

## Ashby Conservation Commission

### Minutes for the Meeting of January 6, 2016

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

After a review of the minutes of the meeting of December 16, 2015 a motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes as written. The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

**Treasurer's Report:** Nothing to report

#### **Correspondence:**

The Commission received the following correspondence over the last 2 weeks:

A letter from Ducharme and Dillis acknowledging a visit to 126 Turnpike Rd. (Map 5 Parcel 16), certifying that the proposed solar array is outside the jurisdiction of the Wetlands Protection Act. Looked up the parcel and are unable to determine which lot this is, 16.1 or 16.2. Both have wetlands. Need more information: 16 and 16.2 are owned by Dumont. 16.1 is owned by Martin.

FY17 Budget Worksheets. Budgets are level funded.

MassDEP's revised **Snow Disposal Guidance**. Cathy has created a map with topo base, roads, parcels, wetlands, NHESP, and open space to use in discussions with Bill Davis, Highway Supt. We are trying to schedule a meeting with him to discuss the guidelines. Roberta left a message and never received a call back. Tim will call.

A Superseding Determination of Applicability for Gerald Brodmerkle, Whitney Road Maintenance Plan. DEP issued a Positive Determination, which requires the applicant to file a Notice of Intent to received conditions under which the requested work may be performed. This Determination backed up the Positive Determination issued by the Commission.

Emerald Ash Borer is now reported in Worcester by DEP.

An email from the Lunenburg Conservation Commission's Matt Marro forwarding information about Ms. Erin Landry, who is eager to sell a piece of land in Ashby. It is a sizeable piece of land abutting the Fitchburg Reservoir, which is a water supply for Fitchburg. Cathy will call Ms. Landry to find out more.

Plans from Stephanie Palojarvi, Heywood Rd – new construction, map 4, lot 31 were left in the Conservation Commission's Town Hall box without any note about the plans. In reviewing the plans, it appears that this may be the lot that Falter had proposed using for a feedlot about 10 years ago. There were multiple wetlands, a stream from a road culvert, and very large wetland on Rt 31.

MACC annual conference will be held this year at Holy Cross College in Worcester on March 5, 2016.

Building permits for 8 residential solar panel installations were issued in the last 2 weeks!

#### **Old Business:**

Update of information and discussion of the proposed gas pipeline. The Motion to Intervene window has been extended to Jan 15, 2016 @ 5:00pm. The Ashby Land Trust and Ashby BOH have filed as intervenors. Kinder Morgan filed a new alternative route with FERC – avoiding article 97 lands and using Rte. 2. This new route does not use the old route through Townsend, Pepperell, Groton, but still goes through those towns. It misses Ashby.

Northeast Mass Gas Pipeline Coalition (NMGPC), the Municipal group opposing the pipeline, will be meeting in Lunenburg Public Library on Monday, 1/11/16. There is an open seat for chair and the Town of Groton no longer interested in chairing the Committee. Dracut could be a co-chair.

Al Futterman reported seeing horse manure being placed too close to wetland resource on property of Charlotte McCauley, Richardson Rd. This needs a site visit.

### **New Business:**

In response to continued issues with existing filing cabinets and the need for more filing space, Roberta made a motion to purchase 4 new or used, locking, 4 drawer filing cabinets. The motion was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bob. Staples lists them for \$219. One of ours has a stuck drawer. The vote on the motion was 2 to 2. A new motion was made by Tim and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bob to explore the cost of replacing file cabinets. The vote on the motion was unanimous in favor of the motion.

Issue ORAD for Lodestar/0Main. All Commissioners signed. The ORAD is in agreement with the delineation on map 8 parcel 57. Tim will mail out a copy of the ORAD via certified mail.

On Sunday, January 3, 2016, at the Townsend Library, Commission members participated in helping people learn how to file for intervention in the review process of the Kinder Morgan/Tennessee Gas Pipeline proposal for their North East Direct pipeline (NED). They also assisted people in understanding the pipeline project. This will be repeated on Sunday, Jan 10, 2016, 3-4pm at the library.

**Hearings:** None

**Hearings Scheduled:** (None)

### **Site Visits:**

12-18-15, 8:00AM DEP #s 93-307 and 93-336 Cathy, Roberta and Tim met with Dan Proctor at the Erickson Road, Terkian property to review the siltation barriers and other preparations on the property for the proposed construction.

- Some of the wetland markers need to be repositioned to correctly mark the edge of wetlands rather than the location of the siltation barriers.
- The markers also need to have 2 nails in each marker rather than one.
- The erosion controls need to be moved to the road side of the stone wall to better protect the wetland behind the wall.
- The “No Disturb Area” needs to be surrounded by orange fencing, or some similar demarcation to ensure that no machinery enters the area.
- Dan Proctor reported that the road would be built as they proceed towards the fork in the drive.
- The stream will be crossed with a metal span which will sit on two poured concrete headwalls. They are not to disturb the bottom of the stream. There need to be siltation barriers lining the stream on both sides while the digging and pouring of the concrete occurs. Should also have a siltation barrier downstream from the crossing just to ensure that nothing goes downstream.
- Change the work area near the stream to the right side of the drive since the left side is wetland.
- Since the Commission has questions about the detail of the construction of the detention pond, Dan Proctor is to include the detail in the next monthly report/site visit. .

12-21-15, Bob, Cathy and Roberta met with Bruce Adams at his property off Telephone Road to view a potential house lot for possible issues. The lot had already been cleared for the house. No wetlands were near the proposed site of the septic system or house.

### **Site Visits Needed:**

Richardson Rd, McCauley. Horse Manure in the wetland?

Meeting was adjourned at 9:00pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Roberta Flashman