



## **PAXTON CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

### **MEETING MINUTES**

**November 12, 2015**

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

**Attendance:** Commissioners: Chris Keenan (Chairman), Michael Voorhis (Vice Chair), Gerry Ryan, Tim Luring, Zach Ferguson (Secretary), Holly Robert (Assoc. Member), Jim Robert (Assoc. Member).

Others present: Mia McDonald (Cons. Agent), Charles Caron, Caron Engineering, John Farnsworth.

**Minutes:** Minutes of 10/8/15 meeting were read and accepted. MV motioned and GR seconded to accept the minutes with changes, all in favor.

**Bills:** MM payroll (MV motioned and GR seconded), all voted in favor of paying all the bills.

Marisa Ayyasion came before the Commission to receive gratitude for her service on the Commission.

#### **Old Business –**

**Notice of Intent – Worcester County Memorial Park** – John Farnsworth, representative for WCMP presented additional information that was requested as part of the formal submission. Charles Caron of Caron Engineering was also in attendance. HR & JR recused themselves. Mr. Farnsworth stated that the WCMP is within the Worcester Tree Initiative area and will be providing trees for planting along the approximately 200-foot bank of the stream. Mr. Caron suggested native species resistant to the Asian Longhorned Beetle. CK suggested WCMP investigate Riverfront Restoration Grants.

Mr. Farnsworth stated that a deep sump catch basin shall be installed between the end of the road and the outfall into the stream, as shown on the plans; plans also detail haybale and silt fence enclosure around catch basin during construction; estimated 5 year build out. Mr. Caron requested a 5 year Order of Conditions. The Commission denied and stated that the Order of Conditions will only be for a 3 year period and a request for extension will need to be filed with the Commission before the expiration for any work beyond 3 years from issuance. Mr. Farnsworth requested that the Commission remain available to the WCMP for assistance in maintaining compliance.

Mr. Farnsworth stated that the existing location for the stockpiles and spoils shall remain unchanged for the next 3 years; but the footprint will be smaller and erosion controls shall remain in place. CK stated that the plans show the existing stockpile location to be a future location for burials and that the application for extension of the Order of Condition must include a new designated area for stockpiles and spoils outside of any resource area or buffer zone.

Mr. Farnsworth stated that the “puddling areas” have been removed from the plans and protocols; five sample plots taken in northwest corner of the property in plots that were inundated; Mr. Caron determined that the majority of the vegetation in the test plots were fescue and clover grasses with no wetland species.

No details were provided for the proposed service road. The Commission stated that it will be a condition that any roadways constructed onsite shall have a pervious surface. The Commission also conditioned that

no snow storage shall occur within the resource areas or buffer zones. Street sweeping protocols were included in the submittal.

Mr. Farnsworth stated that all comments regarding beaver removal from the previous meeting were included in the protocols. HR, as a member of the public, asked if the beaver dams will be removed as they are noticed. Mr. Farnsworth stated that Mr. Killelea will be hiring a licensed professional to remove all beavers and beaver dams, as well as applying for a permit from the Board of Health. CK stated that beaver removal work shall be included as part of this Order of Conditions and the Commission conditioned that beaver and dam removal requires written approval from the Paxton Board of Health shall be submitted to the Commission prior to the commencement of work.

The Commission conditioned that any fill brought onto the site shall be clean fill, free from invasive species and suitable for construction.

CK provided aerial overlays that showed no alteration to stream.

MV motioned and GR seconded, all in favor to close the hearing.

#### **New Business:**

**Request for Determination of Applicability – 31 Asnebumskit Road** Quinn Engineering representing the owner had submitted the application. CK recused himself. Septic replacement at a single family home; cesspit to be replaced with a Title V system. Wetland line had been confirmed by MM with no resource areas or buffer zones within 100 feet of the proposed work. GR motioned and TL seconded to issue a negative determination. All voted in favor.

**Request for Certificate of Compliance – Paxton Athletic Center, 603-609 Pleasant Street, DEP File No. 257-0237.** Statement from engineer and site photos received to confirm work was complete, but site visit incomplete. MV motioned, GR seconded to issue Certificate of Compliance once site visit complete and approved by Ms. McDonald.

#### **Other Business:**

Board of Health Plans – MM to complete inspection at 769 Pleasant Street.

Draft Bylaw & Regulations: The Commission discussed edits to the bylaw and asked that notification to abutters for an RDA be removed; all folders need to be shared on the Google Drive; the citations need to be generalized in the case of changes to the MA WPA; confirmation is needed to find out if notification of work in established agricultural areas is required; fees need to be reviewed and determined; inspections shall require a separate fee; after-the-fact filings shall be at least double fees; violations shall have fees; the regulations shall try to remove the burden off of single family home projects as much as possible.

16 South Street – Site visit completed on November 10 with owner: site stable, no erosion visible near resource areas, erosion controls intact.

Trails: The draft of the Asnebumskit trail is complete; MM to work with Assessor on mapping ownership/use designation of town owned parcels; GWLT is purchasing Theresian Carmelite land on Asnebumskit Hill; meeting to be scheduled in the winter to plan spring cleanup event; GR suggested using Wachusett High School Lion's Club volunteer group called the Leos, approx. 70 kids.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 PM.

The next meeting will be on Thursday, December 10, 2015 at the White Building.

Respectfully submitted,



Mia McDonald

Conservation Agent

**Reference Documents:**

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

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