

Holliston Conservation Commission

Meeting Minutes

Town Hall- Meeting Room #014

October 11, 2016

7:30 PM

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

Absent: Jennifer Buttarro, Shaw Lively, Commissioners

Chris Bajdek, Chair, opened the meeting at 7:38 PM.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Drainage Pipe at Willow Brook Farm/Lil' Folk Farm - 1070 Washington Street - David & Nancy Dubin

- Ms. S. O'Brien, and David and Nancy Dubin explained the need for a drainage pipe that would direct clean roof water runoff away from the dirt road on the farm.
- NRCS approved a plan where a pipe will go under the rock wall with a perforated, T-shape end embedded in crushed stone. The pipe would go into the 50' buffer zone, which has extensive invasive cover, e.g. bittersweet.
- Mr. and Mrs. Dubin would like to manually remove invasive plants.
- Ms. S. O'Brien recommended they speak with Robert Weidknecht, Chair of the Trails Committee about vine removal by the trail.
- Mr. Dubin will dig by hand to place the new 8" pipe with discharge below ground.
- The Commission states they can mow once a year in fall and rake out those cuttings only. Also they should use wildflower seeds in the area disturbed from the pipe installation. All other vegetation management plans will wait until the Commission can visit in mid-July, 2017.
- The Commission approved the creation of a sign that says "Approved by Conservation Commission on October 11, 2016"

Fairbanks Conservation Land: Final Eagle Scout report, of a boardwalk creation- Ryan Paradie

- The correct project being presented is a boardwalk Master Paradie built, not the hanging of "No Hunting" Signs as the agenda stated.
- Master Paradie built an 80' boardwalk on the Fairbanks Conservation Land, half a mile from the end of Dunster Road on June 11, 2016 with the help of 30 people from 9:00 A.M.-1:00 P.M.
- John Goeller, Chair/ President of New England Mountain Bike Association (NEMBA), assisted in designing the boardwalk.
- Two trees have since fallen, one was already cut off the path and the Commission gave approval for Mr. Goeller to remove sections of the tree currently on the path, and they must leave the cuttings.
- Mr. Bajdek signed the Eagle Scout final report for Master Paradie.

Adams Street Town Forest Conservation Land- Proposed Eagle Scout project to create a boardwalk- Mike Bozyczko

- Master Bozyczko proposed the construction of 48' x 2' boardwalk about 1.5 miles from the parking lot into the Adams Street Town Forest, with the assistance of Mr. Goeller and Joanne Hulbert, Chair of the Town Forest Committee.

- The boardwalk will be on half of the path and will go over a stream. The design was approved by the Army Corps of Engineers for another project, so it is a good design.
- Would like to start at the end of October or early November with the help of 15-20 people and will notify Ms. S. O'Brien when work will begin.
- NEMBA will be providing all of the supplies and tools.
- Ms. Hulbert has requested an interpretive sign near the boardwalk with a short educational description of oak trees.
- Mr. Bajdek signed the Eagle Scout proposal for Master Bozyczko.
- Master Bozyczko will send a copy of the Eagle Scout Proposal after Knox Trail Council approves the proposal.

Status of "No Hunting" signs with Troop 73

- Ms. S. O'Brien will go with Troop 73 into Fairbanks Conservation Land and Adams Town Forest to hang "No Hunting" signs along the Holliston/Milford town line and at trail entrances.
- The signs will state "No Hunting" as this is due to Holliston Town Bylaws that only allow hunting with the permission of the landowner. The town does not allow hunting on town owned land.

128 Fisher St. – Plan change to restoration area

- Ms. S. O'Brien and Ms. K. O'Brien conducted a site visit 128 Fisher St. to check on their progress and were told that Arthur Allen, Ecotech, wanted to alter the approved plan and leave an island or berm at the edge of the buffer zone to reduce impact on the established wetland plants. However, they would remove soil on either end for water to go around the berm when water levels are high enough.
- The Commission discussed the value of leaving the berm and the intention of the restoration plan (buffer zone vegetation management). The Commission agreed that since there is no major vegetation coverage on the berm and it is a buffer zone restoration plan, the berm should be removed as planned or they can submit an application for an Amended Order of Conditions.

35-65 Johnson Drive- Conservation land tree cutting

- Ms. S. O'Brien presented for the owners that live along this private drive which was originally approved under an Order of Conditions for DEP File # 185-241.
- This property had a previous Determination approved (# D-451) to pave a private drive that is adjacent to conservation land.
- Currently, there are 6 small trees close to the edge of the road which are overgrown with bittersweet and grapevines. In winter with snow and ice, these hang low and are a potential safety hazard. However, one larger tree which is further away from the road seems fine.
- Highway would not cut the tree since they are on wetlands conservation land.
- Stumpy Tree Service has quoted the homeowners \$700 to remove the trees, which will come out of the Conservation budget.
- The Commission agrees that they can remove 5 of the 6 the trees (leaving the largest and furthest from the street), but they must leave the stumps and cuttings in the woods.

Request for Administrative Change of DEP File #185-805: 3 Katie Way (Lot 9A)- Steve O'Leary

- Ms. S. O'Brien presented for Steve O'Leary, homeowner.
- Mr. O'Leary would like an Administrative Change to a previous Orders of Conditions as the wetland 50-foot-no-disturb line was moved back due to a receding wetland. He would like to move the hay bales currently marking the old 50-foot-no-disturbance line to the new one, and then remove several trees to expand the lawn area.
- After discussion, the Commission feels there is not enough information to make a decision. The Commission will discuss this with him at the next meeting when he submits an RFD for an adjacent property.

Request for Certificate of Compliance for DEP File # 185-815: 45 Christopher Rd - Green Hill Engineering representing Nicole Labranche

- The Agent inspected the property today and found the marker and granite bound were in place and debris had been removed.

Ms. Kingston made a motion to issue a Certificate of Compliance for DEP File #185-815: 45 Christopher Road. Ms. Pilch seconded. Unanimous. (5-0-0)

Request for Certificate of Compliance for DEP File # 185-788: 19 Minuteman Circle (Lot 70)- Peter Lavoie/Toll Bros.

- MESA report was not submitted to the Conservation Commission per the Order of Conditions. A Partial Certificate of Compliance has been issued; however, a full Certificate of Compliance cannot be issued until a copy of the MESA report is sent to Natural Heritage and the Conservation Commission.

Request for Certificate of Compliance for Holliston # B-004: 179 Mohawk Path (Lot 88)- Peter Lavoie/ Toll Bros.

- The Agent visited the property and found that the site was completely stable.

Ms. Pilch made a motion to issue a full Certificate of Compliance for Holliston Bylaw #B-004: 179 Mohawk Path (Lot 88). Ms. Kingston seconded. Unanimous. (5-0-0)

Request for Certificate of Compliance for DEP File # 185-768: 112 Old Cart Path (Lot 79)- Peter Lavoie/ Toll Bros.

- The Agent visited the property and found that the site was completely stable and that the wetland bounds were installed.

Ms. Pilch made a motion to issue a Certificate of Compliance for DEP File #185-768: 112 Old Cart Path (Lot 79). Ms. Kingston seconded. Unanimous. (5-0-0)

Vote on Issuance of D-576: 194 Lowland St.- removal of compost and earth material and D-577: 194 Lowland St- removal of recycled asphalt – M. Brumber

- Mr. Bajdek and Ms. Kingston listened to recordings of past meetings regarding 194 Lowland Street to bring themselves up-to-date.
- In early September Ms. S. O'Brien met with other department heads about how to proceed forward with the Cease and Desist order on this property. Mark Bobrowski, Attorney, also recommended that a permit should not be issued until the Planning Board approves the actual uses that will be allowed on the property.
- The Commission discussed their options moving forward, including wording the determination so that it would not negate or override the decisions of the Planning Board.
- Ms. S. O'Brien will send the Commission, Mr. Bobrowski, and Mr. Brumber copies of the draft determinations for input and as a sign of good faith.
- Will discuss further at next meeting, October 18, 2016.

Conservation Restriction at Washington Hills (Holliston Woods)

- Ms. S. O'Brien sent Mark Mastroianni a revised draft of the Conservation Restriction (C.R.). After comments are received back from Pulte, it will be sent to Town Counsel.
- Ms. S. O'Brien will send it to the Commission for review and asked for comments by next week.

Conservation Restriction at Brooksmont Senior Residential Development

- Mark Mastroianni sent back a plan with only 14 bounds.

- After discussion on spacing between bounds the Commission agrees they want 40 total bounds instead of the \$1,000 that was offered, as there are large distances between the markers with only 14 bounds.

Conservation Restriction at Warren Woods update

- Ms. S. O'Brien needs to send C.R. and the pool exclusion to CPC and the Commissioners for review.

Vote on Draft Meeting Minutes:

- **Dr. Rutberg made a motion to approve minutes as edited from 9/6/16. Ms. Weissman seconded. Ms. Pilch abstained. The motion was passed. (4-0-1)**
- **Dr. Rutberg made a motion to approve minutes with comments from 9/20/16. Ms. Kingston seconded. Ms. Pilch abstained. The motion was passed. (4-0-1)**
 - Ms. K. O'Brien will listen to tapes to determine who seconded the second vote for 35 and 41 Pleasant St, on page 5 of 6.
 - CM is Christopher Bajdek.

Review Correspondence

- Mail was reviewed

Open Space and Recreation Plan Review

Ms. S. O'Brien recommends that Charles Katuska be hired to finish the OSRP and Bylaw regulations. The Commission says he must submit two proposals, one for each project.

Office Hours

Ms. Kingston moved to approve the new office hours of Tuesday and Wednesday 9:30-4:30 and Thursdays 7:30-4:30. Ms. Pilch seconded. Unanimous. (5-0-0)

Mr. Rutberg, moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:05 P.M. Ms. Pilch seconded. Unanimous. (5-0-0)