

Ashby Conservation Commission

Minute for the Meeting of June 5, 2013

Meeting was opened at 7:30 with Bob Leary, Tim Bauman, Roberta Flashman and Cathy Kristofferson in attendance.

The minutes of the meeting of May 15, 2013 were reviewed and accepted unanimously as written.

Treasurer's Report: nothing to report.

Correspondence:

Call from Brett Pomerleau inquiring about how to proceed with changes to his newly purchased house at 864 Turnpike Road (house with the brook running underneath). Tim asked him to come into our meeting on May 15th.

From DEP, Division of Fish and Wildlife, changes in the process for applying for certification of vernal pools and notification of the certification.

Old Business:

David Bozza has requested a site visit and signature for a septic replacement at 875 Foster Road. Tim hasn't been able to contact him by phone to arrange the visit.

May 21st there was a subcommittee of the Mount Watatic Management Committee hike. Cathy, Mike McCallum, Pat Huckery and Pat, both from Fish & Wildlife. Cathy gave the tour of the property. They were looking for signs of abuse and brainstorming possible solutions or deterrents and checking and/or relocating some signs that were confusing to hikers. They were also looking for a likely location of a memorial tree to be planted by a resident. Plant communities were evaluated before making decisions. Cathy brought them towards the beginnings of the ant hills and more obvious signs of abuse on the mountain caused by OHRV's. Pat Huckery has 200 ft of super large boulders and they found locations to use them to best protect the mountain from these vehicles.

Cathy got a phone call from Mike McCallum regarding a draw-down of Ashby Compensating Reservoir by Fitchburg Water Department (FWD) on Saturday, June 1st. Finally members of the Commission were able to make a call for action to Fitchburg to stop the draw down and it was stopped. Monday morning, Tim, Cathy and Mike had a meeting with representatives of FWD. Plans have been changed and they will hold off on their work until Sept 10th. The agreement will be put in writing. They will give notice in the newspaper before taking any action at that time.

One June 4, Cathy led a group of Boy Scouts working on their environmental merit badge to a project where they could see the possibilities of damage from development. Unfortunately, the project had gone bad, and they could easily see that development does impact the environment.

102 Deer Bay Rd has been reported to be a siltation nightmare. Tim will call the owner, Mr. Donnelly, and try to schedule a site visit for this weekend.

The Commission signed the Amended Order of Conditions for Erickson Road, Terkanian property. DEP# 93-307. Included the no-disturbance-area that will trigger the need for a replication.

The Commission signed the OOC for Erickson Road, Terkanian property DEP #93-336. Included the no-disturbance-area that will trigger the need for a replication.

Cathy worked with Mark Archambeault to review trails and parcels included in the open space plan.

New Business:

Brett Pomerleau came to talk with the Commission about his plans for his newly purchased house on 864(formerly323) Turnpike Rd that has the brook running under it. He would like to reduce the footprint to eliminate the water from running under it. He plans to take down the section of the house over the water by hand. A new structure will be on sono tubes and the holes will be hand dug. The new location will be towards the road, but the final closest edge of new house may be as close as 2 ft from the stream at the completion of the project. Gave him the do-it-yourself brochure.

Hearings: None

Hearings Scheduled: None

Site Visits:

Thursday, 5-16-13, 3:30, PM. Questions about possible pool installation at 376 Main St. Site is 50 ft from edge of wetlands. They will have to file either a Determination of Applicability with heavy evidence of their ability to avoid damage to the wetlands with either the installation or operation of the pool or an NOI. Roberta, Tim, Cathy. Pool Company submitted a building permit application today. Town Clerk notified the Commission and wanted to know if there were conditions surrounding the issuance of a building permit. The building permit requires the signature of the Cons Comm. Will have to wait for the applicant, rather than the pool company, to file the appropriate wetlands forms.

Sunday, 5-19-13, 8:00 AM, Pillsbury Road building site, signed plan for septic system for Bruce Adams. Tim, Bob, Cathy, Roberta.

Sunday, 5-19-13, 8:30 AM, Septic upgrade plan at 462 New Ipswich Road. Tim signed plans for Stan Dillis. Tim, Bob, Cathy and Roberta.

Sunday, 5-19-13, 9:00 AM, Hobart site on New Ipswich Road. Tim, Bob, Cathy, Roberta.

Sunday, 6-2-13. Ashby Res., 4:00 PM, viewing of start of dam project and draw-down. Listened to complaints of residents and spoke with Selectman McCallum. Cathy and Tim

Site Visits Needed:

875 Foster Road. Septic replacement.

102 Deer Bay Rd. – site stabilization and siltation problems.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:20pm

Respectfully submitted,

Roberta Flashman