

Holliston Conservation Commission

Approved Meeting Minutes

Town Hall – Meeting Room #014

January 4, 2011

7:30 PM

Present: Geoffrey Zeamer, Chair; Ann Marie Pilch, Vice Chair;
Fred Carnes, Richard Maccagnano, Allen Rutberg, Commissioners

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

Absent: Chris Bajdek, Peter Rosati, Commissioners

Mr. Zeamer opened the meeting at 7:38 PM.

General Business

The mail was reviewed.

Agent's Report

The Agent's Report was read (attached). The following was discussed:

Discuss Beaver Dams in the Hopping Brook Park/Rt. 16 Area

A Mass Highway dive team opened up the second of the two 4' culverts under Hopping Brook Road on 12/22/10. The Holliston Highway Dept. is installing gratings over the inflow end of the culverts to help prevent further blockage by the beavers inside the culverts. Mr. Katuska spoke with Merle Bassett of the Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) who explained that the Division of Fisheries and Wildlife has the leaseholder responsibility for care of the wildlife (e.g., beavers) in the Charles River Natural Valley Storage Area.

Ratify WPA Emergency Certification for Hopping Brook Road - Beaver-Blocked Culverts located under both built and unbuilt sections of Hopping Brook Road

Mr. Rutberg made a motion to ratify the WPA Emergency Certification for the Hopping Brook Road culverts. Ms. Pilch seconded the motion. Unanimous.

Discuss Lifting of Enforcement Order - Cutler Heights - Jon Juhl & Associates

The Commission reminded Mr. Juhl that if there are anymore breakout issues regarding the property, another Enforcement Order could be issued.

Ms. Pilch made a motion to lift the Enforcement Order for Cutler Heights. Mr. Rutberg seconded the motion. Unanimous.

Review/Discuss Mail

20 Whitney Street – DEP #185-653 ZBA Application for Automotive Use

The Commission would like the applicant, Brian Rossini, to come into a ConCom meeting so that they can review his application for automotive use at 20 Whitney Street.

FEMA Letter RE: Upcoming Risk Mapping, Assessment & Planning Meetings for Concord Watershed

A very small part of Holliston on the northern side is in the Concord Watershed. Since most of Holliston is in the Charles River Watershed, the Commission requested that the Agent ask FEMA if there was a similar Risk Management Plan for the Charles River Watershed.

General Business Continued

Permit Extension Act Approval for OoC Extension DEP #185-661 – Lot 2, Ashland Street – Jay M. Turner

The Commission signed the extension to OoC DEP #185-661 for Lot 2, Ashland Street as deemed necessary by the Permit Extension Act. The OoC is extended until March 20, 2013.

Permit Extension Act Approval for OoC Extension DEP #185-680 – 56 Boynton Road – Arneve Realty, LLC

The Commission signed the extension to OoC DEP #185-680 for 56 Boynton Road as deemed necessary by the Permit Extension Act. The OoC is extended until September 3, 2013.

Permit Extension Act Approval for OoC Extension DEP #185-694 – LC Lot 8 Preserve Lane – WDT, LLC

The Commission signed the extension to OoC DEP #185-694 for LC Lot 8 Preserve Lane as deemed necessary by the Permit Extension Act. The OoC is extended until November 10, 2014.

Permit Extension Act Approval for OoC Extension DEP #185-695 – LC Lot 7 Preserve Lane – WDT, LLC

The Commission signed the extension to OoC DEP #185-695 for LC Lot 7 Preserve Lane as deemed necessary by the Permit Extension Act. The OoC is extended until November 10, 2014.

Permit Extension Act Approval for OoC Extension DEP #185-696 – LC Lot 6 Preserve Lane – WDT, LLC

The Commission signed the extension to OoC DEP #185-696 for LC Lot 6 Preserve Lane as deemed necessary by the Permit Extension Act. The OoC is extended until November 10, 2014.

Permit Extension Act Approval for OoC Extension DEP #185-697 – LC Lot 5 Preserve Lane – WDT, LLC

The Commission signed the extension to OoC DEP #185-697 for LC Lot 5 Preserve Lane as deemed necessary by the Permit Extension Act. The OoC is extended until November 10, 2014.

Vote on Approval of Draft Minutes from ConCom Meetings on 6/15/10

There was not a quorum of the Commissioners present at the June 15th meeting (Ann Marie Pilch, Chris Bajdek, Fred Carnes, and Peter Rosati), therefore, a vote could not be taken on these minutes.

Vote on Approval of Draft Minutes from ConCom Meetings on 12/7/10

Ms. Pilch made a motion to approve the 12/7/10 minutes. Mr. Rutberg seconded the motion. Unanimous.

Hearings

****NEW RFD #452: Railroad Bed/Bike Trail between Hopping Brook Road and South Street, identified as Assessors Map 1, Block 1, Lot 50.1, proposed regrading of former railbed, Matt Varrell representing Holliston Trails Committee/Town of Holliston**

Mr. Varrell requested that the hearing regarding RFD #452: Railroad Bed/Bike Trail be continued until the Conservation Commission's meeting on February 1, 2011.

Ms. Pilch made a motion to continue the hearing for RFD #452: Railroad Bed/Bike Trail between Hopping Brook Road and South Street until February 1st, 2011. Mr. Maccagnano seconded the motion. Mr. Rutberg abstained. The motion passed.

General Business Continued

Complaint RE: Paul Smith Paving on Whitney Street

Mr. Zeamer received an anonymous complaint regarding a paving company on Whitney Street. Paul Smith Paving is reportedly washing salt off of their trucks near the wetlands. The Commission asked the Agent to call Paul Smith Paving.

Salt Regulations

The Commission would like the Agent to look into regulations regarding salt storage.

Fiske Street and Lowland Street Beaver Dam in Bogastow Brook

There is a very large beaver dam and a beaver lodge in the wetlands (Bogastow Brook) behind 180 Fiske Street. Pam Zicko explained that if the area floods any further, her neighbors and the businesses on Lowland Street will have flooding issues. The sand is washing down Lowland Street and into Bogastow Brook next to the bridge. The Agent and Mr. Rutberg will make a site visit.

Pond off of Lowland Street

It was reported that a buck was killed on the pond ice and the head was cut off. The body of the buck was left behind. The Commission asked that the Agent report this to the Police and Animal Control.

Mr. Rutberg made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Pilch seconded the motion. Unanimous. The meeting adjourned at 8:47 PM.

The next Conservation Commission meeting will be Tuesday, January 18, 2011.