

Ashby Conservation Commission

Minutes for the Meeting of April 2, 2014

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

Minutes of the meeting of March 19, 2014 were approved as written unanimously.

**Treasurer's Report:** nothing to

**Correspondence:**

A request for a Certificate of Compliance was received from Ducharme and Dillis Engineering for properties on Jones Hill Road. DEP # 93-248 and 93-275

**Old Business**

A Notice of Intent (NOI) had been filed by Whitman and Bingham Engineering for the property at 860 Greenville Road. Chris MacKenzie, engineer and project lead, noted that the site has been staked, but snow precludes clear observation. The DEP project number - # 93-339 – has been issued with added requirements: an alternatives analysis for placement of the driveway; and a filing for Water Quality Certification. Chris MacKenzie has been in communication with DEP to clarify expectations. The alternatives analysis remains as a requirement.

**New Business:**

On Saturday, March 29, 2014 the Commission sponsored an Informational Meeting about the proposed 30" pipeline to be built across Ashby by Kinder Morgan's Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company. Three pages of signatures on the stat-wide petition opposing the pipeline were collected. The attendees of the meeting (about 150) were also informed about the Resolution against the Pipeline that will be on the Town Meeting Warrant. The speakers, Bruce Winn of Berkshire Environmental Action Team and Jay Duffy, attorney and Bill Duffy's son, were terrific. The Question and Answer session went very well, lasting about 45 minutes and allowing everyone who wanted to speak time to be heard, including members of the labor union for the pipe workers. \$102 was placed into a contribution basket and was given to Bruce Winn to defray his travel costs and support the movement against the pipeline.

Emily Norton is looking for assistance for organizing a similar meeting in Townsend. Leslie from Townsend Cons Comm also called Cathy as did the Tyngsboro Conservation Agent and a representative from Pepperell. Cathy will send out the document for the informational pamphlet to all. Roberta will send Cathy the documents created for the meeting so that she can post them on the Commission's page on the Town web site. There were also attendees at the meeting from Winchendon, Ashburnham and Lunenburg.

On the property on old Wilder Rd, it appeared that a stone culvert had either been crushed or blocked during a logging operation. The result was that on Monday, March 31<sup>st</sup>, water was gushing onto and across Valley Rd and no water was entering the culvert. On Tuesday the water was still flowing down road rather than through the culvert, but was a lesser volume. On Wednesday the logger and the State Forester met on site. The Logger removed some of the debris that had collected in front of the culvert that was blocking the stream. This restored most of the now greatly reduced water volume to flow through the culvert. However, there are still stones in the stream bed which were not there prior to the logging. Roberta called the owner, Devin Crow, to inform him of what was occurring on his property. Roberta will call the owner again to suggest that he remove more of the stones from blocking the culvert.

Mark Snyder and Wendy Lehnert would like to donate property to the town and/or the Ashby Land Trust. Roberta received a call from the Land Trust (Mike McCallum). Since the land trust does not

make a practice of owning properties, the Land Trust suggested to the owners that they place a Conservation Restriction (CR) on the property first and then donate the property to the town. The property is at the corner of South Rd and Richardson Rd. Roberta will contact the owners and set up a site visit for next week.

ESRI invoice for maintenance contract. Cathy would like to pay 2 extra months to put the billing cycle to the end of June rather than April.

**Hearings:**

8:00 PM - Whitman and Bingham, NOI for property at 860 Greenville Road. Driveway and septic system plans for a new house with work in the wetland resource area. DEP #93-339. The hearing had been previously continued from 2-19-14, 3-5-14, and 3-19-14. Tonight's hearing was opened at 8:00 and continue to April 16 @ 8:00 to allow more time for the snow cover to melt and for a site visit be conducted.

**Hearings Scheduled:** see above.

**Site Visits:**

Friday 3-28-14, Tim visited 860 Greenville Road, Still snow covered.

Valley Rd – Cathy Sunday, March 30, Roberta March 31 and April 1<sup>st</sup> and Arpil 2<sup>nd</sup>. Tim April 2<sup>nd</sup>

**Site Visits Needed:**

854 South Road, Ross Engineering, Tank installation plus decking and roof run-off concerns. Pending decision of ZBA.

860 Greenville Road, NOI from W & B. Snow melt needed.

Bridge over Trap Falls Brook on Greenville Rd. (Alan Pease.) Suggest maintenance plan.

Lambert Property, Lot 2 on Wheeler Rd. ( Formerly Hayes). Preliminary review to suggest next steps for new home construction.

Jewitt Hill Road: Bezanson property request for a Certificate of Compliance for work done as DEP #93-217.

39 Hosmer Rd – Cert of Compliance – Paul Gerry

Jennifer Brodeau – 550 Mason Rd. – Cert of Compliance

The meeting was Adjourned at 8:40.

Respectfully submitted,

Roberta Flashman