paul Willard, Wendy Sisson, Charlie Gorss and Patrick Doherty

Others Present: Liz Allard (LUB Admin)

This hearing is for a Request of Determination of Applicability filed on behalf of Terrence Holt for the removal of trees that have created a threat to human safety within the 100' wetland buffer zone at 20 Warren Avenue, Harvard.

Liz Allard informed the members that there was an error in the notification to abutters. The hearing will need to be continued until proper notification can be completed. Wendy Sisson made a motion to continue the hearing to February 16, 2012 at 7:30pm. Charlie Gorss seconded the motion. The vote was unanimously in favor of the motion.

Respectfully submitted,

Liz Allard
Land Use Administrator/
Conservation Agent

ATTACHMENT A

January 23, 2012 Bare Hill Pond Watershed Committee Meeting

Phase 1 Dredging complete

- About 4500 cubic yards excavated; 3feet thick of muck.
- About 85% of swimming area dredged; found a hard clay underneath. The raft will now in about 13 to 14 feet of water.
- The containment worked well, draining water leaked into BMP-7, which captured the sediment as it is supposed to. Will clean it out in the spring.
- The muck will be removed from the storage area between March and the beginning of April

Budget:

- There is still \$170,000 in the budget for next year.
- There is money for 3 BMPs (including BMP-8)

Pond refill: February 1 for start of refill of pond.

- Still considering spot treatment with chemicals for areas that don't drain when the pond is lowered.

BMP-8: Beach area

- December had a meeting to discuss the BMP
- Discussed a plan for reconfiguring the parking area
- Rain garden by boat racks
- More racks further up the hill by BMP-7, back towards woods by upper parking lot
- Reconfigure the parking lot by the beach area for handicap access would include a few spots for handicap parking only and a drop off area for canoes/kayaks
- Place curbing along edges to prevent sediment from going into parking area
- The boat ramp will be made twice as wide and will be above the entrance area (sand) and be integrated into the parking area

Plan for BMP-8

- Draft plan January/February – to Con Comm. February 10 (?) for possible discussion at February 16th meeting
- March/April before town boards
- Bid in June
- Do work right after Labor Day
- Parking & boat ramp construction when next drawdown starts