

Holliston Conservation Commission

APPROVED Meeting Minutes
Town Hall . Meeting Room #014

October 15, 2013
8:00 PM

Present: Allen Rutberg, Chair; Ann Marie Pilch, Vice-Chair; Shaw Lively, Jim McGrath, Commissioners

Charles Katuska, Conservation Agent
Sheri O'Brien, Conservation Assistant

Absent: Chris Bajdek, David Schroder, Rebecca Weissman, Commissioners

Allen Rutberg, Chair, opened the meeting at 8:08 PM.

Public Meetings & Hearings

**** New Public Meeting - Request for Determination of Applicability - #D-510: 7 Prentice Street - identified as Holliston Assessors Map 8, Block 1, Lot 13,** proposed installation of a replacement septic system, *Robert Murphy/Robert G. Murphy & Associates, Inc.* representing *Susan Badacci*

The Agent read the legal notice that was published in the *MetroWest Daily News* on October 8, 2013.

Robert Murphy presented plans for a Title V septic system to replace an old cesspool system. The septic system and grading are within the 100' buffer zone. No work will be done in the 50' No-Disturb Zone. The erosion controls will be straw wattles. Access will be off of Prentice Street through an existing stone wall which will be rebuilt when the septic system is completed.

Ms. Pilch made a motion to issue the following Determinations for RFD #D-510, 7 Prentice Street:

Positive #2B Determination: the boundaries of the bordering vegetated wetlands and the riverfront area as shown on the plan are NOT confirmed as accurate;

Positive #5 Determination: the work is subject to review by the Holliston Conservation Commission pursuant to the Holliston Wetlands Administration ByLaw (Article XXX); and

Negative #3 Determination: the work is within the Buffer Zone, but will not alter an Area subject to protection under the Act, therefore, the work does not require a Notice of Intent.

Conditions:

- a) Erosion control barrier must be installed prior to any tree removals or land disturbance for septic system replacement work. Conservation Commission office must be notified (508-429-0607) following installation of the erosion control barrier. Erosion controls are to be maintained onsite in functional condition until

all areas disturbed for septic system reconstruction are fully restabilized with vegetation.

- b) No stockpiling will occur on the site.
- c) Project access will be from Prentice Street through a stone wall southwest of the house as indicated on the record plan. The stone wall will be rebuilt following septic system installation.
- d) **FERTILIZERS/PESTICIDES/HERBICIDES.** Fertilizers utilized for landscaping and lawn care shall be low phosphate content, slow-release variety, and shall be used in moderation. Pesticides and herbicides shall not be used within 100 feet of the wetland resource area or within 200' of the riverfront area of Chicken Brook.

Mr. Lively seconded the motion. Unanimous. (4-0-0)

Continued Hearing – Notice of Intent for DEP File # 185-764: Lots 17 & 18 Kingsbury Drive - identified as Holliston Assessors Map 5, Block 3, Lots 54.3 & 54.4, proposed construction of a common driveway to serve two single family dwellings, *Joyce Hastings/GLM Engineering Consultants, Inc.* representing *Lou Petrozzi/Wall Street Development Corporation*

The Building Inspector indicated that this driveway is a common driveway as designed and will need a Special Permit from the ZBA in order to be built. The applicant is in the process of deciding whether they will redesign the driveway or go to the ZBA for a Special Permit.

At the applicant's request, this hearing will be continued to the ConCom's next meeting on November 5, 2013.

Mr. Lively made a motion to continue the hearing for DEP File # 185-764: Lots 17 & 18 Kingsbury Drive until November 5, 2013. Ms. Pilch seconded the motion. Unanimous. (4-0-0)

Continued Public Hearing – Notice of Intent for DEP File # 185-763: Lot 18 Kingsbury Drive - identified as Holliston Assessors Map 5, Block 3, Lot 54.4, proposed construction of a single family home, *Joyce Hastings/GLM Engineering Consultants, Inc.* representing *Lou Petrozzi/Wall Street Development Corporation*

At the applicant's request, this hearing will be continued to the ConCom's next meeting on November 5, 2013.

Mr. Lively made a motion to continue the hearing for DEP File # 185-763: Lot 18 Kingsbury Drive. Ms. Pilch seconded the motion. Unanimous. (4-0-0)

Continued Public Hearing – Notice of Intent for DEP File # 185-765: Lot 3.4A Old Cart Path - identified as Holliston Assessors Map 14, Block 5, Lot 3.4 (portion A), proposed installation of a natural gas utility connection to Sherborn, *Mark Beaudry/Meridian Associates, Inc.* representing *Edward Moore/Whitney Farm LLC*

Mark Beaudry from Meridian Associates presented a revised plan dated October 11, 2013 for a gas line that will tie into Holliston's gas line off of Old Cart Path into Sherborn. It will cross Lot 3.4 Old Cart Path (also known as Lot 32 on more recent plans) and then cross Dopping Brook into Sherborn's Whitney Farm subdivision. Bob Dragono from Little Harbor Construction, the construction manager, was also present.

Mr. Beaudry discussed the need for an Approval Not Required determination from the Planning Board in order to create this lot.

Originally, the gas line had been proposed to go over a town drainage easement on the lot. The Planning Board was concerned about this, so the gas line was moved so that it is entirely outside the drainage easement.

The toe of the rip rap slope goes down 4' in depth and the gas line is buried 40 inches. The peer review consultant, AP Associates (subcontracted out to Weber Engineering Associates, LLC), recommended that the gas line be moved 8' away from the toe of the rip rap slope. This means that the gas line will be moved somewhat closer to the wetlands so that it is approximately 40' away from the wetlands. The Commission asked that the gas line be placed 8' away from the toe of the rip rap slope, rather than the proposed 5' away from the rip rap slope.

NStar requires a 15' wide easement on the ground above the gas line. The work area that the applicant will need to install the gas line will be 8'

NHESP issued a combined letter of no finding to Whitney Farms for both Sherborn and Holliston, rather than a specific letter for this Order of Conditions. The Holliston Fire Chief has no issues with a gas line being placed across this lot.

The original Order of Conditions, DEP File #185-744, for Lot 3.4A Old Cart Path will need to be amended to reflect the new configuration of the lot and the addition of the gas line to the lot.

Ms. Pilch made a motion to close the hearing for DEP File # 185-765: Lot 3.4A Old Cart Path (also known as Lot 32). Mr. McGrath seconded the motion. Unanimous. (4-0-0)

It should be noted that the Approval Not Required (ANR) for this lot does not exist at this time, although the Planning Board has already accepted the application for the creation of this lot. Therefore, this Order of Conditions will be held for issuance until a Deed is recorded at the Registry of Deeds for the new lot with these lot lines. The applicant agreed to waive the 21-day requirement for the issuance of the Order of Conditions. Upon the issuance date, the 10 day appeal period will begin. The revised plan with the gas line 8' off the toe of the slope will be included in the Order of Conditions.

Ms. Pilch made a motion to approve the Order of Conditions for DEP File # 185-765: Lot 3.4A Old Cart Path (also known as Lot 32) with its issuance contingent upon the recording of the new lot's Deed at Middlesex South Registry of Deeds for the new lot. Mr. McGrath seconded the motion. Unanimous. (4-0-0)

Discussions

Lake Winthrop Management Plan Steering Committee - (Committee Make-up & Nominations)

The Parks Commission agreed to join the joint SubCommittee with the Conservation Commission for the Lake Winthrop Management Plan. Janice Miller would like to be considered for the subcommittee, along with Liz Newlands, a resident aquatic biologist, and a Natural Heritage employee. The Agent inquired at the high school to see if either teachers or students would like to be involved with the committee.

Gregg Lewis, Holliston resident, avid fisherman, and a member of the Holliston Sportsmen's Association (HSA) was present and is interested in being a member of the subcommittee. John Thomas, a resident on the shores of Lake Winthrop who is extremely familiar with the lake, was present and is interested in being a member of the subcommittee.

Commissioner, Shaw Lively and Commission Chair, Allen Rutberg, officially volunteered to be members of the Lake Winthrop Watershed Management Committee.

According to the CPC grant, the ConCom will acquire information regarding the residents' interests in the lake and provide education to the residents of Holliston regarding Lake Winthrop. Approximately \$10,000 of the \$17,000 grant has been expended on the consultant, the ESS Group, evaluation of the lake's condition.

The Consultant did not find any Eastern Pondmussel during their survey of the lake. Either the Eastern Pond Mussel was originally misidentified by Natural Heritage or the Consultant was unable to locate the Eastern Pondmussel that exists. Gregg Lewis inquired as to whether the consultant had actually scuba-dived to look for the Eastern Pondmussel. It was not clear what method the consultant used to determine the lack of Eastern Pondmussel in Lake Winthrop.

John Thomas, who has been a resident on the shore of Lake Winthrop for 25 years, recommended that the committee reach out to the Medway Conservation Commission due to several issues from run-off in the Lake Winthrop watershed which is located in Town of Medway. He explained that there is a fish hatchery in Medway on the south side of Hill Street that is still active, along with livestock, junked automobiles, and other debris. Mr. Thomas also suggested that the remaining \$7,000 from the grant be spent on hiring a consultant to develop a management plan outline.

There are smaller things that the committee can do to start improving conditions, such as using mats to help to kill the weeds at the town beaches as was done in the recent past about 10 years ago.

The Commission agreed that the priorities for the Committee at this time are:

- 1) To get a sense of the lake's history from the residents of Holliston.
- 2) To reach out to the town to determine what the residents feel are important matters regarding the lake's management plan.
- 3) Educate the residents as to things they can do to help to prevent pollution of the lake with phosphate and nitrogen, which come from fertilizers and septic systems.
(Phosphate and Nitrogen increase weed growth)

APPROVED Conservation Commission Minutes 10-15-13

Issued by: Sheri D. O'Brien

Approved by Commission: 03-18-14

Page 4 of 6

A mission statement and committee goals should be developed for the Lake Winthrop Management Plan Steering Committee (LWMPSC).

The Agent will reach out to the Parks Commission to learn who will be their two Park Commissioner liaisons and meet with them before November 5th. Mr. Lewis would be an excellent liaison with the Holliston Sportsmen's Association.

Review of Rules for Non-Criminal Enforcement (Ticketing)

This review was tabled for future discussion.

Enforcement

Notice of Wetlands Violation - Highland Meadows/The Orchards – Roping Builders

Highland Meadows plugged the hole in their detention basin to correct their violation.

General Business

Open Space & Recreation Plan Goals

- **Signage for CPC Funded Conservation Land**
The CPC granted \$6,000 to be spent over 3 years for signage. This sign money must only be used for the Adams, Fairbanks, and Mellen Street parcels which were purchased with CPC funds. In addition to entrance signs, perhaps, %No Hunting+ signs for these parcels can be purchased with these funds.
- **8-Arch Rail Trail Bridge**
Mary Greendale's immediate goals for the bridge are to remove the vegetation using herbicides and repaint the 8-Arch Bridge. Chuck Clapham provided an estimate of approximately \$200,000 to repaint the bridge.
- **Trail Connectivity/Carl Berg's Eagle Scout Project at Poitras Entrance**
Mr. McGrath and Ms. O'Brien met with Carl Berg and his Eagle Scout Mentor, Bob Lanciault, last week at the entrance to the Poitras trail next to the Historical Society. They discussed the possibility of putting down wood chips at the entrance with a kiosk, and putting down gravel further in where the trail crosses a low spot before the trail reaches an extremely wet area that will require a boardwalk (hopefully, built by another Scout in the future). Master Berg e-mailed the staff today and explained that he and his Scout leaders agreed that he would build the kiosk, GPS-locate/re-map the trails, and clear the entrance trail, so that it is 8' wide up to where the trail takes a sharp left. He also said that if the Commission would like gravel and wood chips that he would have his volunteers spread them, if the gravel and wood chips are supplied.

Adams Street Conservation Restriction (NStar Parcels)

The CR for the Adams Street parcels (that used to be owned by NStar) was received from The Trustees of Reservations (TTOR). George Johnson from the Open Space Committee did a terrific job putting together the CR package and it will serve as a good model for future CRs.

APPROVED Conservation Commission Minutes 10-15-13

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Page 5 of 6

An inspection by the Commissioners of the baseline documentation from TTOR (dated October 1, 2013) needs to be completed as soon as possible. Ms. Pilch, as Open Space Chair, signed an invoice for the endowment for TTOR monitoring of the property in the future.

Central Street Fire Station – Determination of Applicability #D-509

The Agent presented photographs of the new pavement modifications behind the fire station. The Commission was pleased with the results.

Review Mail

Mass Mosquito Control Letter Dated October 10, 2013

The Mass Mosquito Control has proposed to do work on the ditches of the rail trail between West Holliston Office Park (Veristat) and Kase Farm. The Agent will send out an e-mail to the Commission with the proposal to formally request their comments.

At 10:43 PM, Mr. McGrath made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Lively seconded the motion. Unanimous. (4-0-0)

The next Conservation Commission meeting will be in 3 weeks on November 5, 2013.