

Ashby Conservation Commission
Minutes for the Meeting of March 5, 2014

The meeting was opened at 7:30pm with Tim Bauman, Cathy Kristofferson, Bob Leary and Roberta Flashman in attendance.

The minutes of the meeting of February 19, 2014 were reviewed and accepted as written unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: \$522.30 received into the Wetlands Account from NOI filings on 860 Greenville Rd and 854 South Rd.

Correspondence:

Email from Maryann Dipinto, DEP confirming that the free Vernal Pool Workshop for Conservation Professional is actually on May 16th in Belmont. The date seemed a bit late to be able to see any activity in vernal pools, but with the extreme winter we've had, perhaps this is a better date than March, for sure.

A poster for use in the town hall was received from Mass Woods. Has tear off slips for those who might be interested in participating in this year's class in woods management at the Harvard Forest.

Old Business:

From Whitman and Bingham, an NOI for property at 860 Greenville Road, Micaela Fors owner. Chris MacKenzie (W&B) is aware of difficulties in getting on site in the winter. The site has been staked but snow precludes clear observation. The Commission received the DEP project # 93-339 along with added requirements including an alternative analysis and Water Quality Certification. Chris MacKenzie has been in communication with DEP to clarify expectations.

Logging operation has been completed on the property at Erickson and Luke Roads owned by James and Janice Wiita. Chair spoke by phone with State Forester Downey to share concerns relative to the process of notification. The Commission never received the initial plan, but did receive the state approved plan and the amended plan. Thus the 10 day review period was missed. The abutter's notices were also not received in a timely manner.

7:40 PM Alan and Lynn Carpenito to appeared to pose questions regarding Certificates of Compliance issue for the lots at Dermody property at 600 Jones Hill Road, Map 3, Parcels 5.1 and 5.9. They are negotiating purchase of the property, with a scheduled closing for May 1st of this year. Stan Dillis accompanied them to tonight meeting and will submit a request for Cert of Compliance. If property has been stabilized, the Commission will issue the Cert. After new owners complete the purchase, they will submit a new NOI for any further work in or near the wetlands.

Pete Bezanson sent in a request for a Certificate of Compliance for work done as DEP #93-217. Checked the file and none had ever been issued. The Commission will conduct a site visit once the snow cover has melted.

New Business:

The Commission appeared before the BOS on 2-26-14 accompanied by James Duffy Esq. to present concerns about the proposed Tennessee Gas Pipeline through Ashby and adjacent communities. Materials will be posted on the website. Cathy has secured the School gym/auditorium for March 29th, 10:00am – 1:00 pm for a public meeting to inform citizens of the pipeline plans and answer questions. Roberta has ascertained that the big LED sign used to publicize town events will be available for use after March 15th to advertise the meeting. Possible wording for sign: ?Pipeline? Public Meeting - March 29th @ 10:00 AES Need to produce a flyer as well. Cathy and Roberta will work on it.

Motion to spend up to \$100 on informational meeting about the plans for a gas pipeline through Ashby in response to resident inquiries about said pipeline plans. The Commission has concerns about the environmental impact of the pipeline, wetland crossings and the effect of opening up a corridor through

the town with the 50 ft right of way along the pipeline. The Commission voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

2 other Requests for Certificates of Compliance were received. Roberta will contact Jennifer Brodeur and Paul Gerry to let them know that site visits will have to wait for clear ground. After site visits, Certs of Compliance will either be issued, or the owner will be notified of actions that need to be taken to allow the Certificate to be issued.

Hearings:

8:00 PM, NOI from Ross for 854 South Road including installation of a tight tank and additional features not previously approved. DEP# 93-340

8:30 PM Continued from 2-19-14, Whitman and Bingham, an NOI for property at 860 Greenville Road. To review proposed work in the wetland resource area, #93-339

Hearings Scheduled: None

Site Visits:

March 4, 2014

860 Greenville Rd. Property of Kim Fors. The Commission conducted the site visit to review the proposed driveway to allow access to lot next to him without a crossing of the perennial stream at the front of the property. The property was under at least a foot of snow cover. With that in mind, it was impossible for the Commission to determine the wetland bounds or the stream bank. It did appear that the proposed drive would be within 50 or less of the stream bank and perhaps almost touching the edge of wetlands. A road at the back of the property that starts at the end of the existing driveway seems to offer an alternative approach to the house lot, without additional crossings (since there is already one in place on the road) and without running alongside the stream, as the proposed driveway does.

854 South Rd. Property of Somero family. Deep snow on the property made it difficult to determine much. The deck is clearly from the old house. Plans show expansion of the deck as well as relocation of the stairs closer to the water's edge. Plans also show a tight tank with a retention wall near the water and the shared well. Would want to move the tight tank as far as possible from the well, but this might mean placing the tank in the location of part of the existing deck. Evident that the raised seam roof is "tossing" the snow onto the sides of the property, maybe even beyond the property line. Concern about the runoff from the roof in rain and how that might erode and carry fines into the pond.

Site Visits Needed:

New Ipswich Road. Note: plans, Map 9, Lot 20. Soilsmith Design

Meeting adjourned at 9:39pm

Respectfully submitted,

Roberta Flashman