

**HARVARD CONSERVATION COMMISSION
MINUTES OF MEETING
SEPTEMBER 19, 2013
APPROVED: NOVEMBER 7, 2013**

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

Members Present: Paul Willard, Jim Breslauer, Charlie Gorss, Don Ritchie, Wendy Sisson, Joanne Ward and Jaye Waldron

Others Present: Liz Allard (LUB Admin), Carter Scott (Transformations, Inc.), Drew Garvin (R. Wilson, Assoc.), Pamela Kimball (Transformation, Inc.), Ken Chaplin (Echo Knoll Const.) and Mark Shaw (Harvard Boy Scouts)

Request by Boy Scouts for Camping on the Clapp-Scorgie- Tufts Land

Mark Shaw requested an over night camping trip for this weekend on the Clapp-Scorgie-Tufts land for the Boy Scouts down near where the little house had been located. Wendy Sisson is concerned with allowing camping after the problem with unauthorized camping at Hosking's Point. Mark stated there would be twenty-one scouts with six to seven tents. Mr. Shaw stated they are planning to have a fire. Ms. Sisson's main concern with having fire is the potential for the roots of surrounding trees igniting an underground fire that could smolder undetected. Mr. Shaw stated he could refrain from relighting the fire on Sunday morning. Members agreed with that suggestion. Ms. Sisson asked if the camp site would be viewable from Bare Hill Pond. Mr. Shaw stated it may be possible. Mr. Shaw stated he is planning a no trace camping experience.

Don Ritchie made a motion to allow the Boy Scouts, lead by Mark Shaw, to camp over night on Saturday September 21, 2013, on the Clapp-Scorgie-Tufts land, with the condition that the camp fire will be extinguished Saturday evening and not re-started on Sunday morning. Wendy Sisson seconded the motion. The vote was unanimously in favor of motion.

Pre-Activity Meeting with Transformations, Inc., Stow Road DEP#177-586

Pam Kimball and Carter Scott, of Transformations, Inc., along with Drew Garvin, of R. Wilson, Associates, were present for the pre-activity meeting to review the Order of Conditions (OOC) as required by that Order. Mr. Scott introduced Ms. Kimball as the Project Manager for the development on Stow Road. Members asked if there have been any changes to the approved plan. Mr. Scott stated he will be reconfiguring one of the houses on Lot 1, Pine Bank, which will move it further away from the wetlands. In addition the septic systems have been simplified from the original plan, making those footprints a bit smaller. The revised septic systems are currently being reviewed by the Board of Health. Paul Willard stated if the changes are less intrusive to the resource areas then the Commission could consider it a de minimus change, whereas a more intrusive change could require the amending the OOC. When asked, Mr. Scott stated there will be no changes to the number of trees to be removed. Mr. Scott stated the site will be logged, then the road will be constructed, followed by the detention pond and finally the houses will be built. Liz Allard stated Condition #8 under Pre-activity Conditions conflicts with condition #17. Jim Breslauer made a motion to delete condition #8 from this section. Don Ritchie seconded the motion. The vote was unanimously in favor of the motion. The next step in the process is for the Commission to approve the construction sequence. Mr. Scott anticipates having that available for the Commission to review at the October 3rd meeting.

Notice of Intent Hearing – Sarah Porter, 55 Turner Lane, DEP#177-625, Harvard#0913-01.

Opened at 7:30pm

Approve Minutes

Don Ritchie made a motion to approve the minutes of August 15, 2013 as amended. Joanne Ward seconded the motion. The vote was unanimously in favor of the motion.

Issue Certificate of Compliance

Liz Allard stated there were no Certificates of Compliance for issuance at this time.

Approve Bills

Liz Allard stated the only bill for tonight is for the Massachusetts Association of Conservation Commissioners Fall Conference at Clark University on November 16th, which she would like to attend along with any other members who may be interested. Cost per attendee is \$95.00. Jim Breslauer made a motion to approve payment up to two members and one staff for the 2013 MACC Fall Conference. Don Ritchie seconded the motion. The vote was unanimously in favor of the motion.

Update on Enforcement – 95 Depot Road

Liz Allard had previously informed the Commission of an Enforcement Order that was issued last Thursday to Lauren Slater at 95 Depot Road for a number of activities within a wetland resource area and its associated buffer zone. The activity includes the installation of a riding ring, removal of trees and creation of trails with woodchips and pasture for horses.

Ms. Slater has hired Land Solutions to remediate the activities. Ms. Allard was onsite with Chris Boyden from Land Solutions on Monday to review the activities and determine what can be done to remediate the violations. Mr. Boyden has requested the ability to attend the October 3rd meeting of the Commission to discuss a plan of action informally prior to filing a Notice of Intent. The Commission stated the Bylaw is clear that there are to be no animals with 100' of a resource area, regardless of the type of activity the animal is involved in (i.e. a riding ring vs. a pasture). The Commission would want to review the wetland line prior to any discussions with the representative or the property owner.

Disc Golf at McCurdy Track

Liz Allard stated she had been in contact with Donnie Phillips whose nephew Ben L'Ecuyer is seeking to create a disc golf course behind McCurdy Track as his senior project. Ms. Allard had reviewed the site and had many reservations about using the area due to the extensive wetlands in the area in question and the needed removal of vegetation for the "baskets" along the course. The Commission agreed the area is unsuitable for such an activity.

Ms. Allard informed Mr. Phillips she would consult the State to determine if the activity is considered passive recreation as an allowable use on conservation land. The Commission was not in favor of using conservation land for such an activity. Ms. Allard will inform Mr. Phillips of the Commission's opinion.

Additional Storage at Bare Hill Pond

Liz Allard had been contacted by the chair of the Board of Selectmen, Marie Sobalvarro, who has been working to resolve the issue of boat storage at Bare Hill Pond. Suggestions made to Ms. Sobalvarro were sent to Ms. Allard for an opinion of the Commission. Members agreed that during the preliminary stages of permitting the stormwater management facilities the storage of boats was considered and agreed upon by all parties involved (Park & Rec, Bare Hill Pond Watershed Management Committee, and Bare Hill Rowing Association). There is a limited amount of space at the beach front to work with, and no real good solution for expanding it due to the proximity to Bare Hill Pond. The Commission will not entertain any suggestions without a plan, at a minimum a conceptual plan, for them to review.

Use of Outside Counsel

Jim Breslauer reported he had attended the September 10th meeting of the Board of Selectmen (BOS) to discuss the Commission use of outside counsel for conservation purposes. The BOS approved continued use of outside counsel with no additional permission or follow up on the matter required.

Master Plan Steering Committee

Jaye Waldron was unable to attend the last meeting of the Master Plan Steering Committee (MPSC). Ms. Waldron can report that the MPSC received only one proposal for Phase II of the Master Plan, which is a limited proposal from the original Request for Proposals. The next meeting of the MPSC is September 26, 2013

Adjournment

Jim Breslauer made a 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

**Harvard Conservation Commission
Notice of Intent Hearing Meeting Minutes
Sarah Porter, 55 Turner Lane, DEP#177-625, Harvard#0913-01
September 19, 2013**

The public hearing was opened at 7:30pm by Chairman Paul Willard under the Massachusetts Wetland Protection Act, Ch. 131 §40 and the Harvard Wetland Protection Bylaw, Chapter 119 of the Code of the Town of Harvard in the Town Hall Meeting Room

Members Present: Paul Willard, Jim Breslauer, Charlie Gorss, Don Ritchie, Wendy Sisson, Joanne Ward and Jaye Waldron

Others Present: Liz Allard (LUB Admin),

This hearing is for a Notice of Intent filed on behalf of Sarah Porter for the replacement of a sewage disposal system, overall driveway and yard area grading, along with the installation of stormwater control measures within the 200' wetland buffer zone of Bare Hill Pond at 55 Turner Lane, Harvard.

Liz Allard stated the applicant's representative, Dan Wolfe, of Ross Associates has requested a continuation of the hearing. Jim Breslauer made a motion to continue the hearing until October 3, 2013 at 7:30pm in the Town Hall Meeting Room. Wendy Sisson seconded the motion. The vote was unanimously in favor of the motion.

Respectfully submitted,

Liz Allard
Land Use Administrator/
Conservation Agent

DOCUMENTS & OTHER EXHIBITS

Pre-Activity Meeting with Transformations, Inc., Stow Road DEP#177-586

- ❖ Pine Hill 40B, Special Conditions, DEP#177-586, Harvard #1010-02, undated