

Holland Conservation Commission

27 Sturbridge Road, Holland MA 01521

Minutes of Conservation Commission held on July 18, 2017

NOTE: Due to lack of a quorum, this meeting was rescheduled from July 11, 2017

Members Present: Chairperson Andy Harhay; Marcia Beal; Jessica Chaffee; Kathy McKenna; Chris McCoee; Anne Hall

Members Absent: None

Meeting called to order at 6:30 by Andy Harhay.

Motion made by Anne Hall to accept minutes of June 27, 2017. Andy seconded. All in favor--motion passed.

Correspondence/Email:

- 7/3/2017: Chris McCoee forwarded an email from F. Capizzano, 19 Leisure Drive with a complaint about a black water filled pool in the road. Highway apparently indicated to the resident that Leisure Drive was a private road and that homeowners were responsible for general maintenance. The puddle is beginning to run off toward the lake and Mr. Capizzano is concerned because of contamination with caterpillars and animal excrement might be in the pothole. The resident said that a message was also left at the Massachusetts Health Department and felt that this could be a serious source of contamination to the lake. Andy took a look at it and said it appeared to be typical of potholes on most unpaved roads; the road is down slope of many properties.
- 7/5/2017: Email from the town clerk indicating that Ray Boire came into the office today and is requesting to grind a stump on his property. He said he spoke with Mass DEP and they have indicated to him that this should be fine.
- 7/10/2017: Lindsay Martucci at MACC notified us that that Fran Gallo has been detached from the Holland Conservation Commission mailing list.
- 7/5/2017: Kelli Robbins sent an email to all new chair persons and former chair persons reminding them that the alarm codes have been cancelled and new chair persons need to see her in person to get keys and the new alarm code.
- 7/6/2017: Ginger Buteau sent an email requesting updated information on current board members and their positions.
- 7/12/2017: Completed RDA for Bruce and Gayle Neff. Chris McCoee asked that the meeting happen on Saturday July 15, 2017.
- 7/14/2017 and 7/15/2017: Emails from the Worcester Telegram and Gazette with notice of RDA Public Meeting for Bruce and Gayle Neff scheduled for Wednesday, July 19, 2017.
- 7/17/2017: From Chris McCoee regarding Neff's RDA. Engineer will adjust plans to reflect the straw wattles around the site and RDA needs to have a revised date. Bruce Neff will bring it in with him tomorrow evening for the meeting.
- 7/17/2017: From Kelli Robbins she attached a copy of the Hamilton Reservoir Drawdown NOI and noted that she is the contact person. **Need to download and print attachments.**
- 7/17/2017: Chris McCoee sent a follow-up email noting that the Hamilton Reservoir NOI is for Aquatic Lake Management and includes the drawdown.
- 7/17/2017: Barbara Newton sent an email with attached expenditure reports and asked that we review them and file an Encumbrance Form. Email both forms to janice@erickinsherfcpa.com, and submit a paper copy to Accounting by 7/31/17. **Need to download and print attachments.**
- 7/18/2017: Attached a Certificate of Compliance for 19 Lee Ave./Samuel and Ellen Spratin. **Need to print attachment.**
- 7/18/2017: eMACC education update. **Need to print email.**
- 7/18/2017: Email from Andy Harhay with revised sediment control site plan for 8 Brandon Street. **Need to print attachment.**
- 7/18/2017: Email from MACC that our dues have been processed and the membership will expire on 6/30/2018.
- 7/17/2017: Email from April Doroski from Tighe & Bond with questions about our RDA process.
- Message in Mail Box: Police Department RDA for a Lake Patrol staging area on Town land opposite #7 Massaconnic Trail, so that they can launch from the boat ramp on White Road. They want to ensure that the property is not in a wetland. They want to ask Highway to cut away brush, saplings and put down gravel to enable parking the SUV and boat trailer.

Phone Calls/Messages:

No phone messages

Old Business:

- **Updating ConCom section of the General Bylaws:** The special town meeting for the bylaws will take place in October. Andy suggested a subcommittee to work out the bylaws and then bring it to the Conservation Commission. Marcia-indicated that the Conservation Bylaws need to be compatible with the rest of the Town bylaws. Anne, Marcia and Andy have volunteered to be on the subcommittee to review and revise the bylaws.

- **Cutting Trees in the Wetlands:** Reviewed the draft 'Procedure for Applicant'. Anne Hall made a motion to approve the Cutting of Trees in a Wetland Area as amended. Chris McCooe seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion passed. Andy will email the amended version to ConCom members.
- **Information to Tree Companies and engineers:** It was suggested that our tree removal policy be sent out to tree companies and engineers and realtors.
- **Certificate of Completion Requests:**
 - 91 Sandy Beach Road and 30 Stoney Hill Road: Put on hold and check on DEP numbers for properties and review paperwork.
 - **19 Lee Ave/Spratlin DEP #184-0314:** There was nothing in the OCC issued two years ago that told the owners to keep the straw wattles in place. Andy and Chris had met with Mr. Spratlin at the property and, after the discussion, had no reason to doubt that Conditions had been met. Chris made a motion that we sign the certificate of compliance. Andy seconded. No discussion. All in favor. Motion passed.
- **Letter from Cynthia Fox regarding 24 Brandon Street:** Marcia was asked to locate the letter that she wrote to Cynthia Fox earlier regarding the Conservation concern and to email the associated pictures. Andy feels we need to follow-up on the letter that Cynthia Fox sent to Marcia.
- **Update on NOI for Hamilton Reservoir: Aquatic Lake Management.** Chris McCooe was involved in the writing of the NOI and provided an overview of the NOI. This is an ecological restoration project that includes the drawdown. Ginger and Kelli are taking care of the abutters' notices and legal posting. As required, a letter will be posted on the Environmental Monitor website. This is the Selectman's NOI, and will be presented to us on August 15, 2017 at 6:30 pm. Conservation needs to do an agenda for this meeting.
- **Update on Potential ConCom Agent:** Andy indicated that Kelli is going to review the process for contracting with an Agent; the process should probably be similar to that used by the Board of Health. It was felt to be important that the agent we select for supporting a particular project have prior background/knowledge/experience with the scope of work. Andy says we want to lay the groundwork for use of an agent in the future. Anne feels that there are times when an agent will be very beneficial. The discussion was tabled until we have further information from Kelli.
- There was a question about Tim Martin's NOI for a Pine Tree; he has not follow-up information.

New Business:

- August 15, 2017 is the hearing with the Board of Selectmen for the Hamilton Reservoir NOI for Aquatic Management.
- Marcia and Anne will staff a table at the zucchini festival on August 20, 2017.
- Bulky day is August 19, 2017.
- Chris got a text from Doug Columb of 20 Old Acres Road complaining that a neighbor cut trees on his side of the property. He wants it documented that he did not cut the trees down. He would like ConCom to come Thursday evening. Anne and Andy said they can go around 5 pm.

Round Table Discussion: None tonight

Discussion with Bob St. Jacques

7:10 pm 8 Collette Drive, Bob St. Jacques—discuss shore area concerns

Person's Attending: Chairperson Andy Harhay; Marcia Beal; Jessica Chaffee; Kathy McKenna; Chris McCooe; Anne Hall, Bob St. Jacques.

Discussion: Bob St. Jacques said that he put white sand/sandbox sand (without any silt) on his beach. Andy met with him and asked him to remove the sand and put straw wattles along the shoreline to protect the resource area. Anne asked when the rock wall was added; the owner indicated that a wall was present when he bought the property and he added stones to it. He has also attempted to divert the water from Over the Top Road, as the work performed by the Town did not solve his problems with runoff from the road; he does not have a berm at the end of his driveway. At ConCom's request, he has removed the white sand to restore the lakefront area to the condition, as purchased, and has placed wattles at lakefront, although the 'original' beach established by a previous owner appears to have never been approved by the Commission. Andy asked if he had a proposal for resolving our concerns. He proposed cutting the beach down by 50%. Anne suggested that he not do any more work until he comes to Conservation with a plan. Bob agreed not touch anything and the wattles will stay in place until a plan presented to Conservation gets approved.

Public Meeting--RDA

7:25 pm 111 Sandy Beach Road, DB Tree for Esposito

- **Person's Attending:** Chairperson Andy Harhay; Marcia Beal; Jessica Chaffee; Kathy McKenna; Chris McCoee; Anne Hall; David Baccelli/DB Tree
- **Discussion:** Wants to remove 2 pine trees. Yews to remain in place. Trees about 80 feet from the lake. Asked if the fees could be combined for both ads. This can't be done because he is working on 2 different properties with 2 different owners.
- **Decision:** Chris McCoee made a motion that we accept the RDA with a Negative Determination #3 with the roots and stumps to remain in place and the brush and tree debris removed from the property; all yews and shrubs to remain in place. Anne Hall seconded. All in favor. Motion passed.
- David Baccelli gave us a check for the Legal notice.

Public Meeting--RDA

7:35 pm 360 Mashapaug Road, DB Tree for Frechette

- **Person's Attending:** Chairperson Andy Harhay; Marcia Beal; Jessica Chaffee; Kathy McKenna; Chris McCoee; Anne Hall; David Baccelli/DB Tree
- **Discussion:** Site visit to look at a choke cherry tree that has a fungus and is dying. The tree will be cut at the height of the light next to it.
- **Decision:** Anne Hall made a motion to accept the RDA at 360 Mashapaug Road with Negative Determination #3 with the root and stump to remain in place and tree debris removed from the property. Kathy McKenna seconded. All in favor. Motion passed.
- David Baccelli gave us a check for the Legal notice.

NOTE: David brought another request for an RDA for Robert McFadden at 41 Williams Land. ConCom will schedule a site visit.

Public Meeting--RDA

8:30 pm 13 Lakeridge Drive, Chris McCoee

- **Person's Attending:** Chairperson Andy Harhay; Marcia Beal; Jessica Chaffee; Kathy McKenna; Chris McCoee; Anne Hall;
- **NOTE:** Chris McCoee is attending as the property owner and will recuse herself from the decision.
- **Discussion:** Chris McCoee wants to take down a tree in the buffer zone about 3-6 feet from the waterfront. It is within 2 retaining walls and a pressure treated box. The tree is splitting and branches are falling off it. Chris brought a letter from an Arborist regarding the tree and its need to be removed. It cannot be made healthy again. The tree presents a high risk to deck and people on the deck. The tree will need to be climbed and cut down in sections. Stump and roots will remain in place, and Chris will keep the big wood.
- **Decision:** Anne Hall made a motion that we accept Chris McCoee's RDA for 13 Lakeridge Drive with a Negative Determination #3. Stump and Roots to remain in place. Tree debris to be removed from lakefront. Marcia Beal seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion passed.

Walk-ins—None tonight

NOTE: There will be no meeting on July 25 due to lack of a quorum.

Next meeting date August 8, 2017

Conservation Members need to attend the NOI hearing for Hamilton Reservoir on August 15, 2017 at 6:30 pm

Motion to adjourn made by Anne Hall. Seconded by Kathy McKenna All in favor—meeting adjourned 9:55 pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted,

Kathy McKenna
Commission Secretary

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