

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Town of Upton



Massachusetts

508-529-6286
concomm@uptonma.gov

1 Main St, Box 9
UPTON, MASSACHUSETTS 01568

Meeting Minutes – Wednesday 1/14/2015

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

Members Attending:

Chris Scott, Mike Penko, Marcella Stasa, Tom Jango, Alan Miano and Scott Heim
Mary Overholt (Associate); Selby (Agent)

7:05 PM 3 Milford St RDA

L. Maloney

- Converting former church into 3 residential condo units; Site Plan in progress with the Planning Board.
- Majority of the renovation is to the interior of the building.
- Exterior work includes a 16' wide door for the underground garage area and 2 decks off the back of the building which will need footings; not extending the footprint of the building but will need to do some work to the driveway.
- Erosion controls will need to be installed all the way around the rear of the building and driveway side; need to keep all excavated materials on this property and out of the stream.
- Silt fence should be sufficient.
- Con Com will contact the Town Manager to discuss putting silt fencing on the Town's property too; this will provide further protection from materials getting into the stream.
- Question: Does riverfront come into play in issuing a Neg. #3 determination? Yes would need to issue a Neg. #2.
- Modifying the driveway & grade but not increasing the amount of impervious surface.
- Hearing closed.

7:30 PM Agent's Report

- Per submitted report dated 12/10/14 – 1/14/15.

7:50 PM Lake Maspenock Aquatic Weed project

D. Gibbs/M. Reilly

- Proposed management of 149 acres for large leaf pond weed.
- Have had success with using draw-downs to manage milfoil and fanwort.
- Options: draw-down; hydro-raking or harvesting (not recommended for large leaf as it breaks up the weed which causes re-seeding/populating); herbicides; and the do-nothing approach.
- The Lake Maspenock Preservation Association is working with Aquatic Control Technology.
- Estimating the entire project will cost \$56,212.
- NOI will be filed but they would like to see if Upton Con Com would defer permitting to the Hopkinton Con Com; MP spoke w/ the DEP (Judy Schmidt) and confirmed that if there is minimum surface water in a town then there is no need to file with that town. The town line is the shoreline for Lake Maspenock thus there is little or no surface water in Upton.

- Con Com did request that we be provided a copy of the NOI/OOC and be kept in the loop with this project.
- Long-term plan is for annual management with the intent that after doing initial aggressive removal the amount will be less each year.
- Selby drafted letter supporting the project; motion to approve and send letter – 2nd and approved.

8:35 PM Beavers

- Southboro Rd – need to request a trapping permit and make sure that ALL beavers are trapped then remove the dams.
- Need to write a scope of work for the removal of the dams and send out to bid.
- Removal of the dam and lodge upstream of the berm is necessary to reduce likelihood that beaver will rebuild at that location.
- Motion was made to issue an emergency order for trapping – 2nd; approved (4 yes/2 no).
- Mike will contact Natural Heritage and Chris will contact the BOH, Town Mgr., DCR and the DEP. An NOI will be required.
- Resident at 93 Elm St has been issued a trapping permit from the BOH; also needs to breach several dams; we need a written request w/ details. Denise will contact resident; Selby will review on Friday.

9:00 PM General Items

Meeting Minutes – motion to accept and sign minutes from 12/10/14 – 2nd and approved.

Website – Motion to approve the revision to the Upton Fee Schedule – 2nd and approved; will update the website.

LSC – Walked the Conservation Commission property that runs behind Hartford Ave N (between Main St and Warren St); found some items that were built (probably by kids) that need to be removed as could be liability issue.

OSC – Will be meeting with the BOS to discuss the possibility of the Town taking possession of parcels off North St that were offered as a donation. Parcels consist of approximately 26 acres that are land-locked.

Finances - payroll signed; motion to sign expense voucher – 2nd and approved.

Misc Items –

- Performance reviews: Denise & Selby completed.
- Annual Report – done.
- Open Meeting Law workshop at town hall on Jan. 26th at 3 pm and 6 pm if anyone is interested.

Motions – Issue a Negative #2 for 3 Milford St - 2nd and approved.

Rockwood Meadows – Hopkinton Area Land Trust (HALT) will hold the CR; possibly may have to have 2 CRs as land is in 2 towns and 2 counties; issue of who will plow the parking area (which is in Hopkinton) developer not responsible nor the homeowner’s association.

Whitney Conservation Area – Whitney Parking Area – also plowing concerns; Town (DPW) will not plow and Mr. Potheau would plow but concerned with granite markers and where to put the snow. Also discussed signage and kiosk with the Potheau’s. MP would like to be able to order the sign in February so it can be installed as soon as possible this spring.

FY16 Budget – Chris presented a draft; suggestion to increase the amount for Conservation Land Maintenance to \$5000 (from \$3500) to be able to cover snow plowing.

9:35 PM Motion to Adjourn – 2nd & Approved

Minutes approved on: _____
