

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order by Mr. Gerber, Chair at 7:05 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

Gerber (C), (7:19 pm) Kaplan (VC), Allen, Angus, Hamin, Scott – absent, Stein
Ziomek, Ciccarello

CONSERVATION COMMISSION'S ACTION

Approve Minutes

VOTED unanimously, (moved) Angus, (2nd) Scott to approve the Conservation Commission minutes of April 22, 2009 as amended (5-0)

VOTED (moved) Angus, (2nd) Scott to approve the Conservation Commission minutes of May 5, 2009 (4-0-1 - Hamin abstained)

Unanimous vote to add Request for a Certificate of Compliance for the Main Street Housing Development to the agenda (5-0)

Kaplan arrived after minutes voted @ 7:19 PM.

MISCELLANEOUS

7:20 PM – Nunnelly Pond Violation

Alec MacLeod presented a preliminary mitigation plan and discussed features of his proposal to the Commission.

VOTED unanimously (6-0) to continue the discussion to the May 27th meeting at 7:05 PM when Mr. MacLeod will have a complete report.

PERMITS/CERTIFICATES

8:00 PM – Notice of Intent (cont'd from 3/26/08) – Andrews & LaVerdiere for construction of an office building Meadow Street, Amherst (Map 4D, Lot 3).

VOTED unanimously (6-0) to continue the public hearing to June 10, 2009 at 7:30 PM (Scott moved, Hamin 2nd)

8:03 PM - Request for Amended Order of Conditions – Levi-Nielsen (NOI 05-1009) for minor plan changes to Detention Pond 4P to reduce environmental impact at 650 South East Street (Strawberry Field) (Map 17D, Parcel 24).

VOTED unanimously (6-0) to continue the public hearing to June 10, 2009 at 8:00 PM (Allen moved, Scott 2nd).

8:05 PM – Abbreviated Notice of Resource Area Delineation – MA Department of Conservation and Recreation for approval of resource area boundaries located adjacent to the Norwottuck Rail Trail in Amherst.

Nicole Sanford of StanTech presented the 2008 delineation on behalf of DCR. Commission members would like an additional site visit and may request independent peer review. Ms. Sanford was asked to respond to DEP and Commission comments in writing.

VOTED unanimously (6-0) to continue the hearing to May 27, 2009 at 8:00 PM (Kaplan moved, Scott 2nd).

8:35 PM – Notice of Intent (Cont'd from 12/12/07) – Cold Spring Environmental Consultants Inc. for Sheila Stevens for construction of a single-family home with proposed crossing of an intermittent stream/drainage swale and Bordering Vegetated Wetland on 49 Overlook Drive (Map 6B, Parcel 49).

Alan Weiss presented for the applicant. 401 Water Quality Cert. and comments are needed from DEP.

VOTED unanimously (6-0) to continue the hearing to May 27, 2009 at 8:10 PM (Kaplan moved, Hamin 2nd).

MISCELLANEOUS UNTIMED ITEMS:

Request for a Certificate of Compliance for 293 Potwine Lane

VOTED unanimously (6-0) to issue a Certificate of Compliance (Allen moved, Scott 2nd).

Request for a Certificate of Compliance Main Street Housing

VOTED unanimously (6-0) to issue a Certificate of Compliance (Hamin moved, Scott 2nd)

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

OSRP

Dave Ziomek will draft a letter for the Commission to sign in support of the OSRP for the May 27, 2009 agenda. He would like to include this letter with the plan when it is submitted to the State.

Puffer's Pond Subcommittee

Mr. Ziomek spoke of the need to get citizens involved in protecting Puffer's Pond and proposed that the CC create a subcommittee whose charge will be to focus on a plan for Puffer's Pond for the next 10 years. He will prepare material for discussion at a future meeting.

CPAC

Thanks to Briony Angus, Otto Stein, Jim Scott and Peter Jessop, Chair of the CPAC, for their work on the Town Meeting CPAC Warrant Articles. Both the Johnson & Olendski open space projects were voted and approved at Town Meeting. The due diligence money of \$23,500.00 was also approved. The Johnson CR project has to close by June 30, 2009 or we will lose the state funding for that project. He is also working on the Andrews Leverdiere property on Meadow St, the Cowles property on Rte. 116, the

Stotz property on Market Hill Rd, and a few more that are in process. He noted that there seems to be no shortage of potential projects. He is also working on an 83 parcel of land on Amherst Road in Pelham. This land has two major tributaries that flow right into our reservoir, which, from a water protection standpoint is of great interest.

Community Gardens

Thanks to Dan Kaplan for plowing the Community Gardens and Barry Roberts for doing the initial plowing with his draft horses. Dan indicated that Brookfield Farm is very happy to “donate” the plowing of the gardens.

Summer Staffing

Very limited money available, but we are doing best to find money for limited staffing, especially for Puffer’s Pond.

Grants

The Department is trying to get as many out as possible. Nate Malloy has been very instrumental in helping to get these out. With his work we have secured \$15, 000 for a tree inventory, \$75,000 for the Johnson Property and is working actively on the OSRP and a grant to study Tan Brook. Along with DPW & UMASS, the department is working on a 604B grant to study the Tan Brook watershed.

PSTC

The Public Shade Tree Committee would like to enlarge membership and the Commission will be asked for their approval.

ADJOURNMENT

VOTED unanimously (6-0) to adjourn the open meeting at 9:45 PM (Scott moved).