

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order by Ms. Angus, Chair at 7:03 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

PRESENT: Angus (C), Kaplan (VC), Allen, Gerber, Stein, Walker,

ABSENT: Hamin

STAFF: Ciccarello

CONSERVATION COMMISSION'S ACTION

Approve Minutes

VOTED unanimously (6-0), to approve the Conservation Commission minutes of July 22, 2009, as amended.

VOTED unanimously (6-0), to approve the Conservation Commission minutes of August 12, 2009, as amended.

VOTED unanimously (6-0), to approve the Conservation Commission minutes of August 26, 2009, as amended.

DCR Recreational Trails Grant Program

Nate Malloy, Associate Planner, indicated the need for work along the Norwottuck Rail Trail and local trails that connect to it. He presented information regarding the DCR Recreational Trails Grant Program and requested the Commission's support of the Town's grant applications.

VOTED unanimously, (6-0), to support the Town's applications to DCR's Recreational Trails Grant Program.

PERMITS/CERTIFICATES

Emergency Permit – Hop Brook Road

VOTED unanimously (6-0), to issue an Emergency Certification for replacement of beaver control fencing located on Hop Brook Road.

Notice of Intent (Cont'd from 5/27/09)– Amherst Department of Public Works for roadway reconstruction and drainage improvements partially in, and in the buffer zone of, bordering vegetated wetlands and bank resource areas (Route 116 - Atkins Corner adjacent to Map 25B, Parcel 5).

VOTED unanimously, to continue the public hearing to October 14, 2009 at 7:30 p.m.

Notice of Intent – Tofino Associates, Inc. (Cont'd from 8/26/09) for construction of a single family home and driveway with associated grading and erosion controls in the buffer zone of a bordering vegetated wetland at Hawthorne Road, Lot 46 (Map 21D, Parcel 164).

- Opened the public hearing at 7:31 p.m.
- Closed the public hearing at 8:08 p.m.

Doug Kohl, Ellen Stutsman, Chuck Dauchy, Gloria McPherson and Joe Gensheimer were present. Discussion centered around the desire to save a large oak tree and the resultant request for a change in location of the house in relation to the buffer zone and soil analysis. Chuck Dauchy, an environmental consultant, presented additional soil analysis done over the last few weeks. Joe Gensheimer expressed a concern regarding drainage at the site.

VOTED (4-0-1), Allen, Gerber, Kaplan, and Stein voted “Aye,” Angus abstained, Walker recused himself, to close the public hearing and to issue an Order of Conditions.

Request for Determination – Kathryn McDermott for construction of a chicken coop in the buffer zone of a bordering vegetated wetland located at 201 East Pleasant Street (Map 11B, Parcel 179).

- Opened the public meeting at 8:10 p.m.
- Closed the public meeting at 8:15 p.m.

VOTED unanimously (6-0), to close the public meeting and to issue a negative determination for the work.

MISCELLANEOUS

Briony Angus was happy to report that the Puffer’s Pond 2020 Committee had their first meeting and it went very well. The public will be invited to an informational/visioning session that will be scheduled for sometime in October and Commission members are urged to attend.

John Gerber reported on the CPAC meeting, which he attended. There is \$475,000 to spend. He and Dave Ziomek will meet to discuss conservation priorities.

Harvey Allen gave a brief update on the Hitchcock Center.

ADJOURNMENT

VOTED unanimously (6-0), to adjourn the open meeting at 8:16 p.m.