

Holland Conservation Commission
27 Sturbridge Road, Holland MA 01521
Minutes of Conservation Commission held on August 22, 2017

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

Members Absent: Chris McCooe

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

Motion made by Marcia Beal to accept the minutes of August 8, 2017 as written. Jessica seconded, all in favor, motion passed.

Motion made by Marcia Beal to accept the minutes of August 15, 2017 as written Anne seconded, all in favor, motion passed.

Correspondence/Email:

- 7/28/2017: Joy Duperrault sent the updated Elevation Certificate Checklist
- 8/7/2017: Email to Kelli Robbins from Chris McCooe in order to clarify role of LOC at Public Hearing
- 8/8/2017: Email from Last Green Valley regarding Universal Accessibility Training.
- 8/9/2017: Email regarding Massachusetts Green Careers Conference.
- 8/10/2017: Email from Joy Duperrault regarding FEMA EMI News update and training opportunities
- 8/10/2017: Email from Arthur Johnson (DEP) responding to request for monitoring data from Hamilton Reservoir. The data is not ready yet—perhaps later this fall.
- 8/11/2017: Several emails regarding Blue Green Algae. Chris and Richard Haller registered a concern and Chris McCooe followed up with information about testing, costs, responsibilities, etc.
- 8/11/2017: Email from Andy Harhay regarding phone message left by Richard Rivet asking about wetland specialists.
- 8/14/2017: Several emails from Worcester Telegram and Gazette confirming public notices placed in the newspaper.
- 8/14/2017: Joy Duperrault regarding CRS Training Opportunities and Webinars in August.
- 8/15/2017: Reminder about Agenda due date, Thursday, August 17.
- 8/16/2017: From Lindsay Martucci—August 25 is the deadline for workshop proposals for the Annual Environmental Conference—2018.
- 8/20/2017: From Heidi Cormier notifying Conservation that the power trench at 58 Morse Road is being dug and will be filled in after the electrical inspection on Tuesday, 8/22/2017.
- 8/21/2017: Greenhill Engineering regarding confirmation of our next meeting dates as they want to submit and NOI for 3 Massaconnic Trail—Septic Repair (Note: Kathy emailed and called to confirm dates and procedures).
- 8/22/2017: Bob St. Jacques will not be able to attend the meeting tonight (8/22). He sent a letter outlining his plans to address the sand that was dumped without ConCom's approval.

Phone Calls/Messages:

No new messages

6:30 PM: Old Business

- **Sign OCC for DEP# WE184-0335, Hamilton Reservoir Ecological Restoration Limited Project/Town of Holland applicant.** The OCC's were unable to be signed because the typed, revised copy was not completed and/or filed in the folder. ConCom members decided to hold a special meeting on Monday, August 28 at 6 pm to sign the OCC. Andy will email an agenda and the revised OCC to Ginger to be completed for the meeting on Monday evening.
- **Certificate of Compliance for 91 Sandy Beach Road/DEP # 184-0324/Brian Boire.** Concerns were raised as it did not appear that the wall was back filled with stone that was one of the conditions. Andy will contact the owner.

- **Review Bob St. Jacques' proposals to remediate the run-off into the lake.** Discussed his proposal (see attached sheet). Andy will contact Mark Stinson to ask for suggestions. Concerns were raised that the straw wattles do not represent a permanent solution, but they need to remain in place until a permanent solution is approved by Conservation.

Member Comments/Roundtable discussion:

- Anne Hall wants ConCom to meet with Glenn Colburn who is retiring from the Sturbridge Conservation Commission and may be interested in consulting with Holland Con Com as an Agent. Anne suggests that he be invited to attend one of our meetings. He could bring his resume and share his ideas. Jessica Chaffee feels that if and/or when we use an agent it needs to be case specific. Other members agreed with her. Andy does not mind if Glenn attends a ConCom meeting, but he pointed out that there is no need to rush. He suggests we put it off until we have a lighter load. Andy wants to keep the September 12th meeting open for RDAs.
- Anne wondered if we should adopt a policy that exempts the firewood loophole from the tree cutting. Marcia wants Conservation to spray the roots of trees we approve for removal.
- Discussed ways to improve scheduling so we can move through our business and meetings more efficiently. Suggested that we schedule RDA Public Meetings for 20-minute time slots and use 30-minute time slots for NOI Public Hearings. Members need to check the ConCom emails. Kathy will only list and review pertinent correspondence to save some time.

7:00 PM Public Meeting/RDA Continuation –Ray Boire

Persons attending: Chairperson Andy Harhay; Marcia Beal; Kathy McKenna; Jessica Chaffee; Anne Hall; Joan and Ray Boire

Meeting opened at 7:00 pm

- **Discussion:** Chris McCooe checked with an arborist who indicated that grinding down the stump does not impact the root system. The Town of Sturbridge allows stump grinding as long as the sawdust is removed and grass or shrubs are planted over the ground-down stump. At the continuance, the Boire's submitted a letter from Dutton Landscaping and Tree Services (CT Licensed Arborist) giving the same opinion regarding the stump grinding. The letter also indicated that there is a diseased red maple leaning toward the lake on the backside of the property that should also be removed. The Boire's asked that the removal of the red maple be included in this RDA. The stump will remain in place. The Boire's noted that the red maple will not be removed until winter unless it falls. Landscaping will be delayed until after the hatching of turtles in the topsoil pile near the stump.
- **Motion:** Jessica made a motion that we accept this RDA with a Negative Determination #3 to allow the stump to be ground down 3 to 4 inches below the ground, sawdust to be removed and grass planted over it. Also, that a decayed red maple be cut down with the stump to remain in place. Andy seconded the motion. 4 in favor and 1 abstained. Motion passed.
- **Decision:** Approve the RDA for stump grinding and the removal of a decayed red maple with specific conditions.
- **Motion to Close Public Meeting made by Jessica Chaffee, Kathy McKenna seconded, All in favor, motion passed.**
- **Public Meeting closed at 7:25 pm**

7:30 PM Public Meeting/RDA —Brad Arcoite, 30 Williams Road/Tree Removal

Persons attending: Chairperson Andy Harhay; Marcia Beal; Kathy McKenna; Jessica Chaffee; Anne Hall; Brad Arcoite

Meeting opened at 7:30 pm.

Discussion: Brad Arcoite wants to take down an additional pine, put a new roof on the boathouse, and build a second floor addition to his house. Previously, a large tree fell onto his boathouse and had to be removed. Like the fallen tree, a second tree is growing out of ledge and has a weak root structure. He wants to remove the additional pine tree before it falls into the lake and wants to be able to do plantings around the house when the addition is completed. The Pink Procedure Sheet indicated that Brad Arcoite has approvals from Jack Keough and the Planning Board for a second floor addition. The house is set up on

a hill about 25 feet from the lake. All the materials are being taken up the hill and out the back. A silt fence will be placed between his boathouse and his neighbor's boathouse to protect the lakefront.

- **Motion:** Jessica made a motion that we accept the RDA for removal of one tree with a Negative Determination #3 with stump to remain in place. Approval for a second floor addition with debris to be taken off from the back of the house and removed from the property. Lake to be protected with silt fence placed between the two boathouses at the lakefront. 4 in favor 1 abstained. Motion passed.
- **Decision:** RDA for tree removal, reroofing the boathouses, and second floor addition accepted with a Negative Determination #3 with specific conditions
- **Motion to close the public meeting made by Kathy McKenna. Jessica Chaffee seconded. All in favor, motion passed.**
- **Public Meeting Closed at 7:55 pm.**

8:00 PM Public Meeting/RDA—Nielson, 15 Lakeridge

Persons attending: Chairperson Andy Harhay; Marcia Beal; Kathy McKenna; Jessica Chaffee; Anne Hall; Jeffrey B. Nielson; Terry Nielson; Andre Janet, Jr.

Meeting opened at 8:00 pm

- **Discussion:** The RDA request is for the removal of 5 trees, digging concrete piers for a deck off of the house, and removal of an existing dock to be replaced with a removable dock, and to replace boathouse roof and siding. Jessica noted that the current dock is permanent and if they chose to replace it, the dock will need to be removed every year and will not be grandfathered as a permanent dock. Trees to be removed were marked. Andy found two of the trees dead, others not in good shape. Andy's concern is that the trees are being removed from a steep slope so it is necessary to prevent run-off into lake. Bushes will help erosion control more than grass. Jessica asked if they would be willing to plant 2 bushes per tree removed (10 bushes in total or more if they choose). The Nielson's seemed agreeable to this. The concrete piers to be dug are about 70 feet from the water. Jessica wants to be sure that all debris will be removed from the property. Due to the steep configuration of the property, Jessica would like to see the roofing project done during the drawdown with debris removed from the property and the lake protected with silt fence and straw wattles.
- **Motion:** Jessica Chaffee made a motion to accept this RDA with a Negative Determination #3 with some specific conditions:
 - Approve the removal of 5 trees to be replaced with 2 bushes per tree (10 bushes total).
 - Approve the digging for concrete piers when replacing existing deck.
 - Approve boathouse roof and siding to be replaced at drawdown with a silt fence and straw wattles to be placed the length of the property to protect the lake.
 - Approve the removal of the existing dock and replace with a removable dock.
- **Anne Hall seconded. All in favor. Motion passed.**
- **Decision:** RDA accepted with a Negative Determination #3 with specific conditions.
- **Motion to Close Public Meeting made by Jessica Chaffee. Andy Harhay seconded. All in favor. Motion passed.**
- **Public Meeting closed at 8:25 pm.**

8:30 PM Public Hearing/NOI—Jim Blanchette

This Public Hearing was postponed to 9/12/2017 at Engineer's request

Walk-ins

Ralph Donadio NOI 184-0334 (19 Lakeridge Drive): Ralph stopped by with another change to his plan. The Planning board asked him to share the changes with Conservation. The plan is being changed so that it

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conforms to the Town of Holland setbacks as agreed to by the Planning Board. The deck is smaller and the stairway has changed direction to conform. The house size is the same, and the conditions will remain in force. Ralph gave the Conservation Commission a revised copy of the plans.

Motion: Jessica Chaffee made a motion that we approve the changes to Ralph Donadio's plan previously approved by the Planning Board that allows him to conform to the Town of Holland setbacks. Andy Harhay seconded. All in favor, motion passed.

NOTE: A Copy of these minutes should be included in Ralph Donadio's NOI file.

Motion to close the Conservation Commission Meeting made by Kathy McKenna, seconded by Anne Hall. All in favor., motion passed.

Meeting Closed at 9:15 pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted,

Kathy McKenna
Conservation 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, Lake Oversight Committee