



TOWN OF UPTON, MASSACHUSETTS

Conservation Commission

Meeting Minutes – Wednesday 9/23/2015

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

Members Attending:

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

7:00 PM Beaver Activity

- Tom Jango will follow up w/ Jody

Agent's Report

- Per report dated 9/10/15 – 9/23/15.
- Orchard St - violation regarding vernal pool - how big was the vernal pool? Pond (pool) was very small not sure if it was man made or if it is jurisdictional – it is not.
- Buyer interested in 5A Wildwood Ave will need septic told to go to BOH.

Whitney Conservation Area Parking Area

- Having parking easement surveyed and will install pavers to demarcate it.
- Bill Taylor reported that Mr. Potheau wants the Selectmen to have a public hearing for the sign for the parking area. Should do a sign for the kiosk or covered sign? Whitney CA sign facing North St – Chris will contact the BOS.
- Mike Penko made a motion to reduce parking spaces from 6 to 4; Alan Miano disagreed that we should not give up any spaces; Mike's reasoning: encroachments, the eastern 1- 2 spaces are not functional (too close to easement boundary), and don't really need 6 spaces; Motion 2nd but did not pass.

7:50 PM Crosswinds – “Garden in the Woods”

C. Boardman

- Open Space lot – Selby suggest maintain meadow; thin the white pines – will stumps be removed? Selby will meet w/ Chad.
- Who will maintain this? Will it be owned by the homeowners or deeded to the town?

8:00 PM Whitney Conservation Area – continued

- Mike suggest signage be centered on the 4 spaces closest to North St.
- Motion for sign to be centered on westernmost 4 parking spaces – 2nd – defeated.

8:15 PM NOI Haz Mat Spill – Mendon St

- Motion to accept restoration plan as presented – 2nd & approved.

8:20 PM General Business/Active Items

OSC – Henderson property off Mechanic St (toward Fowler) potential uses: frontage lots, solar farm; Library Feasibility Committee is not looking to use Warren St property or to swap it.

LSC – Will have a booth at Upton’s Heritage Day on Oct. 3rd; Mass Audubon walked the North Upton Forestry parcel and will prepare a report regarding recommendations for bird habitat is there anything else we want them to comment on? Possibly legacy trees, old growth forest reserves, interior forest bird habitat; timber management areas.

Admin/Finances – motion to sign expense voucher – 2nd & approved.

Moth Study – so far has identified about 150 species.

Forestry – outreach is next step.

Letters – Chris Scott suggested that we send new home owners on properties w/ wetlands info on what that means to them; how do we identify who to send to?

STM Articles – 2 articles: money for Conservation Fund and increase to Agent’s salary.

8:50 PM Motion to Adjourn – 2nd & Approved

Minutes approved on: _____

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Document List – 9/23/15

- 1) Con Com Agenda & Action Checklist
- 2) Agent’s report 9/10 – 9/23/15
- 3) TMC Environmental – Restoration Work Plan dated 9/18/15 (274 Mendon St)
- 4) Whitney Parking Area – photographs of boat trailer on parking easement.