

CONSERVATION COMMISSION
SEPTEMBER 24, 2002
MINUTES

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

Public Hearing – Town of Dunstable – Lake Massapoag Notice of Intent submitted by the Town of Dunstable for lowering of Lake Massapoag for the purpose of weed control.
Tom Arsenault from the Lake Massapoag Rod and Gun Club represented the applicant and explained the process for lowering the water in Lower Lake Massapoag.
They will open the gate 4’ at a time to allow frogs and turtles a chance to burrow and will close the gate in January.
Once an OOC is issued, the applicant must request an extension every three years.
Clerk O'Connor moved to close the hearing. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

7:15 PM Discussion – Groton Water Department – Capital Improvements

Thomas Orcutt, Water Department Superintendent, was present to explain to the Commission three distinct projects proposed by the Water Department.

1. Water treatment of Baddacook Well
2. Water storage tank on Chestnut Hills
3. Installation of water mains in numerous locations in Town of Groton

Mr. Orcutt presented a map showing the locations of all the projects.

The Water Department will file separate applications.

A Request for Determination will be filed for the storage tank on Chestnut Hills.

A Request for Determination will be filed for the Treatment of Baddacook.

One NOI will be filed for any stream or wetland crossings and private driveways.

RFDs will be filed for any work in the roadways or sidewalks when the wetlands are 70-80 feet from the work.

Mr. Orcutt asked to be tentatively placed on the agenda for October 8, 2002.

7:35 PM Discussion – Squannacook Sportsmen’s Club Conservation Restriction

Al Barbieri, Attorney for Bayard Underwood, purchaser of the property, was present to discuss the modifications to the restriction.

Member Morrison moved to accept the modifications to the Deed Restriction as underlined in III Prohibitions allowing for temporary overnight use and VII Legal Remedies and Enforcement, the sentence concerning fees will be stricken.

The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Member Morrison moved to designate Vice chairman Evan Owen to sign the restriction when the original is ready to be signed. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Mr. Barbieri requested that all the members sign the document.

Certificate of Compliance – A8 Hidden Valley Road – 169-620

The members inspected the site on Saturday.

Member Morrison moved to issue a COC to Tasi Corporation for A8 Hidden Valley Road. The motion passed 3-1 (Owen abstained).

Comments to Planning Board – Groton Land Foundation – Old Dunstable Road

The members reviewed the concept plan for “Mason Back 100” property on Old Dunstable Road. They like the open space and want to thank the Groton Land Foundation and the Mason’s for preserving the open space.

7:45 PM Public Hearing – The Marion Danielson Strahan Family Tr. – Shirley Rd

Clerk O'Connor read the public hearing notice to consider the Abbreviated Notice of Area Resource Delineation submitted by the Marion Danielson Strahan Family Trusts to confirm the field located wetlands boundary west of Shirley Road on Assessors’ Lot 219/8.

Don Yonika from Beals Associates represented the applicant.

The members walked the site on Saturday.

Mr. Yonika reported that about half the 20 acre parcel is wet.

Bruce Easom from the Trails Committee was present and asked that public access be provided for a trail along the river.

Mr. Yonika said that the 10 acres could be donated to the Commission and it could do with it as it pleases.

Member Morrison moved to issue an Order of Resource Area Delineation to the Marion Danielson Strahan Family Trusts that the boundaries described on the plan and in the ANRAD are accurately drawn for the Bordering Vegetated Wetland, Riverfront and Bordering Land Subject to Flooding.

The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Ames Meadows – Motorized Vehicles

The office received a call about motorized vehicles going on the Conservation Land in Ames Meadows. There will be a meeting held by the Town Forest Committee on Wednesday, September 25, 2002 to discuss motorized vehicles in the Town Forest. Since this abuts the Conservation parcel, any comments or discussion will be put off until the next meeting, to see the outcome of the Town Forest meeting.

Bylaw Regulations

Chairman Corwin requested that this item be postponed until the next meeting.

TABCOM Conservation Restriction

The Commission did not take any action. It is waiting for comments from Town Counsel.

Gibbet Hill Orchard – Planning Board Meeting

Member Morrison will attend the Planning Board meeting on Thursday, September 26, 2002 to voice the Commission's environmental concerns with the property.

Minutes – 9/10/02

Vice chairman Owen wanted to add to the section for the public hearing for Currie, that the site was limited by the presence of a large maple tree.

Skyfields Drive Conservation Land – Petition

The Commission received a petition requesting that the property be named for Katherine and Leon Hurd. It will be discussed at the next meeting when all members are present.

Order of Conditions Written for Currie

Vice chairman Owen moved significance, regular and special conditions for Michael Currie, 179 Mill St., DEP #169-843. The motions were seconded and passed unanimously.

8:30 PM – Trails Committee Report

Bruce Easom reported that some of the residents from Duck Pond Drive and Hidden Valley Road approached the Trails Committee members at Septemberfest on Saturday and expressed concerns with the posts that were installed last week.

Many of the abutters had called the office to complain so time was set on the agenda on October 8, 2002 at 8PM to meet with them.

8:45 PM With no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth A. Montgomery
Conservation Assistant

