



TOWN OF UPTON, MASSACHUSETTS

Conservation Commission

Meeting Minutes – Wednesday 8/26/2015

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

Members Attending:

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

7:00 PM Beavers @ Southboro Rd

- No word yet from DCR & Natural Heritage about removing the dam and if there is somewhere at USF to dump the material; Hold off until we hear from DCR then Tom will let Greg Trussell know when he can start.
- Motion to issue a letter for the file to authorize the work (dam removal) – 2nd & approved.
- Bridge Trail pond leveler has been installed;

7:05 PM General Business/Active Items

Meeting Minutes – motion to approve minutes from 7/22/15 and 8/12/15 – 2nd & approved.

OSC – discussion regarding several properties that have been offered to the Town (Meadow Dr, Crockett Rd, Henderson Property).

LSC – Mass Audubon will be coming in September; accepted the proposal from Stumpy’s to remove the tree at the SWF trail – cost is \$870 (w/ prevailing wage) the wood will go to the neighbor.

Admin/Finances – motion to sign expense voucher for MACC dues (\$530) – 2nd & approved; motion to order 200 WPA guides from MACC at cost of \$30 – 2nd & approved.

7:10 PM NOI – DPW (continued hearing)

V. Roy

- DEP number issued; Motion to close hearing – 2nd & approved.
- OOC will be issued.
- DPW will submit and “Activity Notification” to the Con Com for any projects prior to starting.
- Another matter: Vinny contacted the DCR about trees on a property on Hickory Ln as the homeowners are concerned about the Emerald Ash Borer infesting some trees; he visited the property and did see signs of activity

7:20 PM Agent’s Report

- Per submitted report dated 8/13/15 – 8/26/15.
- Afonso looking for building permits for lots on West River St; we will ask them to blaze the iron rods marking the boundaries of the Conservation Restriction so that Selby can review. Denise will contact G&H about this.

7:30 PM RDA - 57 Taft St

H & M Merrill

- Looking to build an addition to the existing house; already disturbance w/in the buffer zone; will not be disturbing any non-disturbed area

- A stonewall serves as a natural buffer.
- Addition is 55 feet from closest wetland; and is extending 18 feet off the house; the existing screen porch is being removed.
- Layer of stone was put down to address surface water erosion; a drain runs under the stone.
- Erosion controls will be needed on the neighbor's property and they (neighbors) are ok w/ that.
- Hearing closed.
- Selby recommends issuing a Neg. #3.
- Motion to issue a Neg # 3 for this project at 57 Taft St – 2nd & approved.

7:40 PM General Business/Active Items (continued)

Rockwood Meadows – CR/Easement docs not yet recorded.

Whitney Conservation Area – nothing new; it was noted that a camper is probably several feet within the easement.

Library Feasibility – minutes mention swapping a 20+ acre parcel of land on Main St – where is this parcel? Is it the Warren parcel which has already been given to the Con Com? If the land is Art. 97 protected then we should check w/ Town Counsel.

7:50 PM NOI – 45 Crockett Rd

S & S Colwell

- Replacing the home that was destroyed by a fire this past spring; building a smaller home on roughly the same footprint and will be further from the pond.
- The existing well and septic will be used.
- Erosion controls – will use mulch sock.
- Demolishing the existing house and removing the foundation; materials will be taken off site.
- Hearing closed.
- Motion to issue the OOC for 45 Crockett Rd – 2nd & approved.

8:00 PM General Business/Active Items (continued)

Hazmat Spill on Mendon St – Chris has contacted the DEP and Clean Harbors; also the Upton PD for a copy of the accident report to determine who is responsible for the spill. Do we issue an Emergency Form which is good for 60 days? Should we have the party file an NOI to ensure that the site is cleaned properly and restored? Who does the restoration? Motion to authorize Chris Scott to contact the DEP – 2nd and approved.

Motions -

- Sign a COC for 147 North St – 2nd & Approved.
- Sign the OOC for DPW Blanket NOI – 2nd & Approved.

Moth Survey – Tom Dodd has found a couple new species.

Forestry – discussion of DCR Lands Group Certification and Agreement (documents); there are benefits that are appealing; can we find out what Towns have signed on for this? Does this expand the market for our products and does it allow us access to certain markets? How does this apply to municipalities?

Marcella will see if she can get further info for our next meeting.

Property/parcels – Metacomet Land Trust voted to accept the Collier property (off North St near Mass Pike); Land trust does not mean that it is protected forever; suggest putting a CR on it. Metacomet is ok with this if the Upton Con Com will hold the CR; motion for Con Com to hold a CR on the Collier Property – 2nd & approved (1 abstention). CR will also need to be signed by the BOS; will prepare a draft and approach the BOS. Even if the Con Com doesn't hold the CR the BOS/Town will still has to sign-off on it as the land is in Upton.

STM – set for 11/17/15 – warrant closes 9/25/15; possible items: Ryan Property (Meadow Dr); Conservation Fund - \$5000 (put off from the ATM); Additional funding for an agent?

Merriam Way CRs – were recorded; would like to have Selby walk them. Will create a list of all CRs – electronic database and hardcopies in file.

8:45 PM Motion to Adjourn – 2nd & Approved

Minutes approved on: _____

| | |
|-------|-------|
| _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ |

Document List – 8/26/15

- 1) Con Com Agenda & Action Checklist
- 2) Agent’s report 8/13/15 to 8/26/15
- 3) DCR documents: Land Group Certification & Agreement.