

**HARVARD CONSERVATION COMMISSION  
MINUTES OF MEETING  
MARCH 6, 2014  
APPROVED: April 23, 2014**

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, Jaye Waldron, Joanne Ward and Jim Saalfield (associate member)

**Others Present:** Liz Allard (LUB Admin), Sharon McCarthy, Roseanne Saalfield, Sydney Blackwell (Harvard Press) and Lorin Johnson

**Board of Health Report on Warrant Article 39 Central Mass Mosquito Control Program**

Lorin Johnson was before the Commission to explain his point of view on the proposed mosquito control program on the warrant for the upcoming annual town meeting. Mr. Johnson stated he has watch eastern equine encephalitis (EEE) move across the State over the past five years. As the threat to EEE became more obvious, and reports of its existence came closer to Harvard, the Board of Health (BOH) decided it was something they should keep an eye on. With that in mind, they started to gather information on ways of reducing the threats, such as joining the Central Mass Mosquito Control Project (CMMCP). Mr. Johnson noted the idea that the BOH wants to spray Harvard is far from the truth and is not what this program entails. The program includes the monitoring of sites to determine the types, the numbers and the diseases of the mosquitoes. If it becomes apparent from the results of the monitoring then CMMCP will determine what the appropriate steps should be, such as spraying. Mr. Johnson added the weather conditions have to be right for spraying to take place. CMMCP will also evaluate an area for spraying upon the request of a resident. Mr. Johnson wanted to make it very clear that this is not a spraying program.

Paul Willard stated the program previously brought before town meeting seemed like an all or nothing spraying program, but this proposals sounds different. Mr. Johnson further clarified that spraying would only take place after a resident made a request and the area was determined to be in need of mosquito control. Spraying will target the mosquitoes by spraying at night from dusk to 11:00pm.

Wendy Sisson stated she had concerns about CMMCP deciding when to do preventative measures without any input from the town.

**Approve Invoices**

Liz Allard stated the following invoices have been received and needs to be approved for payment to be included on the next bill warrant:

- ❖ Attorney Lanza \$708.40 (Dean's Hill CR)
- ❖ Brackett & Lucus \$899.00 (Willard Land)

Wendy Sisson made a motion to approve the above mentioned invoices for payment. Charlie Gorss seconded the motion. The vote was unanimously in favor of the motion.

**Approve Minutes**

Jaye Waldron made a motion to approve the minutes of January 16, 2014 as amended. Joanne Ward seconded the motion. The vote was unanimously in favor of the motion.

**Certificate of Compliance – Sennott, 53 Bolton Road, DEP#177-490**

Liz Allard explained to the members the Sennott's at 53 Bolton Road have missed placed their Certificate of Compliance (COC) issued to them last year and have requested a new COC. Joanne Ward made a motion to issue a COC for 53 Bolton Road, DEP#177-490. Jaye Waldron seconded the motion. The vote was unanimously in favor of the motion.

**Request for Determination of Applicability Hearing – Roseanne Saalfield, 15  
Woodchuck Hill Road, Harvard#0214-01. Opened at 7:34pm**

**Discuss Joining Central Mass Mosquito Control Program with Sharron McCarthy**

Sharon McCarthy was present to discuss her concerns with the Town joining the Central Mass Mosquito Control Project (CMMCP). Ms. McCarthy wants to protect the town's resources and money; joining CMMCP would cost the town \$165,000 over the course of three years. Wendy Sisson stated for the Commission's purposes the money is not our issue. At the request of Ms. McCarthy, Liz Allard had previously distributed a handout to the Commissioners titled "11 Reasons Harvard should not join the Central Massachusetts Mosquito Control Program". Members reviewed this document with Ms. McCarthy.

Paul Willard asked what other towns in the area are a part of CMMCP. Ms. McCarthy was not certain, but believed Lancaster is a part of the project. Ms. Allard noted mosquito control is exempt under the Wetland Protection Act, but would they be exempt from the Harvard Wetland Protection Bylaw.

Wendy Sisson made a motion that the Commission does not support the joining of the Central Mass Mosquito Control Program. Joanne Ward seconded the motion. The vote was 4-0-1, with Paul Willard abstaining.

**MACC Annual Conference Follow-up**

Liz Allard stated Joanne Ward, Jaye Waldron, Charlie Gorss and herself attend this past weekend the Massachusetts of Association of Conservation Commissioners Annual Environmental Conference. MACC will be posting the handouts and power point presentations shortly. Ms. Allard stated one of the workshops she attended was in regards to the revisions to the wetland regulations. Ms. Allard distributed the handout she received at the conference that details the proposed changes. Once other workshop material is available, members are encouraged to share what they learned with the Commission at upcoming meetings.

**Master Plan Steering Committee Update**

Jaye Waldron stated the Master Plan Steering Committee has conducted three of the four round table discussions for this week, the forth to be held on Saturday. Ms. Waldron has been able to attend two of the three; one being on Conservation. Ms. Waldron stated that it is become more apparent that residents do not really understand the benefits of wetlands. Community education and outreach, such as a town wide mailer, as suggested a few years ago by Wendy Sisson, was discussed. Ms. Waldron stated the topics of the round table discussions will result in working papers which will be incorporated into a town wide survey.

Paul Willard and Jim Saalfield left the meeting at 8:48pm

**Executive Session**

Charlie Gorss made a motion that the Conservation Commission go into executive session pursuant to Massachusetts General Law Chapter 30A, Section 21(a)(6) to consider the purchase, exchange, lease or value of real property in which a public discussion of these matters will have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the Commission, only to adjourn the meeting once the discussion is complete. Jaye Waldron seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken; Wendy Sisson, aye; Charlie Gorss, aye; Jaye Waldron, aye; Joanne Ward, aye.

**Adjournment**

Wendy Sisson made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:19pm. Joanne Ward 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**  
**Roseanne Saalfeld, 15 Woodchuck Hill Road, Harvard#0214-01**  
**March 6, 2014**

The public hearing was opened at 7:34pm 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, Wendy Sisson, Charlie Gorss, Jaye Waldron, Joanne Ward and Jim Saalfeld (Associate Member)

**Others Present:** Liz Allard (LUB Admin)

This hearing is for a Request for Determination of Applicability filed on behalf of Roseanne Saalfeld for the removal of invasive plant species, fallen timber, pruning of existing timber and repairs to a man-made pond within 200' of an existing pond at 15 Woodchuck Hill Road, Harvard

Due to weather conditions, the Commission was unable to schedule a site walk for this application. The applicant agreed to a continuance. Wendy Sisson made a motion to continue the hearing to April 3, 2014 at 7:30pm in the Town Hall meeting room. Jaye Waldron seconded the motion. The vote was unanimously in favor of the motion.

Respectfully submitted,

Liz Allard  
Land Use Administrator/  
Conservation Agent

## **DOCUMENTS & OTHER EXHIBITS**

### **Discuss Joining Central Mass Mosquito Control Program with Sharron McCarthy**

- ❖ 11 Reasons Harvard should not join the Central Massachusetts Mosquito Control Program, submitted by Sharon M. McCarthy, Ph.D., 90 East Bare Hill Rd., March 6, 2014