

Ashby Conservation Commission
Minutes for the Meeting of August 1, 2018

The meeting was opened at 7:30pm with Roberta Flashman, Bob Leary and Cathy Kristofferson in attendance. The minutes of the meeting of July 18, 2018 were reviewed and accepted unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: nothing to report

Correspondence:

- 7/20 - emails with MassDEP and Town Clerk and Jackie McElwain about activity on Whitney Road. Cathy will alert Mass Fish and Wildlife about a possible road being built on or next to their property by abutter Broadmerkle. It also appears from the map that Mr. Broadmerkle would have to be crossing either F&W or Mr. Richard Lloyd's property to reach his property which does not abut his other 2 properties off Whitney Rd.
- 7/25 - email from Chris Guida with Appeal filing for 93-377. On 7/27/18, the Certified mail hard copy of the appeal appeared in our cubby.
- 7/30 Call from DCS, John Gioia (Joya) to schedule walk at Buczynski property on Thursday, Aug 2nd @ 9:30am
- 7/31 – CommunityViz responded to receipt of check for their product with license so that it could be downloaded and used.
- 7/31 DCS, Emmanuel Owusu, sent letter specifying that we didn't include a printed copy of the Appraisal with the Grant application. Roberta sent the file to be printed. Picked up today. Will deliver tomorrow to Mr. Gioia at the site walk.

Old Business:

The Commission continues to sort and clean-out the file cabinets for an hour prior to meetings. Roberta started on Allen Rd – trying to discern what the real numbers for the lots were now that they are no longer lot 1,2 etc.

Updated DEP/DCR Forestry Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) & Updated Forestry Regulations. Motion to name Cathy, who is Tree Warden, to be our contact person for forestry, and that she contact DCR and suggest that a copy of the Forest Cutting Plan (FCP) be sent to us when they first receive it. Bob 2nd. Vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

Follow up on Grant Application for Buczynski property on Harris Rd. Site visit scheduled for 9:30am with DCR. Printed out the Appraisal. Will deliver to DCR person.

New Business:

South Rd Fields, bobolinks, The Bobolink Project (<https://www.bobolinkproject.com>). Roberta had spoken to John Kimball about delaying the cutting of the fields. John called to see if he could cut. He delayed to July 15th and then cut when there was a span of 3 dry days before a week of rain. We are fairly certain that some Bobolinks were lost due to the cut. The Bobolink project pays farmers to cut the field late. Cathy will investigate further and Roberta will talk with Paula about cutting the field.

Residents of Deer Bay Rd appeared before the Commission to present evidence of problems at the property of John Hourihan. Dave Buonomo gave the Commission a report on John Hourihan's properties. He feels that there is possible wetland contamination. 7 people in the group also came to the

meeting tonight. There are oil drums and gas cans and old outboard motor engines on the property and in the pond which, they feel, pose a threat to the pond. We suggested if there is an oil or gas spill that they contact DEP as soon as possible. The Commission circulated a sign in sheet to collect signatures of those present. Dave will send the Commission pictures to support their complaints.

Scott Thatcher, representative of the Bennett Family Trust, 420 Main St. , appeared tonight to request a Cert of Compliance. He needs to submit Form 8A as a formal request for the COC. He gave the Commission verbal permission given to go on the property, once we receive Form 8A, to view the site.

Bruce Adams has sent the P&S from David Sutton-Brown for the release of the Town's Right of First Refusal for removal of the property from Chapter 61B. Roberta made the motion not to match the P&S offer of \$30,000 for the 3 ACRE property offered by David Sutton-Brown, a subdivision of the property at 531 Mason Rd, and hence surrender our Right of First Refusal for removal of the property from Chapter 61B. Cathy 2nd the motion. Vote was unanimous in favor of the motion. We will include Lois Raymond assess@ashbyma.gov and the Selectmen (Jennifer Collins) in the recipients of the minutes so that she has record of our vote.

Eric and Patsee Krook again appear to review what needed to be done to file an NOI.

Hearings:

August 1, 8:00pm, Ross Assoc., Mattis at 284 Deer Bay Rd, continuation. Hearing closed at 8:34pm
Cathy will write the OOC.

Hearings Scheduled:

Site Visits:

July 20, 2018, 854 South Rd. Cathy, Roberta, Tim and Bob met on site with Patsee and Eric Krook to view their project to remove an existing deck from their house at the edge of The Ashby Compensating Reservoir. Roberta pulled their file and found that the OOC had expired on 7/16/2017 – 3 years from the date of issue: 7/16/2014. She also found the findings of the Zoning Board of Appeals that restricts them from enlarging the deck from the current size. They will have to re-apply to receive a valid Order of Conditions (OOC). They wanted to talk about particulars of building, but they cannot move forward with even the removal of the deck until they have a valid OOC.

Site Visits needed:

The meeting was adjourned at 9:31pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Roberta Flashman