



PAXTON CONSERVATION COMMISSION

MEETING MINUTES

June 11, 2015

Location and Time: Paxton Town Hall 7:30-8:35pm

Attendance: Commissioners: Chris Keenan (Chairman), Marisa Ayvazian (V-Chair), Michael Voorhis (Secretary), Tim Lauring, Holly Robert (Assoc. Member), Zack Ferguson. Absent: Gerry Ryan, Jim Robert (Assoc. Member). Others present: Mia McDonald (Cons. Agent), Pam Cardaci, Kevin Quinn, Charles Caron, John Farnsworth.

Minutes: Minutes of 5/14/15 were discussed and accepted.

Bills: \$560 for CC Agent Salary (16 hours.), Holden Landmark and Staples. MV made a motion and TL seconded, all in favor to pay bills before the Commission.

Correspondence: Update from the Town Accountant.

New Business –

60 Davis Hill Road: Kevin Quinn, engineer and representative for Pam Cardaci, owner, stated that the property has been used as a hayfield and cut as such on a regular basis. At the request of the Conservation Agent to confirm no wetland resource areas were present on the property, Mr. Quinn contacted Paul McManus of EcoTec, Inc. to delineate any resource areas. Mr. McManus found hydric soils in the northeast corner of the site and hung flags. The area was determined to be a bordering vegetated wetland and would be 88 feet from the toe of slope for the grading for the septic system associated with the proposed single family home. Mr. McManus stated to Mr. Quinn that, due to 80 feet of undisturbed vegetation between the BVW and the proposed work, the works shall have no impact on the resource area.

The Commission discussed the project and determined that the proposed grading for the septic system was considered an accessory to a single family home, and it is greater than 50 feet from a BVW, therefore it requires no permit application. A motion was made by TL and seconded by MV that no filing would be required for the construction of the proposed single family home at 60 Davis Hill Road as shown in the plan titled Lot 186D, Davis Hill Rd by Quinn Engineering, dated 5/29/15. The Commission noted that any work not included in the plan is not covered by this exemption and may require a permit application.

Old Business:

Worcester County Memorial Park: Mr. Caron acted as representative for Worcester County Memorial Park and Mr. Farnsworth, owner. HR recused herself from the discussion. Mr. Caron explained that the Notice of Intent shall be revised to include Riverfront Area, with additional fees to follow. CK stated that the addition of Riverfront Area to the application shall require an alternatives analysis. CK also requested a plan detailing the fill area and associated volumes, as well as flagging along the entire property and regulations regarding burials within resource area buffer zones.

Mr. Caron stated that he will provide additional information for the July 16 meeting, and plans to re-submit the revised NOI for the August meeting. The Commission required that the public hearing for the August meeting is re-advertised, including an updated abutter notification with a new certified abutters list from the Town Assessor.

New Business (continued) –

Holly Robert's Request to Become a Voting Member: HR summarized her process to request to become a voting member of the Commission: letter to Board of Selectmen; appearing before the BOS; correspondence with the Massachusetts Ethics Board; upcoming meeting with BOS; request for Commissioners to attend in support.

Forestry Information: HR distributed a brochure she made in collaboration with the Massachusetts Forest Trust and the MA DCR. The brochure details helpful information to abutters regarding rules and regulations on property in active forestry. HR plans to invite Kate Marquis, the State Forester to the July 16 meeting for additional training and information.

Conservation Land Management: HR proposed a coordination of volunteers for the upkeep of conservation property in the town. She suggested posting flyers at trailheads to solicit interested people. HR stated she may have an inventory of conservation land in Paxton. Ms. McDonald stated she will draft a flyer and investigate grants for GPS equipment.

Draft Regulations: Ms. McDonald stated she has begun drafting the regulation to accompany the proposed by-law. She plans to utilize the regulations from the towns of Stowe, Northborough and Boxborough; all three towns have granted permission to use their regulations.

Fontaine Property on Pleasant Street: No activity observed. As requested, photos were taken from the right-of-way.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 PM.

The next meeting will be on Thursday, July 16, 2015.

Respectfully submitted,



Mia McDonald

Conservation Agent

Reference Documents:

*As noted in the minutes, on file with the Paxton Conservation Commission.

