

Meeting Minutes

To: Members of Upton Conservation Commission
cc: Upton Town Clerk
From: Denise Smith, Administrative Assistant
Re: Meeting Minutes -- **Wednesday 10/26/11**

Members Attending:

Chris Scott, Mike Penko, Marcella Stasa, Tom Jango, and Alan Miano

Meeting Timeline:

7:40PM Agent's report Matt "Selby" Selby

- Reviewed site visits and activities submitted in report dated 10/13/11 – 10/26/11 (attached).

8:00PM RDA 38 Florence Cir John O'Sullivan

- Addition is within existing lawn;
- Hearing closed; Negative determination will be issued.

8:05PM Southboro Rd – beaver/water issues Blythe Robinson

- Water level needs to be lowered for culvert/pipe work. Looking at lowering another 1 foot (possibly 2).
- Water is bubbling through (under) Southboro Rd which indicates a problem; possibility that there is an old stone culvert at this location.
- Clear up of the dam on the left side of the road to get water flowing in a slower manner in order to reduce the water level. Doing it too quickly will affect the dragonfly habitat.
- MP suggested using sandbags to make coffer dams around the work area.
- Water level is dropping and possibly will drop another 6' or foot.
- Natural Heritage will protect the dragonfly habitat and will be reluctant to let water level drop too much.
- BR is looking at the public safety concern especially if road is compromised. Looking to get this work done this fall.
- MP suggestion of the coffer dam is a feasible solution and would be cheaper than any fines that Natural Heritage may impose if the habitat is impacted.
- Some suggestions: lower the smaller bog (north side dam A) to see if will help lower water level; add some additional pipes; and notch the dam.
- Per Ellen Arnold: Worcester County Courthouse has records for Westboro/Southboro Rd improvements done in the 1930s may include info on culverts (such as location).
- B.Robinson or DPW will contact Tim Davidson about doing some additional work on the north side.
- Draft letter to State DCR re: Southboro Rd and CCC Way beaver situation; trying to get some assistance on this and adding info on the maintenance issues.

8:50PM General

Meeting Minutes

- Motion to approve minutes from 8/24/11 & 10/12/11 – 2nd & approved.

Stream Teams

- Discussion with Lara Wahl of 9 Mechanic St about interest in surveying streams; in particular on her property she has a "long, rusty rail" in the Warren Brook behind her home. MS & TJ will make a site visit on 10/27 to take a look.
- Interest in surveying Warren Brook and possibly Center Brook; West River and part of Miscoe Brook had a Stream Team monitor done a few years back.
- Possibly do this as HS science project or Boy Scout/Eagle Scout project?
- Riverways training could be provided?

Website

- AM continuing clean up and update of website; adding links; creating a section for Topics of Interest and Useful Links.

Forest Management Policy – MP working on a draft.

Land Stewardship Committee

- \$12,000 Estimate from Tim Davidson for the parking lot/drainage work greatly exceeds what we budgeted. Drainage work is much more involved.
- Looking to get parking lot done before winter. Temporary measures may need to be done such as mulch.
- Will see about scaling back on the area.

Finances

- Current vouchers signed.
- Article for upcoming STM (11/15/11) to move the \$2000 (that was allocated at ATM) from the expense account to the Conservation Fund.

Lake Wildwood Dock

- Dock is located at 5A Wildwood Ave; looks like expansion was done last year.
- A complaint was made thus Con Com needs to follow-up; contact owner and have them file an NOI.
- An Enforcement Order may need to be issued if no response to this request; CS will draft a letter.

10:00PM Pending Concerns/Active/Denise's items

- 142 North St – upcoming court date; DS will look into status.

Approvals/sign-offs

- Motion to extend OOC for Maple Ave Landfill Site for 3 years (Nov. 6, 2014) – 2nd; Approved.
- Motion to issue determinations for 1 Juniper Rd and 10 Glen Ave – 2nd; Approved.
- Motion to issue & sign determination for 38 Florence Cir – 2nd; Approved.

10:20PM Meeting Adjourned

Minutes approved on _____

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