

**HARVARD CONSERVATION COMMISSION  
MINUTES OF MEETING  
NOVEMBER 21, 2013  
APPROVED: January 16, 2014**

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

**Members Present:** Paul Willard, Jim Breslauer, Don Ritchie, Charlie Gorss, Wendy Sisson, Jaye Waldron, Joanne Ward and Jim Saalfield (Associate Member)

**Others Present:** Liz Allard (LUB Admin), Thomas Young, Tony Shaw, Chris Squire, Sydney Blackwell (Harvard Press), Sally & Rob Carrona and Bruce Ringwall (GPR, Inc.)

**Annual Update from the Harvard Snowmobile Club**

Tony Shaw, president of the Harvard Snowmobile Club, was present for the club's annual update to the Conservation Commission. Mr. Shaw stated the club has been clearing trails; they have not seen much in the way of downed limbs and trees this year. Directional signage will be installed the first week of December. The club has fewer than 100 paid members for this season, of which 40% are Harvard residents. The club will be using the top of Dean's Hill for cookouts during the snowmobile season again this year. Wendy Sisson asked about fires used during these events. Mr. Shaw explained they are the types that do not leave any evidence. Ms. Sisson asked because typically the Commission does not allow fires on Conservation Land, however due to the time of year they do allow the snowmobile club to have a fire at the top of Dean's Hill.

Members thanked Mr. Shaw for attending this evening and reminded him he is to include the Conservation Agent on the emails sent to the members of the club on trail condition updates throughout the snowmobile season.

**Forestry Cutting Plan – Shaw, Littleton Road**

Liz Allard had previously distributed the Forestry Cutting Plan for Tony Shaw at his family's property on Littleton Road. The members had many concerns of an area being clear cut to help dry out a resource area for agricultural use. Paul Willard suggested members review the Commonwealth's guideline on farming in wetland resource areas. Jaye Waldron asked about the letter from Natural Heritage Endangered Species Program in regards to estimated habitat. Mr. Shaw stated there is a turtle that is a concern, but the land will not be harvested in the summer season.

As this item is just for informational purposes only, the Commission thanked Mr. Shaw for attending this evening to discuss the plan with them.

**Request for Determination of Applicability Hearing – Sally Carrona, 267 Stow Road, Harvard#1113-01.** Opened at 7:30pm

Jin Saalfield arrived at the meeting at 7:50pm

**Notice of Intent Hearing - Chris Squire, 12 Oak Hill Road, DEP#177-626, Harvard#1113-02.** Opened at 7:52pm

**New Certified Vernal Pool**

Liz Allard explained to the members that the Commission received notification from Natural Heritage Endangered Species Program that two previously certified vernal pools have been re-mapped with newer technology.

**Discuss Solutions to Drainage Problems at Williams Pond**

Wendy Sisson stated she and Jim Breslauer took a look at the outlet pipes at the Williams Pond on the corner of Stow Road and Murray Lane. It is evident that the culverts are not functioning

properly as water is not getting out of the pond as it previously has due to beaver activity, thereby starving the downstream wetland of water. Ms. Sisson suggested the Commission look into different beaver solutions. Members agreed to further investigate solutions through the Mass Association of Conservation Commissioners and the Division of Fish & Wildlife.

#### **Discuss Available uses with Potential Buyer – 9 Depot Road**

Thomas Young was present to discuss with the members the potential uses of the property at 9 Depot Road that is currently for sale. The property had previously been used as a horse farm and contains an extensive amount of wetlands. Mr. Young has several inquires for the Commission which included the growing of mushrooms in the wetland area, and the raising of live stock such as chickens, goats and cows. The setbacks set forth in the Wetland Protection Bylaw Regulations were discussed. Paul Willard stated he would review the site with Mr. Young to determine the setbacks for the uses he is seeking for this property.

#### **Community Preservation Committee (CPC) Meeting – December 18<sup>th</sup>**

Liz Allard stated a representative of the Commission has been requested to attend the December 18<sup>th</sup> meeting of the CPC to review the application from the Commission. Wendy Sisson volunteered to represent the Commission at the meeting. Liz Allard will provide Ms. Sisson with the appropriate information prior to the meeting on December 18<sup>th</sup>.

#### **Approve & Sign Dean's Hill Conservation Restriction**

Liz Allard stated revisions have been made to the Dean's Hill Conservation Restriction and have been approved by the State for final signature from the Commission, the Board of Selectmen and the Harvard Conservation Trust. With no questions or comments, Wendy Sisson made a motion to approve the Conservation Restriction for Dean's Hill as revised. Joanne Ward seconded the motion. The vote was unanimously in favor of the motion.

#### **Schedule Site Walk for Land for Sale on Willard Lane**

Members scheduled a site walk for the Willard Land on Willard Lane for Sunday December 1<sup>st</sup> at 11:00am.

#### **Adjournment**

Don Ritchie made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:37pm. Jim Breslauer 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**  
**Sally Carrona, 267 Stow Road, Harvard#1113-01**  
**November 21, 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, Don Ritchie, Charlie Gorss, Wendy Sisson, Jaye Waldron, Joanne Ward and Jim Saalfeld (Associate Member)

**Others Present:** Liz Allard (LUB Admin), Sally & Rob Carrona

This hearing is for a Request for Determination of Applicability filed on behalf of Sally Carrona for the determination whether or not an area is subject to jurisdiction of the Wetland Protection Act and/or the Harvard Wetland Protection Bylaw at 267 Stow Road, Harvard.

Liz Allard explained the existing site and the previous 1997 septic plan; the 1997 plan shows a delineated wetland that traversed the backyard area, it is Ms. Allard's belief that the work needed to install the septic system included crossing the delineated wetland. Once work was completed the contractor most likely loamed and seeded the crossing which eventually became lawn area. The site contains a drainage swale that conveys water from up gradient locations during the spring runoff. It was difficult for both Ms. Allard and Wendy Sisson to determine the current extent of the wetlands due to the heavy disturbance of the site.

THE Carrona's explained they would like to place a structure on the property for a pony and rabbits. It was explained to them that this site may not be suitable for such a use due to the wetlands on the property. The best way to determine the allowable use is to hire a professional to determine the wetland delineation. The Carrona's also explained the improvements they would like to make to the existing drainage swale. Ms. Sisson stated the concern with those changes would be the potential for changing the hydrology, which could result in more water coming off the property.

Members of the Commission stated they would like to review the site prior to making any decisions on the Request. The Carrona's agreed to extend the hearing beyond the twenty-one day requirement to allow for review of the site by the members. Don Ritchie made a motion to continue the hearing until December 19, 2013 at 7:30pm. Joanne Ward seconded the motion.

Respectfully submitted,

Liz Allard  
Land Use Administrator/  
Conservation Agent

**Harvard Conservation Commission  
Notice of Intent Hearing Meeting Minutes  
Chris Squire, 12 Oak Hill Road, DEP#177-626, Harvard#1113-02  
November 21, 2013**

The public hearing was opened at 7:52pm 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, Don Ritchie, Charlie Gorss, Wendy Sisson, Jaye Waldron, Joanne Ward and Jim Saalfeld (Associate Member)

**Others Present:** Liz Allard (LUB Admin), Chris Squire and Bruce Ringwall (GPR, Inc.)

This hearing is for a Notice of Intent filed on behalf of Chris Squire for work associated with connecting to the public sewer, which will include abandoning the existing septic tank, modifying the existing dosing chamber and installing a force main within the 100' wetland buffer zone at 12 Oak Hill Road, Harvard.

Bruce Ringwall, of GPR, Inc., was present to represent the applicant, Chris Squire, who was also present. Mr. Ringwall stated the application is associated with the connection to Town sewer. A site walk was conducted on November 18<sup>th</sup> with a representative from GPR, Inc., members of the Commission and the Conservation Agent. With limited space between the resource area and the existing structure members agreed the connections to the sewer have been designed in the best practical manner possible.

Wendy Sisson made a motion to close the hearing and issue an Order of Conditions with the standard special conditions. Jim Breslauer seconded the motion. The vote was unanimously in favor of the motion.

Respectfully submitted,

Liz Allard  
Land Use Administrator/  
Conservation Agent

## DOCUMENTS & OTHER EXHIBITS

### **Approve & Sign Dean's Hill Conservation Restriction**

- Dean's Hill Conservation Restriction, undated

### **Request for Determination of Applicability Hearing – Sally Carrona, 267 Stow Road, Harvard#1113-01**

- Sewage Disposal System Plan, for Lot 4 Street #267 Stow Road, Assessor's Map 36, Parcel 73, Town: Harvard, MA, Designed for Kenneth Nist, prepared David E. Ross Associates, Inc., Job No. 9866, Plan L-4399, final revision date 2-18-98

### **Notice of Intent Hearing - Chris Squire, 12 Oak Hill Road, DEP#177-626, Harvard#1113-02**

- Notice of Intent, Sewer Connection Plan, 12 Oak Hill Road, Owner: Chris Squire, 12 Oak Hill Road, Harvard, MA 01451, prepared by GPR, Inc., JOB 131056, dated November 2013