



OFFICE OF THE
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
TOWN HALL, 511 MAIN STREET
DUNSTABLE, MA 01827-1313
(978) 649-4514 FAX (978) 649-8893
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Meeting Held via Zoom
This meeting was held virtually through Zoom, Zoom ID 897 9400 0027

Conservation Commission Minutes **Tuesday, October 13, 2020**

Approved: October 26, 2020

Chair Alan Chaney called the meeting to order at 5:30pm.

Members present: Leah Basbanes, Juan Amodei, Tara Alcorn, Kate DeLoureiro and Marijan Andacic

Members absent: Al Starbird and Associate Member Tiffany Naughton

Request for Determination – 253 Pleasant Street – Guziejka

Alan opened the public meeting at 5:30pm. Leo Garneau from Northeastern Consulting Forestry Services attended. Leah explained to the Commission that work done by Mr. Guziejka was not in the wetlands; however, concrete blocks were placed within an access road in a buffer zone. Mr. Guziejka also removed the understory brush and did some minor grading. The blocks do not look like they will create a long term altering of a wetland. Soils are compacted. Mr. Garneau agrees with Leah's assessment. He suggested that the homeowner hydro seed the crest of the hill and downslope. Leah did say that the applicant filed a Request for Determination in reverse order. The homeowner should have filed with the Conservation Commission prior to doing any work. No one in attendance including Conservation Commission members had any additional questions or comments. The public meeting closed at 5:42pm. Leah made a motion to issue a negative 3 determination with the condition of hydro seeding the crest of the hill and downslope. Marijan 2nd the motion. – Motion passed unanimously.

Request to Clear Trails – Area Behind Swallow Union School – Nicole Pelletier

Ms. Pelletier told members that she is a Physical Education teacher at Swallow Union and often walks the trails behind the school. She said that the trail and bridge, which are on Conservation property, needs repair. She explained that she is involved in clearing trails in Groton and may want to include the 4th graders in the project. Members will meet with Ms. Pelletier on Thursday, October 22 at 1pm in the church parking lot.

Discussion on Mikonis 2.17 acre parcel on Main Street – Tina Lefebvre

Ms. Lefebvre attended the meeting to discuss the 2.17-acre Mikonis parcel. The Commission explained that back in 2003, the owner of the property asked for a determination on whether the lot met the criteria for a single-family residence. After a site visit to the property, the Commission said they were *“unable to vote approval of a residential building permit for this parcel. This position is based on our understanding of the Dunstable General Wetlands Bylaw and its Regulations: in this case, specifically with regard to the presence of wetlands consisting of a drainage swale and the bordering vegetated wetlands associated with Joint Grass Brook. Because of these wetlands having been determined to be contiguous, and because of their location on said property, the lot does not meet criteria set forth in the Bylaw regarding siting of*



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a residence.” Members told Ms. Lefebvre that they presume that the result would be the same. There is Flood Plain, State Wetlands Protection Act, Town of Dunstable General Wetland Bylaw, Rivers Act, BVW, Isolated Wetland, rigorous septic and well regulations. Members told Ms. Lefebvre that in order for the Conservation Commission to do a thorough investigation she would need to file a request with the Conservation Commission.

Leah Basbanes left the meeting at 5:58pm.

Meeting Minutes of September 28 Meeting

Tara made a motion to approve, as submitted, the September 28 meeting minutes. Marijan 2nd the motion. – Motion passed unanimously.

Bills and Payroll

None

Fiscal Year 2022 Budget

Members reviewed the fiscal year 2022 budget presented by the Administrative Assistant. Marijan made a motion to approve the suggested wage budget for the Administrative Assistant and a level funding expense budget of \$2,000. Juan 2nd the motion. – Motion passed unanimously.

Additional Topics Discussed Not Noted on the Agenda

Christopher White – 20 Swallow Lane – Tree Removal

Mr. White attended to discuss removal of about ten trees in close proximity to his house and stream/wetlands. Mr. White flagged the trees. Alan and Leah went out to the site. They felt that a couple of trees should be pruned, not removed. While at the property, they discovered an area behind the shed that filled with grass clippings. The area is within the buffer zone. Mr. White agreed to meet members of the Commission at his property on Tuesday, October 20 at 9:00am.

Maintenance at the Lake Massapoag Dam

Barbara Blanco and Brian Weilbrenner attended. Brian explained that the State of Massachusetts requires periodic inspections of the Massapoag Pond dam. It has been determined that the dam is in poor condition. The Rod and Gun Club has applied to the state for a permit to work on the dam and access road. No cement trucks will be brought down to the dam area. The Club will lower the lake to expose problem trees and stumps for removal. The Club would like to do this within the next month. Alan explained that the work requires a Notice of Intent filing. Barbara asked if the Town of Dunstable could be the applicant. Alan said “no” because the Town is not providing the data or doing the work. Due to the tight filing restrictions,



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the Commission is willing to hold a meeting on Monday, November 2 at 6pm if the Club can get the NOI filing completed.

Building Permit – Lot 6 – 119 Mill Street (2.24 acres) – Ken Tully

Mr. Tully requested that the Conservation Commission sign a building permit for 119 Mill Street (Lot 6). After the discussion, Kate made a motion that after the Commission looked at the plan/property and it was determined there were no Conservation issues; Alan Chaney has permission to sign the Building Permit. Juan 2nd the motion. – Motion passed unanimously.

Blanchard Hill Camp Site

Alan reported that the Blanchard Hill site has been cleaned up with the exception of two benches. Thank you to Chief Dow and the Police Department for helping to get this completed.

Motion made, second and passed unanimously to close the meeting at 6:43pm. The next meeting of the Commission may be held on Monday, November 2 at 6pm or Monday, November 9 at 6:30pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl A. Mann
Administrative Assistant
Dunstable Conservation Commission