

## CONSERVATION COMMISSION - May 11, 2016 draft MINUTES

Meeting called to order at 7:22 PM by Chairman Fulton. Members present: Andy Fulton, Steve Najjar, Jeff Jackson Guests: Jeremy Turner (MTL), Josh (MTL), Craig Francisco (resident), Bob Baskerville (Bedford Design)

## 1. Town Forester – Quarterly Report

Contract Town Forester Jeremy Turner presented regarding ongoing town forest work. Since October 2015 harvest preparations have been completed for the Jewett Lots, the Chevy Hill harvest has been bid, and the pollinator habitat burn was completed at the Eastman Conservation Area Town Forest (ECATF). Ongoing work includes Jewett Lots and Chevy Hill (DH Hardwick likely to conduct summer 2016) timber harvest scheduled for 2016, pollinator habitat preparation work at the ECATF, Toby Hill forest management plan preparations, and boundary marking and management plan work for the Wolf Creek parcel. Mr. Turner will continue to work on the next commission sanctioned pre-harvest field tour, with the likely location to be shifted from Chevy Hill TF to the Ferrin Pond TF. Vice Chairman Steve Najjar **motioned** and member Jeff Jackson seconded the motion to approve expenditure of up to \$5K from the Town Forest Account (from the allowance approved at 2016 town meeting) for invasives control and pollinator planning area establishment at the ECATF south field. Mr. Fulton called the motion, all voted in favor, and the **motion passed**. All present were in agreement with herbicide application to prepare the ground for planting. Amy from the Cooperative Extension will assist in the layout and design of the pollinator habitat establishment area.

- 2. Craig Francisco came before the Commission to request support for his wetland buffer-impacting driveway request. He noted that as proposed, his driveway at Map 107/Lot 24 would have much less impact than the alternative plan. The driveway off of Wildwood would impact 100 square feet within the 25-foot wetland non-disturb buffer. Mr. Francisco requested support in writing from the Commission for the June 7<sup>th</sup> ZBA meeting. The Commission agreed that Mr. Fulton would email an indication of the Commission's support of the lesser impacting proposal.
- 3. Bob Baskerville came before the Commission to present Bedford Design's proposal for redevelopment of the lot across from Lanctot's Plaza into a self-storage unit complex. The Commission assessed the proposal, expressed appreciation for Mr. Baskerville's explanation of the project, and decided that no comments regarding the proposal were necessary.
- 4. Mr. Fulton noted March 24, 2016 correspondence from the Piscataquog Land Conservancy (PLC) regarding a conservation land encroachment issue at the Holly Hills subdivision, discussion of which was held over since the Commission didn't meet in April. PLC monitors a conservation easement on the open space land (Breed Brook) associated with the cluster subdivision. The PLC land monitor noted land disturbance and a raised bed garden frame on what he perceived to be town land. Previously noted boundary marker stakes were missing. Permanent boundary markers were not evident and may not have been installed at the time of development. Internet research showed the lot in question to be 405/73.29 corresponding to the subdivision plan lot 73-29, owned by Matthew Shapiro and Nichole LeChance since 2010. The Commission chose to have Mr. Fulton email a response to

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PLC asking to have the area of encroachment identified by sketch on a map or plan and to inquire whether there is an option for the Commission to fund their taking care of it.

- 5. Site plan review, NSN Training/Russel Crevoiserat, 403/16.1, 731 Concord Stage Road. Reviewed without comment.
- 6. Subdivision plan for lot 410/27 (Gary & Jill Pepelis) at 256 Mountain Road was reviewed. The plan was prepared by Art Siciliano. The commission noted that the 25-foot wetland buffer wasn't shown.
- 7. Site plan for lot 412/170.2 (Cold Springs RV south side of Colby Road) was reviewed. The plan was prepared by A.C. Engineering & Consulting and Art Siciliano. The purpose of the site plan was unclear to the commission. There was concern with what appeared to be a road through wetlands and the commission wondered whether the road was in the vicinity of a dump area shown on a previous site plan.
- 8. Site plan for lot 409/4.1 (Mt. William, Inc.) at 1225 River Road was reviewed. The plan was prepared by Art Siciliano. The commission found no issues with the plan.
- Site plan for lot 411/103 (Cold Springs RV west side of Rte. 114) was reviewed. The plan was
  prepared by Art Siciliano. The commission noted that no wetland buffer was shown. The wetlands
  appear already impacted. The commission wondered whether this was an after the fact dredge and fill
  situation.
- 10. Mr. Fulton mentioned that the Forest Society remains concerned about the lack of Collins Ledge monitoring. He is to contact them to inform them of our current monitoring limitations.
- 11. Mr. Fulton noted that has received a volunteer form for a potential new member prior to the date for the scheduled but not held April meeting. Michel Krzeminski submitted a form dated March 7, 2016. The Commission hadn't met Mr. Krzeminski and Mr. Fulton is to email a response regarding his interest, inviting him to the June Commission meeting.

Mr. Najjar motioned and Mr. Bolton seconded, all voted in favor, and meeting adjourned at 9:31 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrew Fulton (WCC Chair)