

Ashby Conservation Commission

Minutes for the Meeting of December 6, 2017

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

The minutes of the meeting of November 15, 2017 were reviewed and accepted unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: \$52.93 for safety vests for all members of the Commission. The safety vests are imprinted with "Ashby Conservation Commission" on the back for better visibility and identification during site visit.

Correspondence:

11-18-2017	email with video from abutter to 0 Fitchburg State Road project
11-20-2017	email from Chris Guida/Fieldstone re staking at Rts119/31 proposed house lots
11-20-2017	wetland replication report for Lodestar project received in email
11-29-2017	email from Chris Guida/Fieldstone set site visit for Rts119/31 proposed house lots
11-29-2017	Building permit for solar install 119 Damon Rd – need a site visit. No info on where the system would be located. Tim will contact and set up a site visit if necessary.
11-30-2017	Cutting Plan in the mail for Richardson/Telephone Rd Suzanne, Stillman Trust (owner).
12-01-2017	email from Brite Excavating about new plans dropped off at Town Hall\
12-01-2017	a revised NOI from Hancock Associates for Old Northfield Rd.
12-01-2017	Letter from MACC with Advanced Notice of increased dues for FY2019
12-01-2017	Cutting Plan approval from DCR Forestry for Greenville Road, Waskiewicz owner
12-01-2017	Confirmation of Filing of COC, J. and A. Adams, #93-363
12-01-2017	Acknowledgement from NRWA of membership with certificate
12-03-2017	Received Request for Determination for South Rd. Commission will have a 3 rd party make the Determination. Cathy made a motion to have a 3 rd party make the determination. Vote was unanimous of those members able to vote – Bob recused himself.
12-04-2017	email from Ashby Land Trust regarding monitoring of South Rd Fields
12-05-2017	monthly report from Lodestar solar project
12-06-2017	Approval (Forestry Dept) for cutting Plan for Richardson/Telephone Rd with notations.

Old Business:

- 600 Main St. wetland impacts. Still waiting for a follow up letter to be sent by Bob.
- Flint Rd / Brownell – Cathy wrote up an agreement for the movement of the shed and such. She will have the agreement printed, including pictures, and Tim will call and have him attend the next meeting.
- Update on idea to mow South Rd fields for conservation purposes- once a year instead of twice. Roberta has not contacted John Kimball yet to see if he will still be willing to mow the field.
- Pre-construction meeting special conditions continue to be ignored, needs further action.

New Business:

- Unified permitting process, including tracking project until complete. This is an initiative of the Town Clerk.
- Discussion of start date and meetings for Open Space Plan rewrite. Budget for advertising- print one side of 8x10 with free mailing. Roberta will share a draft on Google Drive. Motion to expend \$50 for the printing of the piece. Unanimous vote in favor of the motion.
- Steve Marcoulier, 402 Jewett Hill Rd. Permit to build a shed. Outside the 100 ft buffer to the wetlands. Tim signed the permit.

- Public Documents requests received from Town Clerk – will take 10hrs for searching files and email back to 1985 and whatever time it takes to copy the 3 folders attributed to the person in question.
- Discussion of woolly adelgid and possibility of forest health workshop. The State Service Forester is willing to conduct such a workshop during a week day. It was unclear whether this could be during the evening.
- Forest Legacy – Cathy and Roberta will monitor the Mickola Forest Legacy property on Sunday, Dec 10th.

Hearings:

7:45 - hearing for NOI Hourihan

8:00 - continued hearing for 2 lots on Fitchburg State Road by Hancock Associates. Continued to Jan 3, 2017.

Hearings scheduled:

Jan 3, 2018

8:00 - continued hearing for 2 lots on Fitchburg State Road by Hancock Associates.

Site Visits

12/3 - Turnpike Road UNITIL tree flagging inspection, Roberta & Cathy. The flagging had been removed as per instructions of Tim and Roberta.

12/3 - McAuley Forest Legacy Property annual monitoring, Roberta, Bob & Cathy

12/1 - Turnpike Road UNITIL tree removal, Tim & Roberta. All flagging to be removed except for a small ash, 1 small oak w/poison ivy traveling up the trunk, removal of a limb over the road on a big double oak, and a dead limb and another limb over the road on a sycamore. The small brush could be mowed from Bernhardt Rd to the first telephone pole, from the road to 10 ft back from the wires.

12/1 - Rts 31/119 proposed house lots, Fieldstone Consulting. Tim & Roberta met with Chris Guida. Lot1 is where the old buildings are located. Would bring in the driveway to the right of the ice cream stand, less than 10 ft from the stream. One marker of the 50 ft buffer was incorrect. Everything from the house to the road (Main St) would essentially be clear cut. Lot 2 is along Main St, up from Lot 1. The top of the hill will be removed and graded down into a gully – towards the wetland. Lot 3 will be along County Rd. Proposed grading would remove the whole berm along County Rd. All 3 homes will be located within the 100 ft buffer to the wetland. No septic systems were located on the properties. House corners were located. Driveways were located.

11/26 - Forest Legacy, Moulton property, Roberta & Cathy

11/18 - site walk up Mt Watatic access road with Watatic Management Committee members with the intent of understanding what traffic is on the road and how to manage traffic and signage. 14 people assembled to walk up the access Rd starting at Old Watatic Rd. According to Pat Huckery, no work may be done on portions of road on DFW lands. Ashburnham fire department brought along their machine with the intent of demonstrating what it needs to be effective. The group felt that was not on the agenda, and with limited time and energies, the walk would focus on the access road and signage placement.

Site Visits Needed:

End of Deer Bay Road

854 South Road

Trees planted at Mulford's , 71 Russell Hill Road

The meeting was adjourned at 10:15pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Roberta Flashman