

Ashby Conservation Commission

Minutes for the Meeting of October 20, 2010

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

The minutes of the meeting of October 6, 2010 were review and accepted unanimously as written with one spelling correction.

Treasurer's Report: nothing to report.

Correspondence:

Letter and flyer from Beaver Solutions LLC, advertising their availability and services.

Memo from EOEEA/DCS (Irene DelBono) detailing the owners' and abutters' rights to trees. (Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs/ Department of Conservation Services) As the Commission has the responsibility for monitoring and maintaining more properties, it makes sense to become well informed about property rights and responsibilities.

Via email a notice of a presentation on Saturday, October 23, 2010 at 7:30 PM Mason Town Hall on Route 123 about the Alaska Wilderness: Canoe Journey into the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge

Call from the Conways on Mayo Road asking about whether they could receive a Certificate Of Compliance. Despite the fact that their plan was revised and the work was eventually almost entirely out of the wetland buffer zone, they did record the Order of Conditions on their deed. So, the COC is the only document that will remove that recording from the deed. The Chair will call to request a form for requesting the COC. The Commission will conduct a site visit and write up the COC in the meantime.

Old Business:

Forest Legacy up-date. Property on Frost Rd still has not closed. DCR process of writing checks has had a glitch. Still need a MOU for 3rd party appraisals being done on the upcoming properties. Track 7 and 8 will be have boundary work done for their baselines. The CR's are under review with the lawyer.

The Watatic Mgmt meeting has been rescheduled to 10/27/2010, 7:00 pm.

The Commission members discussed the presentation of MRPC's Sewer Feasibility Study held on 10/13/2010, 7:30 PM. All the members of the Commission attended. The problem is that the smaller core doesn't include the town hall, which has a failed system. The larger area pushes the price up too high. The base of information was lacking even the count of homes that have had septic systems replaced in the last 10 years.

New Business:

We had a report that there has been some work within the pool across from the Pillsbury's house on Pillsbury Rd. It appears it might have been the result of clearing away the ice storm debris, but it went too far, removing everything from the pond, which is now dry. An offer was extended to talk with the owners and would like the Commission to follow up with a letter, dependant upon the demeanor of the conversation. End result is that some of the debris needs to be returned to the pool to allow better survival of the salamanders, some of which are Jefferson salamanders. Eggs left too low in the water, which is reported to be as deep as 15 feet, would have a slimmer chance of survival.

Status report on the Blood Hill Management Committee and possible options for 80% grant program for trail work. Roberta needs to call a meeting of the Committee and suggest that people get re-appointed. She will also find the grant paperwork and write a grant to at least get the trail stone culvert repaired and put a gate in place to keep wheeled vehicles off the trail. If this trail were improved enough to accommodate snowmobiles, there would be a higher probability of winning the grant, as there are far fewer applicants in that category. The grant money is mandated to be spent in specific proportions, with snowmobile trails receiving up to 1/3 of the grant funding.

Raymond Svedberg, 266 Pillsbury Rd came before the Commission tonight with a request for a listing of all the intermittent streams in Ashby, and in particular, in the area where he lives. We gave him references and suggested checking the USGS mapping for the area. We also explained briefly what was protected under the Wetlands Protection Act. He has plans to eventually build a house and is concerned about a stream that runs through his property.

Need to schedule the monitoring for the Packard Property. Should also monitor the property on Frost Rd. Chuck Perna has offered to walk the bounds of the Frost Rd property with Commission members since he has recently walked them with the surveyor.

Other properties need monitoring this fall. Lyman, Blood Hill, Watatic, Morrison.

Cathy and Roberta signed up to be a part of a CR Stewardship Group. The first meeting is Thursday, Oct 21 in the middle of the day. Only Cathy will attend.

Cathy will be attending a 2 day tree steward training program.

Still waiting for date and time on a visit to the Valley Road culverts. Really needs a headwall to hold the first culvert and road surrounding it in place. Tim will stop by the WBSF Headquarters and talk with Ed. T.

Hearings: None

Hearings Scheduled: None

Site Visits:

Allen Road site, Lots #2 and #3. Beginning clearing for erosion control installation. Tim visited 10-8-10 after call from an abutter. Hjelms have OOC and crossing plans. Reminded of preconstruction visit to be scheduled. Issue was that there was not supposed to be clearing on the road side of the wetland. Siltation fencing has been installed except along the stream, where they will install filter mitts. Work being done is within the OOC and is compliant.

82 Russell Hill Road, 10-14-10, Tim checked the silt fence installation and found it to be in good condition and well installed. Delivered a copy of the OOC to the excavator operator on 10-15-10

Site Visits Needed:

Ashby Stock Farm, pond - a Neal Anderson project.

873 Main Street, Rane Rainville for wetland delineation. Flags set by Neal Anderson

Adjournment:9:10