

Ashby Conservation Commission

Minutes for the Meeting of September 06, 2017

The meeting was opened at 7:30pm with Bob Leary, Roberta Flashman and Cathy Kristofferson in attendance. The minutes of the meeting of August 16, 2017 were reviewed and accepted unanimously as written.

Treasurer's Report: Received \$67.50 for the project at 411 South Rd NOI.

Correspondence:

9-06-17	Invoice from LEC for peer review on 0 West Rd.
9-06-17	NOI from Neil Gorman, Ross Associates for 411 South Rd, Cordio – needs a site visit.
8-30-17	email from Hancock Associates regarding Fitchburg State Road NOI. Will be submitted for hearing 9/20
8-26-17	email report of construction waste in Ashby Compensating Reservoir. Roberta and Cathy went and talked with the owners. They said they would install siltation fencing.
8-25-17	email from Dave Williams regarding work at 346 Pillsbury Rd.
8-23-17	Note from Mr. Hourihan to each Commissioner about his intent.
8-22-17	email from LEC Environmental with peer review report for 0 West Rd.
8-21-17	email from Jack Maloney, Ducharme & Dillis, with photos from culvert inspection at 151 Erickson Rd.
8-18-17	Final Report on cutting plan for Wheeler Rd and Cutting plan for Crocker Rd.
8-14-17	Nashua River Watershed membership renewal letter. Last contribution was \$50. Roberta made a motion to renew our membership. Unanimous vote in favor of the motion. Cathy will send the membership fee.
8-17-17	email from Jon Sommer with site visit request for 688 Jones Hill Rd.

Old Business:

Have heard nothing further on the Enforcement Order issued for construction at 969 Main Street, (Mark Bigwood, owner). He has not filed an NOI. Bob will call Denise at DEP to see if they have made any attempt to reach Mr. Bigwood. Still no action from the Building Inspector.

Bob wrote a letter to the new owner of 600 Main St, old Forbes property, in response to complaints from abutters about activities that might impact the wetland. He will mail it tomorrow.

Mr. Hourihan appeared after sending the Commission a letter (Aug 23, 2017) and speaking with the Town Administrator. We reiterated that he must put up the siltation barrier across the driveway and fill out a NOI and submit it to us. We printed up the NOI and the instructions for how to file.

New Business:

David Williams, 346 Pillsbury Rd, asked what he needs to do in terms of the WPA and filings when he paves or regrades his driveway. He will be building a house on the lot next to the existing house. The Commission put a note on the plan that the ConsComm signed stating that any work on the driveway would require an NOI. The estimate for the timing of the proposed driveway work is next spring at the earliest.

Roberta received a map from Doub Leab showing all the protected lands in town. This is also in electronic form and could be shared with the assessor, who is working with MRPC to devise a map for all departments to use. Doug needs to reference MASSGIS Protected and Recreational Open Space map – 6/2017 – or OLIVER – click on the open space – to update his map with the latest information. This would be a welcomed addition to the open space plan.

Cathy downloaded the new parcel map for Ashby from the State and imported for use with ARCVIEW.

Agenda creation – Cathy suggests that we have a running live agenda on Google Docs. Each of us can put in correspondence and calls.

Mailbox – key will remain available to all the Commissioners.

Hearings:

8:00pm ANRAD for 0 West Rd.

Hearings Scheduled:

9/20/17 8:00pm 411 South Rd, Cordio, NOI for replacement septic system

9/20/17 8:30pm tentative NOI hearing for 2 lots on Fitchburg State Road by Hancock Associates

Site Visits:

8-17-17 0 West Road, ANRAD peer review, Bob, Roberta, Cathy, Tom Peragallo, Scott Goddard. Tom Peragallo performed soil and plant assessments on the 3 non-jurisdictional areas identified on the parcel. None of them was deemed to be connected to the larger wetland. However, at least 2 of them were still holding water and thus, possible that they are vernal pools. The ANRAD does not certify or determine vernal pools, just boundaries of wetlands. There was an undocumented, connected finger of wetland that would be included in a new mapping of the parcel and brought to the continuation of the hearing.

8-17-17 Deer Bay Rd – property owned by John Hourihan. Cathy, Roberta and Bob met John on site to discuss the enforcement order that the Commission issued for work performed within the 100 ft buffer without a permit. Took measurements on site and found that all of his work was within the 100 ft buffer. He has been working from a plan that showed measurements that were no longer valid. Told him that he needed to install erosion controls immediately and file an NOI. Hi plan was to loam and seed the area now that the excavation is complete. Told him he had to stop all work.

8-17-17 Turnpike Rd. Cathy, Roberta and Bob viewed the site owned by David Martin that had previously been the site of a home that was burned down by the fire department. No pre-construction site visit had been performed or scheduled and now construction was underway.

8-22-17 688 Jones Hill Rd, Bob, Roberta, Cathy met on site with Stan and Ken Honkala(prior owner) to review how the project would move forward. The pond may have been an irrigation pond originally. Right now it is well vegetated and it makes no sense to re-open any issue about how it was created either 15 years ago or much longer than that. The driveway needs some work to prevent further erosion. The crossing on the driveway is complete. We will issue a Certificate of Compliance and send to them.

8-25-17 South Rd, Somero. Roberta and Cathy stopped by the site at the request of a neighbor who complained of construction materials migrating into the pond from the site. No siltation barriers were in site. Billy Wheeler stated that they were buried under the sand. They told us they would install erosion barriers. There was no sign of construction debris in the water.

Site Visits Scheduled:

Mrs. Oja's property now owned by Ken Marion. Wants to discuss whether he can raise the land at the edge of the pond. 8:30am – Friday Sept 8th.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:33pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Roberta Flashman