



PAXTON CONSERVATION COMMISSION

MEETING MINUTES

May 12, 2016

Location and Time: John Bauer Senior Center 7:30-9:52pm

Attendance: Commissioners: Chris Keenan (Chairman,) Michael Voorhis (Vice Chair), Zach Ferguson (Secretary), Tim Luring, Holly Robert (Assoc. Member,) Jim Robert (Assoc. Member); Others present: Mia McDonald (Cons. Agent),

Minutes: Minutes of 3/10/16 meeting and 4/14 meeting were reviewed and accepted with name spelling corrections.

March Meeting Minutes: motioned to accept by MV, seconded by TL, all voted in favor to accept with name spelling corrections (CK abstained.)

April Meeting Minutes: motioned to accept by TL, seconded by ZF, all voted in favor to accept with name spelling corrections (MV abstained.)

Bills: MM payroll, (TL motioned and ZF seconded), all voted in favor of paying all the bill.

Correspondence:

Budget Statement from Town Accountant. Balances reviewed. Question raised about \$1.78 "negative credit" in Conservation Trust interest column. MM to bring to Town Treasurer.

Written request from Greater Worcester Land Trust for \$5,000 to purchase 107 Asnebumskit Road. The Commission discussed that it was a parcel of land that was already connected to other parcels of open space owned by Paxton and neighboring towns; MV commented that people already walk trails on this property and this is the reason the account was created. Motion made by TL, seconded by ZF, all voted in favor to give GWLT \$5,000 for purchase.

Notice of Intent - Culvert Relining on Route 56 by Paxton Department of Public Works. Mia McDonald presented the proposed project: 2 culvert locations that drain to Kettle Brook Reservoir #3 and #4; location #1 is a 30-inch metal culvert with a rotted bottom; location #2 is a 30-inch metal culvert with a rotted bottom and some of it contains a plastic HDPE pipe that was inserted to slow sinkhole appearing under the guard rail above; DPW has been awarded a grant by MassWorks to complete the work; plan to use Snap-Tite system, no curing; the alternative is to dig up the road; slurry of concrete shall be pumped into gap between old pipe and new pipe; odd angles to drive pipe in – may need to remove some saplings; sections of plastic pipe driven in from equipment in the street lowering it in; both jobs shall be completed in 3 to 5 days; waterways shall stay exactly the same; Mike Putnam, DPW Superintendent, has met with Worcester Water Department: they plan to assist with booms and erosion control barriers. No timeframe yet, but want to complete during period of low flow. CK is an abutter and abstained from vote. As a member of the public, CK stated that he has a rear driveway located near the work that the DPW could utilize during the project with notification. He also stated, as a member of the public, that the stream at location #1 has flow during storm events, but otherwise has low to no flow 90% of the time.

Motion made by TL, seconded by ZF, all voted in favor to close hearing (CK abstained.)

Motion made by TL, seconded by ZF, all voted in favor to issue Order of Conditions (CK abstained.)

Certificate of Compliance for Major Moore Circle Lots 3 & 4, DEP File No. 257-141 and the Certificate of Compliance for 5 Major Moore Circle, DEP File No. 257-222 were discussed together. The site is stable and fully vegetated. MM contacted Glenn Krevosky who had designed the restoration area and he stated that the area was planted, but cannot confirm that it was 75% survival of wetland species. MM stated that the area is fully vegetated and wetland appears to be fully functioning.

Motion made by MV, seconded by TL, all voted in favor to issue the certificates of compliance.

Certificate of Compliance for 11 Indian Hill Road, DEP File No. 257-221. Septic work was completed near a catch basin and wetland resource area and a filing was made after the fact. The site was stable and vegetated Motion made by MV, seconded by TL, all voted in favor to issue the certificate of compliance.

Other Business:

75 Suomi Street Notice of Project Change – Carl Hultgren from Quinn Engineering and Aaron Hoffman, owner. January 2015 an Order of Conditions was issued for a single family home and associated site work; the Planning Board issued a waiver from the stormwater requirements as recommended by the Conservation Commission. The project has changed: more detailed house footprint, increase in impervious surface outside of buffer to resource area, the roof drains now discharge to the swale. HR asked if the lot meets the 75% upland requirement and Mr. Hultgren stated it does. HR asked about boulders to the left of the driveway. Mr. Hultgren stated that they were part of the permanent barriers and not placed in the resource areas. The Commission discussed and a motion was made by TL to accept the changes as insignificant, ZF seconded and all voted in favor, (CK abstained.)

Bylaw Discussion:

Bylaw did not pass at Town Meeting on May 2. Commissioners discussed and decided to hold Bylaw Working Meetings at the beginning of the monthly meetings at 7:00PM to revise bylaw to incorporate comments received from residents. Additional outreach shall include: meetings shall be posted on monthly agenda, on Paxton Cable Channel and on a forthcoming Paxton Conservation Commission Facebook page to encourage public comment and participation.

Kettle Brook Golf Course Wetland Change Layer/Project Approvals

ZF observed wetland change layer indications at Golf Course. Commissioners discussed: presentation within the past 2 years with representatives from golf course detailing all activities.

Board of Health Plans and Building Permit Applications were discussed and some Commissioners offered to assist with site visits.

Trail cleanup:

The cleanup was held April 23 at 8am at the Illig's Pond Trail behind Paxton Center School. Small but productive turnout. Pictures to be posted on Conservation Commission's forthcoming Facebook page.

Arbor Day Event on May 6 with Bob Wilby of Lions Club and Craig Masterman, Forester. MM was able to provide posters and track guides to students, but not attend the event.

516 Pleasant Street – anonymous call that owner was encroaching into wetland resource area and causing flooding. There was a previous violation on the site for brush piles within 25' of the resource area that were to be burned. Commission would like to discuss the issue again in December when the piles can be burned.

1 Brigham Road – HR stated that it is unclear if the area that was filled was ever restored. CK worked with the owner as part of Quinn Engineering and will contact the owner to get status.

More Correspondence:

Definitive Subdivision Plan for Bel Arbor Subdivision from Quinn Engineering with responses to Planning Board Review. The Commissioners discussed and have no additional comments other than the same: permit shall be needed for any work within 100 feet of a resource area. Commissioners requested copy of review letter.

ZF motioned and TL seconded to close the meeting; meeting was adjourned at 9:52 PM.
The next meeting will be on Thursday, June 9, 2016 at the White Building at 7:00PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Mia McDonald,

Agent for the Conservation Commission

Reference Documents:

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

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