

Ashby Conservation Commission

Minutes for meeting of December 21, 2011

Meeting called to order at 7:30pm with Tim Bauman, Cathy Kristofferson, Roberta Flashman and Bob Leary in attendance.

The minutes of December 7, 2011 were review and accepted with some minor corrections unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: nothing to report

Correspondence:

Anonymous tip for two culverts inserted and brook filled in near the old town dump on Wheeler Rd. Will have to conduct a site visit to follow up.

Report of beaver trapping/dam destruction on Simonds Rd. Also needs a site visit.

New Business:

Budget has been submitted.

Motion to sign a letter authorizing the check for Track 8. Unanimous vote in favor. All commissioners signed.

Forest Legacy – closing on Track 8. All participants are trying to complete the closing before the end of the year. State contract for flowing the money through the town is in place. All due diligence has been done. Motion made and voted unanimously for Cathy to attend the closing as the Commission's Representative. State has admitted that the need for two "originals" was left from a prior change that needed to be reviewed.

781 Fitchburg State Rd cutting near Pete's auto. John Shamas, owner. Lyle Brundige – tree harvester. Cathy and Tim had accompanied Jack Jackson on the property in July. Siltation fences have not been removed. Water bars have not been put in with the road that was put into a wet area. Had agreed to put in water channeling towards the culvert. No channeling has been done. No blockage for OHRV's as had been promised. Silt fence is creating ponding of the water.

Cathy saw Lorraine Desouza at NRWA and was warned to keep an eye out for people removing sphagnum moss from Watatic.

Complaint about houses directing water from sump pumps into the street. Solution is not salt. Solution should be to direct the water out to the back of lots rather than into the street. Officer Dillon was dispatched to talk to the owners. Bill Davis sent the information to the Commission. The sidewalk is owned by the State because it is a State Highway.

Agenda will have to be issued on Friday, Jan 30th because of the Monday holiday.

Old Business:

John Varney reported viewing of Lyman property. He confirmed that it looks like a viable project. He did wonder it might be an under-utilized hiking trail. Commission confirmed that suspicion, mainly because there really are no trails on the property. John had spoken with Bill Paneta, a science teacher and thought that they might be able to do some identification of trees and the like, creating a self-education trail. He will have Kevin get back in touch with us and present a project plan.

Dillon property on Allen Rd: update – the house was originally permitted for 3 bedrooms. The house has only 2 now and will only add one. So, they will not need to expand the system. There is still the question of how they will expand the house – if breaking ground they will still need to get a permit. The streams are all around the house. Cathy will respond to emails and suggest that he get a Determination of Applicability.

Received an email from BOH about the Shepherd property on Jewett Hill Rd. Neil Gorman wanted to have the BOH approve without the Commission's sign-off. Commission has no plans on this property. Commission would need to see the plans for the house as well as the system. Will wait for plans. BOH refused to take action without Commission's signature.

Both Tim and Bob need to take the State Ethics training.

Hearings: none

Hearings Scheduled: none

Meeting was adjourned at 8:32pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Roberta Flashman