



OFFICE OF THE
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
TOWN HALL, 511 MAIN STREET
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Conservation Commission Minutes **Monday, February 12, 2018**

Approved: February 26, 2018

Chairman Jeff Haight called the meeting to order at 6:30pm
Members present: Alan Chaney, Bill Moeller and Kieran Meehan
Member absent: Marilyn Pike, Leah Basbanes and Juan Amodei
Meeting held: at the Dunstable Town Hall– 511 Main Street-lower level– Grange Room

Community Preservation Act Funding Request – Lake Massapoag Rod and Gun Club

Barbara Blanco and Brian Weilbrenner from the Lake Massapoag Rod and Gun Club came before the Commission looking for Conservation's support on their request for Community Preservation Committee (CPC) funding. After years of struggling with weed control on Lake Massapoag, they are hoping to receive the money for an herbicide treatment to eradicate the infestation. The Club has tried many ways to manage the issue over the years including harvesting however, the problem has gotten significantly worse. The Conservation Commission previously supported the financing of a report on the lake's condition and treatments. The report suggested herbicides to control the weed population. The cost for treatment is \$121,500 with the club requesting \$65,000 from Dunstable's CPC. Barbara indicated that they would also request funding from the Town of Tyngsboro and the YMCA camp. The Commission asked

- a. that Ms. Blanco and Mr. Weilbrenner attend the next scheduled meeting so more members can take part in the decision on supporting the project.
- b. that members of the Rod and Gun Club figure out financing so that the Town of Tyngsboro (who equally shares the number of dwellings on the lake) and the YMCA camp pay their fair share of the costs.
- c. that the residents on the lake share in the cost, possibly fee based on the assessed value of their property.

Commission members support the Club's mission to eradicate the invasive species; however, more discussion is needed on the amount of financial support they can give. This will be placed on the agenda for the next meeting.

Meeting Minutes – January 22nd

Alan made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 22nd meeting. Kieran 2nd the motion. – Motion passed unanimously.

Bills/Payroll

Alan made a motion to sign the bills and payroll. Kieran 2nd the motion. – Motion passed unanimously.

Odor on Main Street

As Leah was not at the meeting, this will be placed on the next agenda.



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Open Space and Recreation Plan

The Administrative Assistant told members that Melissa Cryan would email comments in the next week.

Kendall Cranberry Bog Grant Application Update

The Administrative Assistant told members that she has ordered the sign. The CR has made it through the initial review and is now at the state's legal department. Jeff and Alan arranged to meet to take pictures and GPS points of the property for the Land Use and Management Plan.

Frye Field Conservation Restriction Discussion and Vote

Alan brought up that there was an appraisal of the Pleasant Street Frye property. The appraisal came in for three house lots at \$485,000 minus the agricultural value of \$60,000, which totals \$425,000. Mr. Frye told Alan that he would sell the development rights to the property for \$499,000, a \$74,000 difference. If the state approves the application, they will reimburse the town 60% of the appraised value, which would be 51% of the purchase price or \$255,000. In addition to \$255,000 state funding, we would need \$225,000 CPC and \$19,000 Town Forest funds. Alan said the property is a good project as Hawk Brook runs through it, it is turtle territory, has historical impact (Fletcher homestead), a nice scenic vista and will not affect the tax base. Although a quorum was present, Alan decided to vote support of an article at the next meeting.

Special Permit Notification 384 Forest Street and 489/493 Forest Street

The Administrative Assistant brought up that there will be two Special Permit hearings for 384 Forest Street and 489/493 Forest Street for building on backland lots.

E-Mail from Student – Summer Volunteer

The Administrative Assistant told members that she received an email from a Middlesex Community College student that would like to volunteer her time to gain experience and insight on invasive plant species, wetlands and water quality testing. Members discussed that since Dunstable does not have a Conservation agent and meetings are only twice a month, they do not have enough site visits to be of interest to her.

Additional Topics Discussed Not Noted on the Agenda

Motion was made, seconded and passed unanimously to close the meeting at 7:35pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl A. Mann
Administrative Assistant - Dunstable Conservation Commission