

## Holliston Conservation Commission

### Meeting Minutes

Town Hall- Meeting Room #014

February 14, 2017  
7:30 PM

Present: Chris Bajdek, Chair; Jennifer Buttarro, Shaw Lively, Ann Marie Pilch, Allen Rutberg, Commissioners  
Sheri O'Brien, Conservation Agent; Kristin O'Brien, Conservation Assistant  
Absent: Emily Kingston, Vice-Chair; Rebecca Weissman, Commissioner

**Chris Bajdek, Chair, opened the meeting at 7:30 PM.**

### **GENERAL BUSINESS**

#### **Tree Removal Request at 38 Grove Street**

- Inge Daniels requested approval to remove two ash trees from her back yard, which abuts the Winthrop Canal. Both trees are drastically leaning and pose a safety concern.
- Permission was given to remove the trees, but stumps must remain.

#### **Tree Removal Request at 3 Minuteman Circle**

- No Commissioners were able to visit the property before the meeting.
- There was concern about building the homes this close to the 50-foot no-disturb line and there was discussion on strategies for future instances similar to this.
- The Commission is sympathetic towards home owners wanting to remove diseased or dangerous trees; however, they do not want to cut healthy trees simply because they are close to a home.
- Staff will write up language for a possible new policy or regulation.

**Dr. Rutberg made a motion to reject the request for removing the trees, unless the homeowner can provide a professional and independent assessment of the trees health and if there is a safety risk. Mr. Lively seconded the motion. (5-0-0).**

#### **Vote on Draft Meeting Minutes – 1/31/17**

**Mr. Lively made a motion to accept the 01/31/17 minutes with the discussed edits. Ms. Pilch seconded the motion. Dr. Rutberg abstained. The motion passed. (4-0-1).**

#### **Review Correspondence**

- Correspondence was reviewed.

### **PUBLIC HEARINGS/PUBLIC MEETINGS**

#### **\*\*New Public Meeting - Request for Determination of Applicability for #D-595: 230 Ashland St (Assessors Map 14-1-146) proposed replacement of failed septic system – Eric Dickinson, Civilized Solutions representing Robert Tabor**

- Mr. Dickinson and Paul Saulnier were present. Mr. Dickinson waived the reading of the legal notice advertised in the *MetroWest Daily News* on February 7, 2017.
- Since the original submission, the proposed septic system and all grading were moved closer to the home so no work will be done in the 50-foot buffer zone. There was a Board of Health variance added to the plan, which was approved by Scott Moles.
- The new septic system will replace a failed system.
- The limit of work will have erosion controls and orange fencing installed, as indicated on the record plan.

- There was discussion of a brush pile in the 50-foot buffer zone; however, it does not appear to be on the homeowner's property.
- It was agreed that the homeowner can use concrete bounds or 2-3 foot boulders with wetland plaques to mark the 50-foot no-disturb line up to the woodland edge.
- Bounds or boulders will start 20 feet from the street and be installed every 20 feet thereafter.
- If boulders are used, wetland plaques will be adhered to every other one.

**Mr. Lively made a motion to issue the following Determinations for RFD #D-595: 230 Ashland Street, with the discussed conditions; Positive 2B, Positive 5, and Negative 3. Ms. Buttaro seconded the motion. Unanimous. (5-0-0).**

**Continued Public Hearing – Notice of Intent for DEP File # 185-823: 1670 Washington St (Assessors Map 5-4-26) proposed addition to autobody repair shop – Joyce Hastings/GLM Engineering representing Michael Ibrahim/Hometown Automotive Service & Sales, Inc.**

- Ms. S. O'Brien received approval from GLM and Mr. Ibrahim to continue the hearing until peer review of the stormwater report is completed.

**Mr. Lively made a motion to allow the stormwater peer review process to begin for 1670 Washington Street. Dr. Rutberg seconded the motion. Unanimous. (5-0-0).**

**Ms. Pilch made a motion to continue the hearing for DEP File #185-823: 1670 Washington Street until the February 28, 2017 meeting. Dr. Rutberg seconded the motion. Unanimous. (5-0-0).**

**Ms. Pilch made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:26 PM. Dr. Rutberg seconded the motion. Unanimous. (5-0-0).**