



OFFICE OF THE
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
TOWN HALL, 511 MAIN STREET
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Meeting Held via Zoom

This meeting was held virtually through Zoom, Zoom ID 753 9823 7561

Conservation Commission Minutes **Monday, April 27, 2020**

Approved: May 11, 2020

Chairman Alan Chaney called the meeting to order at 6:35pm.

Members present: Tara Alcorn, Marijan Andacic, Juan Amodei, Leah Basbanes, Kieran Meehan, and Al Starbird

Enforcement Order – Kemp Street – Palumbo

In response to an inquiry about a possible wetland violation, Alan and Leah went out to the Palumbo property. While on site, they discovered fill being placed in wetland resource areas including a Bordering Vegetated Wetland, Riverfront, Land Subject to Flooding and Wildlife Habitat (priority habitat #2029), without a permit from the Conservation Commission or other issuing authority. This violated the Massachusetts Wetland Protection Act (MGL c.131 s.40 and its regulations in 310 CMR 10:00) and the Town of Dunstable General Wetland Bylaw. Alan issued an Enforcement Order instructing Mr. & Mrs. Palumbo to cease all activity, install a silt fence and wattles around the affected area, remove all fill material by June 30, 2020, and seed the impacted area with a wildlife mixture. Kieran made a motion to ratify the decision to send the Palumbo Enforcement Order. Juan 2nd the motion. – Motion passed unanimously.

Leah then spoke about the original inquiry from a resident that brought the Commission out to the site in the first place. She said that the upgrading of the existing logging road was outside of the Conservation Commission's jurisdiction. The Commission notified both the Board of Health and Building Inspector on behalf of the resident. The Building Inspector said he did not currently see a zoning issue. The Board of Health inspector said there was nothing restricting individuals from bringing clean fill onto their property.

Emery Purchase

Alan told members that he and Tara went out to the site and took some pictures. Cheryl will be virtually attending the required state workshop on Wednesday April 29.

Meeting Minutes – March 9, 2020

Tara made a motion to approve, as submitted, the March 9 meeting minutes. Kieran 2nd the motion. – Motion passed unanimously.

Bills/Payroll

Leah made a motion to pay the \$15 invoice for the electronic version of the MACC Handbook. Juan 2nd the motion. – Motion passed unanimously. Juan made a motion to sign the



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Administrative Assistant's payroll through April 25. Tara 2nd the motion. Motion passed unanimously

Additional Topics Discussed Not Noted on the Agenda

Lowell Street Property

The Administrative Assistant asked Alan for an update on the email she sent regarding the offer to purchase the Elkareh property on Lowell Street. Alan said that he forwarded the email to Fish and Wildlife.

Spaulding Proctor Reservation

Alan said he was pleased that he did not see litter at Spaulding Proctor. He reported that timbering would not take place at the property for quite some time. There was ATV activity at the southern end of the parcel that will eventually need addressing.

Stone Arch Bridge

Al said that an inspection of the Stone Arch Bridge showed that debris blocked about $\frac{3}{4}$ of the flow of water under the bridge. Members agreed that he could drive his truck down to the area and use a canoe to remove the debris.

Goss Solar Project

Al questioned whether there is enough erosion control at the site. Alan will go out and check.

Old Rail Trail near Alexander Way

Kieran said that there seems to be an increase of debris at the old trail near Alexander Way. He asked if he could work with Parks, Recreation, and others to organize a clean-up effort at the site. Members thought that was a good idea.

Turtle Siting

Leah reported two Blanding's Turtle sitings in Town. Kieran asked if he could put something in the Neighbor-to-Neighbor informing residents to watch for turtle crossings.

Motion was made, 2nd and passed unanimously to close the meeting at 7:06pm. The next meeting of the Conservation Commission will be held on Monday, May 11 at 6:30pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl A. Mann
Administrative Assistant – Dunstable Conservation Commission