

CONSERVATION COMMISSION
AUGUST 27, 2002
MINUTES

7:00 PM The meeting was called to order by Chairman Corwin.
Present were Auman, Clements, Corwin, O'Connor and Owen. Morrison arrived at 7:55 PM.
Absent was Chace.

Certificate of Compliance – Gilson Estates – Lot 5 Nicole Lane – 169-729

Dan Wolfe from Ross Associates, Inc. was present to answer any questions the Commission had about Lot 5 Nicole Lane.

The members had walked the site on Saturday. There were a few places with riverlets, but there was enough root growth to keep it stable.

Mr. Wolfe reported that the owner overseeded since Saturday.

Member Clements moved to issue a COC to Gilson Estates Trust for DEP #169-729. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

7:07 PM - Discussion – Wiewel Conservation Land – Skyfields Drive

The members walked the site on Saturday and saw little difference between the yards and the trail.

Vice chairman Owen offered to resurvey the area.

Chairman Corwin was concerned that someone would object to a member of the Commission doing the survey.

Vice chairman Owen said that Dillis and Mische, Inc. is already familiar with the site. They could be hired to resurvey it.

Chairman Corwin said that a letter will be sent to the homeowners instructing them to stop mowing the 50 ft easement. The members saw no noticeable difference in the mowing. The trails Committee and the Commission will maintain it as the Commission feels fit. The letters should be sent to Pittman, Marin and Rutherford.

Vice chairman Owen remarked that the steel pin past the Rutherford house, downhill, is missing.

Mr. Pittman will be instructed to remove the building material and equipment from Conservation land.

Certificate of Compliance – Tierney – 120 Lost Lake Drive – 169-720

The members inspected the site on Saturday and found the work did not comply with the plan. There was erosion in the mulch, no polishing basin, no recharge structure on the house, permanent barrier not marked (#39), no Blue-flag Irises and no woody plants.

A letter will be sent to the builder explaining why the COC could not be issued at this time.

7:20 PM – Josh Webber – Self-Help Grant – Gibbet Hill

Josh Webber, owner of Gibbet Hill, was present to explain to the members of his family's plan for preserving Gibbet Hill. He would like the Commission to help them apply for a Self-Help Grant to help with the financing of the project. The Grant application would have to be submitted by September 5, 2002. They are going to the Special Town Meeting on September 23, 2002 to ask the Town for funds.

The Commission had previously committed \$400,000 of its Conservation Fund and an additional \$100,000 when it is reimbursed by the State for the Self-Help Grant for the Skyfields Drive property.

Clerk O'Connor explained that since the Commission just received a Self-Help Grant, it would probably be placed at the bottom of the list and that there would have to be a purchase of a particular parcel with significant value for conservation, backed up by two appraisals. She would be willing to write the Grant but there is not enough time to do the rest of the paper work.

Mr. Webber was pleased with the Commission's commitment of the \$400,000 and possible additional \$100,000 and will not be seeking a grant at this time.

7:40 PM – Public Hearing – Mattbob, Inc – ANRAD – Boston Road

Clerk O'Connor read the public hearing notice to consider the Abbreviated Notice of Resource Area Delineation submitted by Mattbob, Inc. to confirm the wetland resource areas on Boston Road on Assessors' Lot 253/23 and 24.1.

Robert Tierney and Matthew Field, owners, and Matthew Waterman from Landtech, Inc. were present. They had walked the site with the Commission on Saturday and the members were satisfied with the flagging.

Mr. Waterman submitted a revised plan showing the additional flag between 21 and 22.

Vice chairman Owen requested a copy of the soil logs for the files.

Mr. Waterman said he would get them from Leah Basbanes.

Vice chairman Owen moved to accept the ANRAD as accurate per Plan #2702. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

7:48 PM – Public Hearing – Harker – 341 Martins Pond Road

Clerk O'Connor read the public hearing notice to consider the Notice of Intent submitted by Scott Harker to replace an existing septic system at 341 Martins Pond Road on Assessors' Lot 233/22.

Mr. and Mrs. Harker, owners, were present with Seth LaJoie from David Ross Associates.

The members had walked the site on Saturday.

Clerk O'Connor moved to close the hearing. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Discussion – Conservation Land on Duck Pond in Groton Woods

The members went to the site on Saturday in response to a report from the Trails Committee that the owner at 62 Duck Pond Drive had placed a playset on the Conservation Land and was mowing the grass.

A letter will be sent instructing them to remove the playset and stop mowing the Conservation land. It is intimidating to hikers when they see the mowed lawn and are discouraged from using the trail.

Vice chairman Owen reported that at another location on Duck Pond Drive, the abutting homeowners have planted trees (Lot 49) and the owners of Lot 50 have placed a fence on CC land. Letters will be sent to them making it clear that they are on CC land.

7:55 PM Member Morrison arrived.

Discussion – Hawtree Conservation Land

Member of the Trails Committee reported that an abutting homeowner to the Hawtree Conservation Land had planted trees on CC land. The members went to the site at the cul-de-sac on Saturday and did not see any trees.

There is another entrance on Raddin Road. The members will look at it to see if that is where the trees are planted.

Signs for Conservation Land

The Trails Committee submitted a list of properties that could use signs. They are

Groton Woods

McLain's Woods (2)

Hawtree (2)

Longley II (2)

Meadowview

Crosswinds

Cronin Land

Member Morrison moved to hire Ed Razzaboni, Adobe Sign Co., to make the signs at \$225 each.

8:05 PM – Request for Determination – MacDonald – 12 Birchwood Road

Clerk O'Connor read the public notice to consider the Request for Determination submitted by Roger MacDonald to remove an existing deck at 12 Birchwood Road on Assessors' Lot 122/37.

Mr. MacDonald was present with builder Lance Johnson.

The members visited the site on Saturday.

Hay bales will be placed as noted on plan at meeting.

Member Morrison moved to issue a negative determination with the condition that hay bales be placed where indicated on plan.

The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Minutes – August 13, 2002

Clerk O'Connor moved to accept the minutes as amended. On the second page under Gibbet Hill Orchard ANRAD, "they found a vernal pool" was deleted. On page three – Meeting Way Corp., Lot 1 Wharton Row, fourth paragraph – Member "Auman" said the bylaw does not allow grading for a septic system, not Member "Clements". The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Certificate of Compliance – WGWSO – 305 Townsend Road – 169-794

Clerk O'Connor moved to issue a COC to the West Groton Water Supply District for the OOC for 305 Townsend Road, DEP # 169-794. An inspection was made on Saturday. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

8:15 PM – Public Hearing (con't) – Gibbet Hill Orchard – ANRAD – Farmers Row

Clerk O'Connor read the public hearing notice.

Don Yonika from Beals Assoc. was present. He walked the site with the Commission on Saturday to complete the field verification. The members agreed with the flagging.

Vice chairman Owen moved to issue an Order of Resource Area Delineation to Newbury Street Development that the flagging was accurate for the Gibbet Hill Orchard on Farmers Row DEP # 169-833.

The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

OOO's Written**Meeting Way Corp – Lot 1 Wharton Row – 169-837**

Member Morrison moved significance, regular and special conditions. The motions were seconded and passed 5-1 (Owen voted nay). The OOC is on file in the Commission office.

Meeting Way Corp – Lot 2 Wharton Row – 169-836

Vice Chairman Owen moved significance, regular and special conditions. The motions were seconded and passed 5-1 (Owen voted nay). The OOC is on file in the Commission office.

Groton Water Department –Waterline at Baddacook Pond – 169-842

Vice chairman Owen moved significance, regular and special conditions. The motions were seconded and passed unanimously. The OOC is on file in the Commission office.

Hollingsworth and Vose – Pump House – 219 Townsend Road – 169-838

Member Morrison moved significance, regular and special conditions. The motions were seconded and passed unanimously. The OOC is on file in the Commission office.

Keyspan Energy Delivery – Gasline – Townsend Road – 169-839

Clerk O'Connor moved significance, regular and special conditions. The motions were seconded and passed unanimously. The OOC is on file in the Commission office.

Certificates of Compliance Issued**First Liberty Development Corp.- Lot 1 – 15 Allen's Trail – 169-720**

The members inspected the site on Saturday.

Clerk O'Connor moved to issue a COC for Lot 1, Allens's Trail. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Sandalwood Associates – Lot 3 – 29 Allen's Trail – 169-732

The members inspected the site on Saturday.

Clerk O'Connor move to issue a COC for Lot 3 Allen's Trail. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Sandalwood Associates – Lot 2 – 19 Allen's Trail – 169-575

The members inspected the site on Saturday.

Clerk O'Connor moved to issue a COC for Lot 2 Allen's Trail. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

9:00 PM With no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth A. Montgomery
Conservation Assistant