

Ashby Conservation Commission

Minutes for the Meeting of April 4, 2012

Meeting opened at 7:30 with Cathy, Bob, Tim and Roberta in Attendance

Minutes of the meeting of March 22, 2012 were reviewed and accepted as written unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: ESRI maintenance contract will expire at the end of April. Renewal is \$400.00
Motion to expend \$400 for maintenance was passed with 3 ayes and one abstention.

Correspondence:

Phone call from Krishnabai regarding plans for addition to house at 20 Pond Road. Plans to attend tonight's meeting.

An e-mail request from Janet Morrison for a letter of support for a Capacity Building grant application to the Community Foundation of North Central Mass for the [North County Land Trust](#). Tim signed and delivered the letter attached.

Call from appraiser regarding 805 Mason Road. Wetland concerns expressed by chair.

The Massachusetts Watershed Coalition sent The Billion Gallons a Year Newsletter.

Received a CD from NRWA – an Introduction to the Water Resource Protection in Mass and NH- a Guide to Information Resources for Municipal Boards and Citizens

Received notice of EOE A Grant round.

Invitation from NRWA to attend breakfast on April 23rd for the NE Watershed Conservation Commissions.

Old Business:

Forest Legacy up-date. Track 6 is still waiting for money to arrive.

Rescheduling of The Watatic Management Committee Meeting – nothing known

Combined Conservation Commission and Friends of the Ashby Library programs. Library is looking for a walk with plant and animal ID. Perhaps a walk to view the pond at the school parking lot would fit the bill. It would also minimize risk of exposing the kids to ticks in the woods.

Letter of approval for a request from Bob LaFosse (978-297-0627) to do metal detecting on the South Road Fields with attached conditions. Addition of renewal annually. See attached.

New Business:

Wetland violation behind the library. Large ash trees have been recently cut down and the slash thrown on the edge of the real pond. The trees cut are on the pond side of a rock wall which looks to be the property bound for town owned land. Some trees may have been removed because of damage and/or being down, but permission would still need to be requested to remove any trees from town land. Would like the slash removed from the wetlands. Tim will contact the Tree Warden to pursue replacements.

Need to get the boundary markers for Forest legacy. Roberta will look into activating the order placed a year ago.

Krishnabai came to the Commission to discuss plans for addition to house at 20 Pond Road. Presented general layout of the plans. Cathy sent the NOI application and our DYI instructions. She will be filing an NOI as the addition is less than 25 ft from the edge of the pond.

Unified Permitting Process. Cathy has made comments and will distribute.

Cathy has been busy gathering information about the vernal pools in town. She found no eggs from wood frogs in one pool where, in the past, there were many, many egg masses. She did find two

masses of salamander eggs. In another pond, she found more than 5 masses and has the information set to be sent in for certification.

Hearings: None

Hearings Scheduled: None

Site Visits:

March 23, 2011, Piper Road, regarding digging and retaining wall construction. Tim and Bob. Peter Murray, owner, agreed to install siltation barriers around dirt pile and the exposed ends of the retaining wall. Tim will follow up with a letter setting a time limit for installation of barriers.

Site Visits Needed: none

Meeting adjourned at 9:00pm

Respectfully submitted,

Roberta Flashman