

Holliston Conservation Commission

Approved Meeting Minutes
Town Hall – Meeting Room #014

December 13, 2011
7:30 PM

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

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

Absent: Chris Bajdek, Commissioner

Mr. Zeamer opened the meeting at 7:32 PM.

General Business

Agent's Report

An Agent' Report was not presented tonight. The following was discussed:

Discuss Lake Winthrop - Lake Winthrop Watershed Association/Janice Miller

Janice Miller, Graham Koblenzer, Rebecca Donham, and Nat Simkins from the Lake Winthrop Watershed Association were present to discuss clean-up of the lake. They are part of an informal group of people who are interested in protecting the lake and they host the Fire and Ice event in February.

They would like to protect and enhance the environment and aesthetic properties of the lake, but there are several issues that need to be addressed and they are hoping the Commission can help them. A report by Lycott Environmental was completed in December 2008 which addresses the many issues that must be dealt with in the lake. There are invasive weeds, dioxin, mercury, and stormwater sediment concerns.

Also, beavers are blocking the dam and culverts coming out of the lake in Winthrop Canal. Janice Miller will provide a list of the beaver dams around the lake. It was explained that the Highway Dept routinely cleans out various dams around town, including the beaver dam at the man-made dam at Lake Winthrop's outlet.

The lake cannot be lowered (or raised) due to endangered species (pond mussel). It is believed that the lake also cannot be raked due to contaminants in the sediment of the lake.

The Lake Winthrop Watershed Association was disappointed that the Commission had not used the Lycott report issued in December 2008 to address many of the issues that need

to be corrected. The Commission explained that the budget and staff hours are very minimal and the applications regarding the Wetlands Protection Act are the priority, because they are mandated by law. Sheri O'Brien volunteered to be the Commission's liaison with the Lake Winthrop Watershed Association, so that the group can move forward with the Commission's input.

Adams Street Conservation Area Proposed Kiosk - Eagle Scout Project - Logan Ring, Eagle Scout Candidate/Troop 14

Logan Ring is a Life Scout with Troop 14 and for his Eagle Scout project he proposes to install a kiosk and a parking sign. The kiosk would have a clear, see-through case to allow trail maps to be protected. He would lay foundations for the kiosk and then assemble and erect the kiosk and parking sign. His goal is to finish the kiosk by the end of April.

The Commission asked that the kiosk be built to stand up to vandalism and weather. They would also like a covered box for maps as part of the kiosk. Master Ring will return with design options on January 3, 2012.

Bob Lanciault, Master Ring's Scout Mentor from Troop 14, also recommended that if the Conservation Commission has projects that they need help completing that they should contact any of the three Boy Scout troops in Holliston, because they are always looking for community service and Eagle Scout projects.

Public Meetings & Hearings

****New Public Meeting - Request for Determination #D-466: 25 Irving Place, identified as Holliston Assessors Map 8A, Block 3, Lot 8, proposal to replace a failed cesspool with a septic system, Joyce Hastings/GLM Engineering, Inc. representing Kathy McDonough**

Mr. Katuska read the legal notice published in the *MetroWest Daily News* on December 6, 2011. Ms. Hastings presented the plan for the septic system design. The system is an Eljen sand filter system which reduces the size of the septic system by 40%, so that the system will fit outside the 50' buffer zone. The access way is indicated on the plan. There will not be any stockpiling on site.

Ms. Pilch made a motion to issue the following Determinations for RFD #466, 25 Irving Place:

Positive #2B Determination: the boundaries of the bordering vegetated wetlands or other resource areas 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.

Approved Conservation Commission Minutes 12-13-11

Issued by: Sheri D. O'Brien

Approved by Commission: 02-14-12

Page 2 of 4

Conditions:

- A) Erosion control barrier, as shown on the record plan, must be installed prior to any tree removals, filling, excavation, and/or 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) Access way location will be adhered to as indicated on the record plan.
- C) There will be no stockpiling on site as indicated on the record plan.

Dr. Rutberg seconded the motion. Unanimous.

Continued Public Hearing Notice of Intent DEP #185-719: 2016 Washington Street, identified as Holliston Assessors Map 4, Block 6, Lots 11.1., 11.2, and 12.1, , proposal to construct a an access roadway, and to fill and replicate wetlands, *Robert Truax/GLM Engineering, Inc.* representing *Brian McCann/Hill Companies*

A written request for a continuance to January 3, 2012 was received from the applicant's representative, Peter Barbieri, Esq.

Ms. Pilch made a motion to continue the hearing for DEP File #185-719, 2016 Washington Street to January 3, 2012. Dr. Rutberg seconded the motion. Unanimous.

Continued Public Meeting – RFD #D-465: 100 Summer Street, Mission Springs Baseball Field, identified as Holliston Assessors Map 5, Block 1, Lot 4, proposed drainage improvements to baseball field, *Jim Stuckey/Ahronian Landscaping* representing *Parks & Recreation Dept./Town of Holliston*

No one was present to discuss the Mission Springs baseball field.

General Business Continued

Adams Street Parking Lot Update & Consideration of Add-On to Existing Barrows Contract

The construction of the parking lot has been completed. The gravel surface is very firm. Barrows Contracting submitted a proposal for \$3976.13 to install 4" of crushed stone at the entrance to the driveway and 4" of dense-grade material on the driveway to the parking lot. The Agent clarified with Paul LeBeau, Town Administrator, that this work could be done by Barrows Contracting and it did not have to go out to bid since it was under \$5,000.

The Agent will ask Barrows Contracting if their proposal will be valid after the winter is over, since it means they will have to move the equipment off-site. If this proposed cost is something they wanted to do while they still had their equipment on-site, Mr. Carnes and Mr. Rosati will meet with Barrows to discuss further. The Agent will ask for a sketch plan of what Barrows intends to construct.

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Page 3 of 4

Discuss Violation/Enforcement Order - DEP #185-628 - 355 Highland Street - Highland Meadows/The Orchards - Gary Ruping/Ruping Companies

During a site visit at Highland Meadows, Mr. Katuska noted failure of erosion and sediment controls. Sediment has continued to go onto the neighboring properties. He issued the Ruping Companies an Enforcement Order for the violations. This is their 5th Enforcement Order in 5 years. Since Highland Meadows is a 40.B project, fines would need to be charged by the neighboring property owned by Mass Audubon or by the DEP and EPA.

Dr. Rutberg made a motion to ratify the Enforcement Order for DEP #185-628, 355 Highland Street. Mr. Rosati seconded the motion. Unanimous.

Discuss the Demolished Building on Water Department Property on Washington Street

The Water Department demolished an old building within 10 feet of the wetlands. The Commission wants an Enforcement Order issued.

Mr. Maccagnano made a motion to issue an Enforcement Order to the Water Department with a copy to the Selectmen. Dr. Rutberg seconded the motion. Unanimous.

Water Department Well #5

Mr. Carnes and Mr. Maccagnano brought it to the Commission's attention that trees and brush were pushed into the wetlands at Well #5.

Vote on Approval of ConCom Regular Meeting Minutes from July 26, 2011

Ms. Pilch made a motion to approve the regular meeting minutes from July 26, 2011. Dr. Rutberg seconded the motion. Unanimous.

At 8:48 PM, Dr. Rutberg made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Maccagnano seconded the motion. Unanimous.

The next Conservation Commission meeting will be Tuesday, January 3, 2012.