

Holliston Conservation Commission

Meeting Minutes

Town Hall- Meeting Room #014

September 5, 2017

7:30 PM

Present: Chris Bajdek, Chair; Rebecca Weissman, Vice Chair, Blake M. Mensing, Ann Marie Pilch, Allen Rutberg, Commissioners
Kristin O'Brien, Conservation Assistant

Absent: Jennifer Buttaro, Shaw Lively, Commissioners; Utah Nickel, Associate Commissioner

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

General Business

Final Eagle Scout presentation for trail work at Poitras Memorial Land- Jeff Meyers

Master Meyers completed his project at Poitras Memorial Land trailhead near the Historical Society, which included installing a raised 60q gravel trail, cutting back overgrown vegetation (primarily poison ivy), replacing faded trail blazes, and using cut tree stumps as steps through a wet area.

He had 18 volunteers for a total of 89.9 hours of work.

There was concern about the bare soil and potential for future invasive species.

Notice of Violation for 194 Lowland Street

Ms. O'Brien stated Mr. Brumber and his attorneys have submitted an RDA to stabilize the site and will submit an NOI in the near future for the work he would like to complete.

The Commission agreed to continue this conversation to the next meeting, September 19, 2017.

Discussion: Highlands at Holliston Conservation Restriction

The Commission reviewed and discussed the proposed final agreement with Jeff Roeloffs, attorney for Fafard, and Jay Talerman, Town Counsel.

Terms include the Commission hiring a consultant immediately.

Mr. Roeloffs stated there is no anticipated issue with access to the open space, as Fafard owns the property.

Ms. Weissman and Ms. Pilch offered to assist the Conservation office, depending on availability.

Ms. Pilch made a motion to approve the final agreement and authorize the Chair to sign it. Dr. Rutberg seconded the motion. Unanimous. (5-0-0).

Request for Certificate of Compliance for DEP File #185-782: 57 Old Cart Path (Lot 75) – Guerriere and Halnon, Inc.

Due to an enforcement order mitigation plantings were required; however, upon inspection substitutions were made without approval.

Alex Gow, Fafard, was asked to provide a letter justifying the substitutions. No letter was received.

Request for Certificate of Compliance for DEP File #185-725: 36 Kingsbury Drive – Jonathan Gerber

Mr. Gerber owes taxes to the town and per the Treasurer's Office no permits can be issued.

Conservation Commission Minutes 09-05-17

Issued by: Rebecca Weissman

Approved by Commission: 10-03-17

PUBLIC HEARINGS/PUBLIC MEETINGS

Continued Public Hearing – Abbreviated Notice of Resource Area Delineation DEP File # 185-830: 185 Cedar Street (Assessors Map 14-3-1) proposed wetland delineation – Bruce Wilson, GW Site Solutions representing David Adams, Indian Ridge Realty Trust

The office was not able to secure a peer reviewer due to information not provided in the ANRAD.

An abutter was concerned about the peer review occurring in fall. The Commission explained how wetlands are delineated and it is not uncommon for a delineation to occur when water is not visible.

Ms. Pilch made a motion to continue the hearing 185 Cedar Street until the September 19, 2017 meeting. Dr. Rutberg seconded the motion. Unanimous. (5-0-0).

Request for Partial Certificate of Compliance for DEP File #185-803: 128 Fisher Street- Art Allen, EcoTech

Ms. O'Brien explained we have a bond for the replacement plantings to be installed and monitored next year. They have requested a partial CoC to complete an agreement between the owner and contractor.

There was discussion on the language of the bond and planting agreement.

The Commission agreed to issue a Partial CoC, but the bond will not be released until fall 2018 when the replacement plantings are surveyed and found to have a success rate of 75%.

Ms. Pilch made a motion to issue a Partial Certificate of Compliance for DEP File #185-803: 128 Fisher Street. Mr. Mensing seconded the motion. Unanimous. (5-0-0).

****New Public Meeting - Request for Determination of Applicability for #D-615: 11 Minuteman Circle (Assessors Map 14-5-5.B) proposed deck extension – James McAdams, Ben Blue's Backyard Creation representing Igor Davydenko**

Ms. O'Brien explained the owner is proposing to extend his current deck 4' towards the wetlands. All work will be in a lawn area.

The Commission discussed the need to protect the trees nearby and stress to the owner that in the future he cannot remove trees in the 50' no-disturb due to proximity alone.

Dr. Rutberg made a motion to issue a negative 3 Determination of Applicability for #D-615: 11 Minuteman Circle with the conditions as stated. Ms. Pilch seconded the motion. Unanimous. (5-0-0).

Discussion: Proposed Pool at 112 Lake Shore Dr.

The owner has asked the Commission to consider the potential for a pool in his backyard before filing any permit requests.

Ms. O'Brien explained the while the pool would be in a lawn area it is within the buffer zone and there is potentially a stream within the wetland complex just passed the lawn.

After discussion the Commission would require a Notice of Intent and make no guarantee of approving the plan due to proximity of wetlands and a potential resource area.

Review Advertisement for Conservation Agent Open Position

The Commission reviewed the advertisement for the Agent position.

Ms. Pilch made a motion to approve the posting with the edits as discussed. Dr. Rutberg seconded the motion. Unanimous. (5-0-0).

Ms. Pilch made a motion to appoint Kristin O'Brien as the temporary acting agent until a new permanent agent is hired. Dr. Rutberg seconded the motion. Unanimous. (5-0-0).

Vote on 8/22/17 Draft Meeting Minutes and 8/22/17 Executive Session Meeting Minutes

Ms. Pilch made a motion to accept the 08/22/17 Open Session minutes. Dr. Rutberg seconded the motion. Ms. Weissman abstained. The motion passed. (4-0-1).

Ms. Pilch made a motion to accept the 08/22/17 Executive Session minutes. Dr. Rutberg seconded the motion. Ms. Weissman abstained. The motion passed. (4-0-1).

Review Correspondence

None to review.

Washington Hills CR Update

The Washington Hill CR has been recorded.

Dr. Rutberg made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:46 PM. Mr. Mensing seconded the motion. Unanimous. (5-0-0).