

Holliston Conservation Commission

APPROVED Meeting Minutes
Town Hall . Meeting Room #014

November 5, 2013
7:30 PM

Present: Allen Rutberg, Chair; Ann Marie Pilch, Vice-Chair; Chris Bajdek, Shaw Lively, David Schroder, Rebecca Weissman, Commissioners

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

Absent: Jim McGrath, Commissioner

Allen Rutberg, Chair, opened the meeting at 7:30 PM.

GENERAL DISCUSSION

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

The meeting scheduled for November 14th will be between the two Conservation Commissioners (Shaw Lively and Allen Rutberg) and the Park Commissioners (Inge Daniels and Art Winters) to determine the structure of the committee and a timeline and goals. After that, volunteer community members would be involved. Holliston residents, Janice Miller and Karl Schlotterbeck, asked if they could obtain minutes from the November 14th meeting as they would like to be involved with the LWMP Steering Committee.

FEMA has issued a new letter of map amendment (LOMA) for the Lake Winthrop watershed area. It will be very helpful as we go forward with the management plan. The Agent will collect and circulate the most recent documents, including the ESS Group reports, Lycott reports, 1985 D & F Report, and FEMA LOMA.

The sample method for gathering the rare+Eastern Pondmussel will be clarified with Carl Nielsen/ESS, since no Eastern Pondmussels were located.

Approximately \$7,000 remains from the CPC funds, so these funds can be used for further studies, as long as the funds are used for what was approved under the Town Meeting warrant.

Review of Rules for Non-Criminal Enforcement (Ticketing)

This review was tabled until the next meeting.

Sign Automatic Extension via the Permit Extension Act for Order of Conditions for DEP File #185-680, 56 Boynton Road – Arneve Realty LLC

The Commission signed the automatic extension to the Order of Conditions for DEP File #185-680, 56 Boynton Road.

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Open Space & Recreation Plan Goals

- **Trail Connectivity/Carl Berg's Eagle Scout Project at Poitras Entrance**
Master Berg is submitting his paperwork to the Knox Trail Council this week. He hopes to have it approved within 3 to 4 weeks before the ground freezes, so that he will be able to dig the holes for the kiosk footings.
- **8-Arch Rail Trail Bridge**
A meeting will be held next Tuesday, November 12, 2013 regarding the 8-Arch Bridge. The Agent gave Mary Greendale permission to clear the vegetation between the bridge and the road, except for a 10qswath on each side of the brook.

Baseline Documentation for Adams Street CR (NStar Parcels)

The Agent will e-mail electronic copies of the Conservation Restriction parcels to the Commissioners, so that they can review the property lines.

Informal Discussion RE: Drainage Improvements between Irving Place and the Winthrop Canal – Tom Smith/Highway Dept.

Mr. Smith would like to repair a drain line that runs between Irving Place and the Winthrop Canal. This is a very antiquated drain line that discharges directly into the canal. However, per NPDES, the town is required to eliminate any direct discharge into a waterway without treatment. The hope is to create a discharge point that will be set back from the canal. Since this will be in lawn area, it needs to be discussed with the property owner. Mr. Smith indicated that this project will probably need to wait until next Spring.

Public Meetings & Hearings

**** New Public Meeting - Request for Determination of Applicability - #D-511: 1015 Highland Street - identified as Holliston Assessors Map 8, Block 1, Lot 13, proposed construction of a shed in the 100-year floodplain, Christopher Cummings**

The Agent read the legal notice that was published in the *MetroWest Daily News* on October 29, 2013.

The owner, Mr. Cummings, presented plans for a shed located in the 100-year floodplain (also known as %bordering land subject to flooding+). Mr. Cummings unknowingly placed a gravel %pad+(for his shed) in the floodplain. The Agent suggested that possibly Mr. Cummings could raise the shed onto footings to elevate the shed above the floodplain. There are no exemptions in the Wetlands Protection Act for putting an accessory structure in the floodplain; however, accessory structures are allowed in the 100qbuffer zone. If Mr. Cummings decides to keep the shed in the flood plain, the Commission asked that a complete engineering plan be submitted with an NOI (rather than a section of the plan). However, if he moves the shed out of the 100q buffer zone and the flood plain, he will not need to submit an NOI to the Commission.

There is also a newly constructed drainage outfall, which the builder added to rectify drainage issues in the backyard. It may interfere with the drainage easement.

Mr. Lively made a motion to issue the following Determinations for RFD #D-511, 1015 Highland Street:

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Positive #1 Determination: the area described on the plan is an area subject to protection under the Act (bordering land subject to flooding), which requires the filing of a Notice of Intent;

Positive #3 Determination: the work described on the plan and documents is within an area subject to protection under the Act (bordering land subject to flooding), which requires the filing of a Notice of Intent; and

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

Ms. Pilch seconded the motion. Unanimous. (6-0-0)

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*

At the applicant's request, this hearing will be continued to the ConCom's next meeting on November 19, 2013.

Mr. Schroder made a motion to continue the hearing for DEP File # 185-764: Lots 17 & 18 Kingsbury Drive until November 19, 2013. Mr. Bajdek seconded the motion. Unanimous. (6-0-0)

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 19, 2013.

Mr. Schroder made a motion to continue the hearing for DEP File # 185-763: Lot 18 Kingsbury Drive until November 19, 2013. Mr. Bajdek seconded the motion. Unanimous. (6-0-0)

General Discussion Continued

Staffing Discussion

The Commission discussed the possibility of opening the office on Thursday mornings and increasing the Assistant's hours from 18 to 20 hours per week. Betsy Liberty from the Finance Committee will bring this item to the FinCom's meeting on next Tuesday evening, November 12, 2013.

Sudbury Valley Trustees

Sudbury Valley Trustees (SVT) allocate up to 6 AmeriCorps land protection projects per year for capacity building within the Sudbury Valley. If any piece of a community drains into the Sudbury Valley watershed, then it qualifies as an SVT community and Holliston has a small section on the north side that is in the Sudbury Valley watershed. An SVT AmeriCorps intern (Nick Olson) can work with the Conservation Commission with training (up to 120 hours/project) in stewardship, land management, and baseline documentation, etc. depending on what the Commission is interested in. The Agent will put together some SVT project proposals for the Commission to review.

Review Mail

The mail was reviewed.

Town Meeting Approvals

- Transfer of 6 Parcels of Land to the Care and Custody of the Conservation Commission
- \$3,000 from the CPC for Signs for Land funded by the CPC
- Funding for the Bullard Memorial Farm Conservation Restriction

Gretchen Lane – Potential Land Donations

The owner, Jim Moore, would like to donate these two parcels to the town for Conservation Land. The Commission thought that the land might be better suited for the Parks and Rec Department to be used for a park or community garden.

At 8:56 PM, Ms. Pilch made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Weissman seconded the motion. Unanimous. (6-0-0)

The next Conservation Commission meeting will be on November 19, 2013.