

Ashby Conservation Commission
Minutes for the Meeting of July 21, 2010

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

Minutes of the meeting of July 7, 2010 were reviewed and accepted as written with a unanimous vote.

Treasurer's Report: nothing to report

Correspondence:

From MRPC. Draft FFY 2011-2014 Montachusett Transportation Improvement Program public review notice.

Old Business

Still no further word from DEP (Gary Dulmaine) regarding the EO for clear-cutting in the wetland area on Jewett Hill Road (owner = Shepherd).

No further status regarding "shed" construction under Determination for Dana Fugelso Brookline, MA for property 844 South Road for the Commission. An electrical permit was issued.

No further developments regarding the erosion controls from the guard rail project to be placed to protect the Valley Road/Route 31 vernal pool. Cathy believes we should just request permission to retrieve the erosion controls and place them ourselves. Will email Bruce Coburn/DCR.

The information from Emily Norton regarding info on invasive species grant has been re-forwarded to Tim & Roberta. One of them will write the Commission's letter of support needed by September.

New Business:

Concerns regarding pick-up trucks on Mt Watatic and Blood Hill. Two pickup trucks were reported on the summit of Mt. Watatic last Friday and multiple reports have been made of vehicles trying to make their way up Blood Hill. It is unknown if they are the same trucks/drivers. Roberta will email the Watatic Management Committee to request information on the policing policy (potential town boundary issues since both Ashby and Ashburnham involved) after she reviews the Management agreement. No news from Alan Pease about further attempts or suggested cabling at Blood Hill.

Roger, Nicholas and Ryan Racine, 500 Jewett Hill Rd., 386-5362, riracine@yahoo.com appeared. They would like to put up a natural barrier to block the view of their abutter who has 24hour/7day surveillance pointed at their residence. No wetlands are involved with the barrier so it is not really a Commission issue. They would also like to provide

water for cows from an existing pond. The suggestion was made to create a cistern setup to keep the animals themselves out of the water. The Commission will research what agricultural exemptions may apply in this case since it is an existing farm with the required revenues. The Racines will need to submit a wetland application for the watering project when they are ready. Currently the feeling is that they are at least one year away.

Commission received a letter from BOH regarding a report of residents shampooing in the Fitchburg Reservoir at 854 South Rd. Tim to call.

Building permit application for McRae 63 Ingerson Rd. was left for the Commission to sign by the Town Clerk. Motion to wait to sign until NOI received. 3-0, 1 recused. Tim will inform Town Clerk.

Hearings:

Dennis McRae, 63 Ingerson Road. Skateboarding rink. Postponement requested. Appeared to explain lack of filing.

[Tim will provide notes]

Hearings Scheduled:

August 4, 8:00 PM, 63 Ingerson Road. Dennis McRae owner building a tennis court. Completed paperwork still pending.

Site Visits:

Monday, July 19, 2010, 7:30 AM 558 Fitchburg State Road, septic replacement. Tim and Cathy. Tim signed plans – no wetlands involved.

Site Visits Scheduled:

Friday, July 23, @ 7:30 AM, 63 Ingerson Rd., tennis court excavation.

Tuesday, July 27, @ 7:30 AM, 82 Russell Hill Rd., septic replacement.

Meeting adjourned at 9:22pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Cathy Kristofferson