

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Town of Upton



Massachusetts

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1 Main St, Box 9
UPTON, MASSACHUSETTS 01568

Meeting Minutes – Wednesday 11/13/2013

To: Members of Upton Conservation Commission
CC: Kelly McElreath, Town Clerk
From: Denise Smith, Administrative Assistant

Members Attending:

Chris Scott, Mike Penko, Sandy Lajoie, Marcella Stasa, Alan Miano, Tom Jango, and Scott Heim
Mary Overholt (Associate Member)

7:35 PM Amended NOI - Rockwood Meadows (con't from 10/23/13) M. Allen

- Discussion of the Easement Deed and Master Deed.
- Protect recreational interest.
- Should allow for removal of invasive species.
- Discussion of who should hold the Conservation Restriction. Mike Penko recused himself from the discussion. Motion was made to have the Conservation Commission hold the CR – 2nd – 6 yes/1 abstention.
- Selby gave comments from his Agent's Report; need to change any reference of hay bales to erosion controls which the Commission will specify in the Conditions (OOC).
- Hearing closed; Amended OOC will be issued – applicant agreed to extend the issue date to 12/12/13 due to meeting schedule.
- CR discussion – add invasive species management (phragmites).
- Need to look at the State's model for the CR (2008 version).
- Easement Deed – allow access for Town vehicles for emergencies & future trail work/maintenance; also discussion of handicap accessibility.
- MP will review the Easement Deed and provide a draft for next meeting.

8:00 PM NOI - 4 Farrar Rd R. Poxon G&H

- New single family house w/ garage under.
- All work outside the 30-foot no disturbance zone.
- 5 bounds to be installed at wetland flags 118, 115, 112, 107 & 102; new plans showing location will be submitted.
- Driveway location has been moved due to the location of the catch basin; new location should be ok.
- Lots of ledge on this property but only minimal blasting (if any) is needed.
- No real grading to be done on this site but will haul away any materials.
- Hearing closed; OOC will be issued – applicant agreed to extend the issue date to 12/12/13 due to meeting schedule. New plans will be submitted.

8:15 PM Bernat Pond on Chestnut St A. Bernat

- Pond is being over grown with lily pads and is filling in areas of the pond; owners want to drain the pond about 10-12 inches by using industrial pumps.
- No beaver activity at this time.
- Commission states that it is too late in the year to drain down the pond; don't want to impact creatures that are already hibernating for the winter. Could be done next year.
- Suggestions that they try using an herbicide or a rake to manually remove lily pads.
- Next year the owners will be looking to do some repairs to the existing dam thus will need to file an NOI and could include other work such as draining at that time.

8:25 PM Agent's Report (10/24/13 – 11/13/13)

8:50 PM General/Office

Finances - Current expense vouchers & payroll signed.

Meeting Minutes – motion to accept minutes from 10/23/13 – 2nd & approved.

Website – general clean-up of items; will be posting Stormwater Docs.

OSC – Awarded a \$700 grant from the Cultural Council which will be used to sponsor a talk by Robert Thorson (a stonewall expert) next spring (April 2014). Bill Taylor met with Upton Community Preservation committee about purchase of the Thompson property on Westboro Rd. The CPC had little/no interest in pursuing an acquisition.

LSC – Received a recreational trails grant for signage and kiosks. MS will be submitting photos of work areas to Mass. Historical as a condition of the grant; trail has been cut from Green Ln to Goss Pond.

E-permitting – will contact Blythe to add MP & CS as users of the system.

Motions to sign:

- RDA (negative determination) for 71 Crockett Rd – 2nd & approved.
- COC for 52 Old Grafton Rd – 2nd & approved.

9:15 PM Action Items

- Send email to the DPW (thru Blythe) of wish list of items Con Com would like to have done: dump some trap rock at northern berm at Southboro Rd, this will act as a spillway; snow removal at Stefans & SWF parking areas; remove tree(s) hanging over Southboro Rd.
- Cook property (252 Milford St) – will draft letter of site visit held 11/9/13.
- Forestry Interns – still no response from UMASS; TJ will continue trying to contact even if for next year.
- Beavers – no fresh signs of activity at Mechanic/Fowler St.
- Southboro Rd – no update from the DCR for proposed work.

9:25 PM Meeting Adjourned

Minutes approved on: _____

