

Holland Conservation Commission

27 Sturbridge Road, Holland MA 01521

Minutes of Conservation Commission held on February 28, 2017.

Members Present: Chairperson Marcia Beal; Jessica Chaffee; Kathy McKenna; Andy Harhay, Fran Gallo, Chris McCooe

Members Absent: None

Meeting called to order at 6:30 pm by Marcia Beal.

Motion made by Andy Harhay to accept minutes of February 14, 201. Fran seconded. All in favor--motion passed.

Order of Business

Round Table Discussion:

- Marcia suggested that we don't make a site visit for tree cutting input until the trees in question are marked.
- Andy Harhay, Kathy McKenna, Fran Gallo, Marcia Beal, and Jessica Chaffee will attend the MACC Conference on March 4, 2017. Kathy McKenna received a scholarship and Chris McCooe will be able to attend the meeting in her place since Kathy's cost has already been invoiced. Those who want to car pool should meet at the Town Hall at 8:45 am Saturday morning.

Correspondence/Email:

- Received DEP # WE 184-0331 for 58 Morse Road construction proposal (Heidi Cormier). Note: Application completed by Gregory Cormier.
- Received paperwork from Greenhill Engineering for 58 Morse Road construction project.
- Received confirmation email from DEP with a Transaction ID # 902831 for the Highway Department bundled NOI. Highway Department's NOI bundle was not completed properly. NOI needs to be completed.
- Received miscellaneous emails regarding various workshops and grant opportunities: Citizen Planners Training Collaborative, Healthy Community Grant Program, Webinar for Local Mitigation Planners, Last Green Valley's Spring Outdoors initiative.
- Kim Goudreau wants to come to the meeting. Responded via email and suggested that she come by tonight at 8 pm.
- Worcester telegram and Gazette sent emails

Phone Calls/Messages:

- Kim Goudreau (RE: 430 Mashapaug Road) has questions about construction near the water and additional 2 lots.
- John Mitchell East Coast Tree Service. Has a tree that he wants Conservation to look at.
- Paul Philbin 16 Leno Road checking to see if we are meeting tonight. He plans to attend.

Old Business:

- Update on Finance Board's budget meeting with the Conservation Commission on February 18, 2017: The Commission requested a \$400 increase for next year in expenses to support training courses for new members. Finance Board members asked questions about our goals relative to the certification of new commissioners and appeared satisfied with the direction.

New Business:

- Discussed requesting additional funds for clerical support. This is a budget amendment that needs to be presented to the Finance Board. Marcia will contact the Finance Board about requesting money for 4 hours of clerical support at the minimum wage of \$11/hour for 50 weeks a year. The request will be for an additional \$2200.
- Fee suggestions: Andy shared wording noted from the bylaws of some other towns regarding fines imposed for those who do not comply with Conservation Commission regulations. The common wording used was that "*All fees associated with after the fact application or filings as a violation and/or enforcement action shall be charged double (200%) of the normal fees.*" It was decided to send the wording to Kelli for her input.
- Fran Gallo made a motion to purchase ink (up to \$60) for the printer in the Conservation Office. Second by Jessica Chaffee. All in favor. Motion passed.

Public Meeting

6:45 pm Rick Lundin 21 Shore Drive: RDA

- **Person's Attending:** Rick Lundin (owner), Fran Gallo, Marcia Beal, Chris McCooe, Jessica Chaffee, Andy Harhay, Kathy McKenna
- **Discussion:** Rick wants to repair/replace an existing retaining wall that has collapsed. The wall is next to his neighbor's property and the repair will prevent erosion. It is in the buffer zone, but not in the resource area and will not impact the resource area. Jessica Chaffee made a motion that we accept the RDA with a Negative Determination #3 with the condition that a silt fence be placed between the lake and the wall. Second by Marcia Beal. All in favor. Motion passed.

- **Decision:** Negative determination #3.
- **Conditions:** Silt fence between the lake and the wall repair area.
- Chris McCooe made a motion to close the public meeting at 7:05 pm. Second by Kathy McKenna. All in favor. Motion passed.

Public Hearing

7:00 pm DEP # WE 184-0330 Ralph Donadio/Nancy Ward, 19 Lakeridge Drive: NOI Removal of several trees in buffer zone

- **Person's Attending:** Fran Gallo, Marcia Beal, Jessica Chaffee, Andy Harhay, Kathy McKenna, Chris McCooe, Ralph Donadio (owner).
- **Discussion:** Hearing opened at 7:10 pm. Ralph brought additional pictures. Concerns were raised about taking all three trees down, and the need to plant shrubs to compensate for cutting down the trees. It was noted that there was a branch from another deciduous tree that would shade the lake and the three trees to be cut were clumped together with many other trees left on the sides of the lot. It was suggested that Ralph consider planting blueberries or something right down near the water.
- **Decision & Conditions:** Kathy made a motion that Ralph Donadio be allowed to remove 3 trees (1 oak and 2 pines) with the following conditions: 1. To protect the lake the trees cannot be dropped in the water. 2. All trees and brush will be removed from the property, and the stumps need to remain in place. 3. Bushes need to be planted along the waterfront to compensate for the trees. 4. Ralph will need to come back to the Conservation Commission with a planting plan. Second by Chris McCooe. All in favor motion passed.
- Jessica submitted the order of conditions to the DEP and hand delivered to Ralph Donadio on 2/28/17 at the close of his hearing.
- Fran Gallo made a motion to close the Public Hearing at 7:35pm. Second by Jessica Chaffee. All in favor. Motion passed.

Public Hearing

7:30 pm DEP # WE 184-0331 Heidi Cormier represented by Greenhill Engineering 58 Morse Road: NOI to build a single-family house and install electrical service under wetland stream.

- **Person's Attending:** Fran Gallo, Marcia Beal, Jessica Chaffee, Andy Harhay, Kathy McKenna, Chris McCooe, Mark Farrell (Green Hill Engineering), Heidi Cormier
- **Discussion:** Hearing opened at 7:41 pm. Heidi Cormier is building a house and wants to install the electric service under wetland stream. The plan calls for a drive under garage. Mark Ferrell explained that the revised plan has been filed with DEP. Mark Farrell shared elevations for the proposed house and surrounding land. He noted that the house is located above the 500-year flood plain. There will be a temporary impact on the wetland during the installation of an underground conduit for electric service. He has notified the Natural Heritage Endangered Species Program, and is waiting to hear from them. Mark Ferrell felt there would be minimal disturbance of the land and the field remains as a field. Wants to keep electrical underground in order to save a number of old Maple trees along the road. Mark will contact us when he has obtained all the information from DEP and the Natural Heritage Endangered Species. A continuation of this public hearing was proposed.
- **Decision:** Jessica Chaffee made a motion to continue the Public Hearing at 8:15 pm, Second by Chris McCooe. All in favor. Motion passed.

Public Meeting

7:45 pm Doug and Margaret Columb 20 Old Acres Road: RDA

- **Person's Attending:** Fran Gallo, Marcia Beal, Jessica Chaffee, Andy Harhay, Kathy McKenna, Chris McCooe, Doug Columb (owner)
- **Special Note:** Agenda Correction—Green Hill Engineering does not represent Doug and Margaret Columb.
- **Discussion:** Meeting opened at 8:20 pm. Doug Columb brought in copies of RDA. He proposes to create a flat area near the water by cutting into the hillside and needs to cut 2 trees with stumps left in place. Area is located about 15 feet from the shore and 20 feet long. He will build a natural stone retaining wall. A shed will be built with a deck in front of the shed. All the work is done in the buffer zone. He is trying to get approvals on all 4 actions before he creates formal plans: 1. Create a flat area. 2. Install a dock with the concrete mount to be placed in the buffer zone, but NOT in the water. 3. Cut 2 trees in buffer zone. 4. Shed to be built that would measure 8 feet by 16 feet, with a deck in front of it that would also be 8 feet by 16 feet. A stonewall would be constructed behind the shed to keep the hill from eroding. He noted that the land would be surveyed to determine exact boundaries. Doug Columb returned with signed pink sheet from Jack Keough.
- **Decision:** Chris McCooe made a motion that we accept the work described in the RDA and make a Negative Determination #3 with the following conditions: 1. Pending the property line survey does not alter the submitted plans. 2. If the survey alters the current plan, Doug Columb will come back to Conservation Commission. 3. Lake to be protected with straw wattles and silt fence. Second by Jessica Chaffee. All in favor. Motion passed.
- **Decision:** Negative Determination #3
- **Conditions:** 1. Pending the property line survey does not alter the submitted plans. 2. If the survey alters the current plan, Doug Columb will come back to Conservation Commission. 3. Lake to be protected with straw wattles and silt fence.
- Motion to close Public Meeting made by Fran Gallo. Second by Jessica Chaffee. All in Favor. Meeting closed at 8:50 pm.

Walk-ins

Paul Philbin 16 Leno Road: Wants to remove two trees pitched toward the water so that he can put a dock in. The trees are impacting the resource area. The dock needs to be placed in that location due to accessibility for a handicapped relative. Jessica suggested that he needs an NOI to proceed and explained the process. Marcia tentatively scheduled the hearing for March 28 pending completion of paperwork.

Peggy Candito 25 Pine Tree Drive: DEP #: WE 184-0328: Needed to have Conservation sign the pink sheet to be official. Work has not been done. She will return when the project is done so that Conservation can review the project.

Kim and Damien Goudreau: They are considering buying a house at 430 Mashapaug Road and two adjoining, but separate lots on Ardmore Rd. One question they had was if they could put an outbuilding on the lots. Using the access GIS map system it falls within the buffer zone. Jack Keough, Building Inspector, apparently indicated that there should not be any major problems with putting an outbuilding on the Ardmore lots. They have a young child and asked if homeowners were allowed to rake out leaves/muck near the waterfront. Chris indicated that homeowners typically use the drawdown period to clear their waterfront area and do any needed breakwall repairs.

Jameson Lloyd 17 Pine Tree Drive: Wants to remove a tree that is 105 feet from the resource area. Leave the stump. No need to complete any conservation paperwork since the tree is located beyond the buffer zone.

Jovanna Merolla 3A Julia Ann Drive: Claims her neighbor cut 5 trees and left a mess of logs and brush that blocked her access to the waterfront. Suggested she talk with a lawyer as this is a civil issue. Conservation members will make a site visit to see what has been cut on both the properties, and determine if more trees are being cut without proper permits.

Motion to adjourn made by Andy Harhay. Seconded by Fran Gallo. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 9:55 pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted,

Kathy McKenna

CC: Select Board, Town Clerk, Board of Health, Planning Board, Building Inspector, Highway Surveyor, Zoning Board of Appeals, File and HCC Chairperson, Board Clerk