

Ashby Conservation Commission  
Minutes for the Meeting of July 1, 2009

Meeting opened at 7:30pm with Bob Leary, Cathy Kristofferson, Michael Harrison, and Tim Bauman in attendance.

The minutes of the meeting of June 17, 2009 were reviewed and accepted as written.

**Treasurer's Report:** Petty cash for last year was sent in and received for this year.

**Correspondence:**

Forwarded by Cathy: "Massachusetts DOER Requests Information and Comments on a Proposed Scope of Work Pertaining to Biomass Energy and Sustainable Forest Management, Carbon Sequestration, and Carbon Neutrality" Responses to the RFI are due on July 3, 2009.

**Old Business:**

Watatic Management - Snowmobile Subcommittee site walk was conducted on June 20, 2009. Cathy, Bob and Roberta walked the mountain with Ed Torcoletti and Don LeMay (Ashburnham). Found some alternative connections between the two suggested trails and the Wapack trail that would avoid 2 of the 3 stream crossings and completely avoid destroying a vernal pool. Both "re-routes" would require little or no cutting of trees and no earth moving. Roberta emailed the summary of the walk to other members of the snow mobile subcommittee, as well as members of the full management committee.

MACC invoice submitted for annual Dues of \$140. Tim sent the Commission information sheet back to MACC with all members names included.

Packard CR signature page reviewed and signed repeatedly. Hopefully all requirements for the document are complete.

Follow up to letter to Gerard Cormier regarding new stream crossing off Mason Road. Natural Heritage claims crossing outside of priority habitat on newest map(2008). Tim wrote back to NHESP with thoughts about their classification and request for suggestions about how to correct culvert. Received another answer from NHESP with references to Wetlands Protection Act stream crossings guidelines. Nothing further from Army Corps of Engineers.

Site visit to bridge removal at Trap Falls. Bill Davis on vacation until the 6<sup>th</sup> of July. Tim has tried to reach him and left messages. Wondered about the process of removal and whether trees would be removed as well. Suggestion that concrete slabs that have fallen into the stream bed be removed at the same time as the bridge.

**New Business:**

Tim sent a letter Sean and Amy Delaney on South Road regarding mowing and grassland bird habitat. Cathy had talked with the Delaney's after a monitoring visit with Ashby Land Trust. The Land Trust needs to take the lead from here and follow up. The Land Trust monitoring people did nothing to notify the owners of their rights and restrictions listed on the CR. The CR allows the use of the field as a pasture. However, other uses of the field are restricted to wildlife habitat. It does require mowing of the field at least once a year.

Darren Flinkstrom and Carolyn Collins appeared to inquire about activities at the property of Lynda Laakso, 864 South Rd. Roberta had been notified last week and driven by the property. Wasn't sure if this was a property that had an OOC. Tim was going to follow up with a visit. Tim looked up the building permit and then went to the site. Concerns for project on South Road (Lynda Laakso) with no NOI filed. Extensive work being done. Tim visited and called builder. Work being done to replace the house without any OOC. A building permit issue to repair roof and windows and remodel kitchen and replace joists. Had checked the box that indicated the property was on the

Ashby Compensating Reservoir. Poorly installed siltation fencing had been placed at the edge of the pond. Motion to issue an Enforcement Order. Written during the meeting. Will ask that it be delivered by the Constable.

Cathy has received the ArcGIS data for the MRPC trails project. Roberta and she will review for obvious errors and make suggestions for those to be deleted. Will also provide more information to back up the private nature of most of the trails.

**Hearings: None**

**Hearings Scheduled: None**

**Site Visits:**

Saturday, June 20, Watatic Mountain and the proposed snowmobile trails. Bob, Cathy and Roberta, plus others. Cathy took waypoints as the group made decisions about new routes that would avoid stream crossings. Roberta sent out minutes to the Cons Comm and the members of the subcommittee.

June 22, 6:30 PM 81 Kendall Hill Road for septic replacement. Tim signed plans on site. Metcaff from Nashoba Associated Boards of Health contacted Tim to tell him of a change in plans and notification of new plans being mailed. Bob, Mike, Cathy and Tim

Bernhardt Road Bridge removal plans. Mike, Roberta, Cathy and Tim

864 South Road, Remodeling? Building permit but no NOI. Tim 7-1-09

**Site Visits Needed:**

Allan Dawson on Ingerson Rd. Friday (7-3-09) morning at 7:30

Meeting was adjourned at

Respectfully submitted,

Roberta Flashman