

## *Paxton Conservation Commission*

Minutes, December 8, 2011 Meeting

**Location and Time** Paxton Town Hall 7:48 – 8:59 pm

**Attendance Commissioners:** Chris Keenan (chair), Justin Thackeray (vice-chair), Marisa Ayvazian, Michael Voorhis, James Robert, Holly Robert (Associate). **Absent:** Daniel Gehnrich. **Others present:** Mark Love, Mike Putnam, Kevin Quinn, Jay Hall, Kelly Killeen.

**Minutes** Minutes of the November 10, 2011 meeting were approved with minor correction; the minutes filed reflect these changes.

### **Public Hearings:**

**Notice of Intent** for installation of a culvert on **Davis Hill Road**. This is work on behalf of Paxton DPW; Kelly Killeen of Coler & Colantonio presented the plan. There is a failed bridge/culvert of field-stone and wood stringers. They propose to replace this with a precast concrete culvert, 16' wide, with an 8' span. The stream will be bypassed around the project during the work. The stream will be restored to the same bottom level, although it will be slightly wider at this point than before -- the current stream course is narrowed where it goes through the culvert. Delineation was done by Jay Hall (Coler & Colantonio); there are no special wildlife concerns apparent; there will be minimal disturbance to the stream bed during the work. Keenan requested stone rip-rap where the bypass pipe exits, also for possible alternatives to posts along the side of the culvert due to the risk of cars being deflected if they hit them and he also asked if they have calculated the hydrological effect of having a wider channel. Hall answered yes to the last question, there is no major effect predicted; commissioners requested to see these numbers. The hearing was continued to January 12<sup>th</sup> 2012 at 8pm.

**Notice of Intent** for construction of new homes and associated septic systems at **Lots 1 & 2, Davis Hill Road**. This was a continued hearing from the November 10, 2011 meeting. Keenan recused himself; Thackeray chaired the hearing. Commissioners visited the site on Nov 13<sup>th</sup> and found work had clearly been performed at the site in the previous few weeks and informed Quinn Engineering of this, requesting that work be stopped, given that there is no active permit. Kevin Quinn (Quinn Engineering) discussed the current situation at the site. The old existing cart path has been graded in the absence of an active permit. The landowner said he thought he had an active permit; Quinn has stressed to the landowner that he must not do any further work without a permit. The crushed stone used for the grading work is the right material for such work and no erosion is evident from that work. He will provide a report on the work done recently. Commissioners requested that the proposed replication area be moved. The proposed site is raised significantly from the surrounding upland and contains many mature trees; there seems to be sufficient area beside the driveway for a replication that is lower and is in already disturbed land. Renumbering of the lots to be consistent with original lot names was also requested. Quinn agreed to renumber and ask the wetland engineer to look at whether the replication could be moved to the requested location. The new EcoTec wetland delineation information and the field data sheets were requested by the commission. The hearing was continued to January 12<sup>th</sup> 2012 at 8:15 pm.

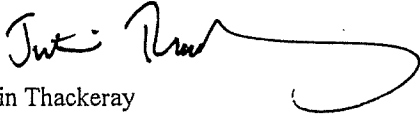
### **Miscellaneous**

- A copy of a letter dated November 3, 2011 from Holly Robert to Paul Anderson (Mass. DEP) was received, requesting enforcement of drinking water regulations at **313 Richards Avenue**.
- A letter dated December 8, 2011 from Holly Robert to the Commission was received, including aerial photographs pre-dating 2004-5 (from 1986, 1987, 1999 and 2005) when the wetlands issues at **313 Richards Avenue** began.
- No further materials were received by the Commission from the Loves or their representatives. Given that the matters are still in litigation, further discussion of issues at **313 Richards Avenue** was tabled.
- A phone call from a resident on West St was received, saying that they believe there is partying going on at Conservation land near **Illig's Pond**. The commission will look into it and report back next month.
- Keenan reported that he has spoken with Town Counsel, Peter Dawson, re: signage at **Illig's Pond**; he sees no problems placing a sign there that states "no motorized vehicles except those permitted under ADA regulations".

- Bills for \$33 to The Holden Landmark and \$98.32 to the Worcester T&G were approved.
- Keenan reported having looked at what other local towns are using for their Standard Order of Conditions and will have some suggestions for some changes to our Order of Conditions at next month's meeting.

The next meeting of the Commission will be held on Thursday, January 12th at 7:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Justin Thackeray

