

Ashby Conservation Commission
Minutes for the Meeting of Sept 19, 2018

Meeting was opened at 7:06pm with Cathy and Roberta in attendance. **No Quorum Present!**
Review of the Minutes of the meetings of September 5, 2018 – **Not done because No Quorum Present**
Treasurer's Report: \$48.92 received to replenish petty cash, \$67.50 for 446 Wares Rd NOI

Correspondence:

- 9/5 - confirmations for 578 South Rd and 72 Allen Rd site visits
- 9/7 - email with BOH for Map 15 Parcel 51
- 9/10 - email/phone with Sheryl Sanford re: Whitney Rd Enforcement Order
- 9/10 - received soft copy RDA for 578 South Rd
- 9/12 - emails with Chris MacKenzie for 151 Erickson Rd site visit
- 9/12 - emails with Jack Maloney about hearing date for 446 Wares Rd
- 9/12 - emails with Sue Boggs-Lightfoot about COC for 389 Turnpike Rd

Old Business:

- 7:00pm - Enforcement Order/NOI application Whitney Rd, Ashby Highway Department - Steve Beauregard came in and the Commission worked together on completing the NOI for the culvert and drainage work, including drawing out a plan. Cons Comm will complete with verbal description and send out abutter notices and newspaper advertising for a hearing on Oct 3, 2018 @7:00pm
- Status of parcel at Map 15 Parcel 51 on Fitchburg State Road – discussion with Land Trust and owner. It appears that there will be an agreement between owner and Ashby Land Trust to gift/acquire the property.
- Siltation issues on Harris, Erickson Rd & Valley Rd; Programmatic General Permit for Highway Dept. Steve Beauregard assembled a list of activities to be undertaken by the Highway Department within the 100' buffer zone and best management practices so that a general permit might be applied for and issued. Roberta will work on preparing an NOI for the permit.
- Issued OOC for 1392 W State Rd, McMurray – reviewed special conditions with Peter McMurray. Robert Leary had already agreed to the OOC.
- Issued COC for 72 Allen Rd, Dillon. Robert Leary had already agreed to the OOC.
- Received 8A from John Brownell on Flint Road – Roberta will write up the COC.

New Business:

- Issued Determination of Applicability, 578 South Rd, Chisholm, pool installation. Robert Leary had already agreed to the Negative Determination.
- To be scheduled: Discussion of South Rd fields maintenance and haying. Need to set a meeting with Land Trust to discuss options and select new Farmer to perform field maintenance. Paula Packard has agreed to a modified haying schedule. Roberta will write a letter to John Kimball, thanking him for mowing in the past and making the offer to continue mowing on an altered schedule.
- Bud Lightfoot came in to get some wetland markers to place on the property so that we can issue a COC.
- Received NOI for 446 Wares Rd, Ducharme and Dillis, Thomas Brouillette – septic system replacement. Roberta will color in the plan.

Hearings:

- 9/19 at 8:00pm, Stan Dillis of Ducharme & Dillis, 0 Erickson/Terkanian, Driveway extension Continued to 10/3/18 @ 8:30pm
- 9/19 at 8:30pm, Chris MacKenzie Ducharme & Dillis, 151 Erickson/Robert Harding, Continued to 10/3/18 @ 9:00pm

Hearings Scheduled:

- 7:00 Highway Dept – Whitney Rd road water and culvert work
- 10/3 at 8:00pm, Jack Maloney of Ducharme & Dillis, 446 Wares, septic upgrade
- 0 Erickson/Terkanian, Driveway extension Continued to 10/3/18 @ 8:30pm
- 151 Erickson/Robert Harding, Continued to 10/3/18 @ 9:00pm

Site Visits:

- 9/6 - 8am, Pool installation, 578 South Road, Matt Morro Snyder Pools. Noticed that 7-10 full grown trees had been removed (by the owner?) within the RiverFront area (70 ft from bank) in anticipation of the project. Left stumps and slash close to river bank (50-60 ft?). The pool is to be installed within the RiverFront area, but 125ft from the edge of BVW and within an area already sustained as lawn. Cathy, Roberta met with Matt Morrow and Eddie Snyder
- 9/6 - 8:30am, Dillon, 72 Allen Rd, - COC. The property is stabilized and siltation fencing has been removed. Roberta and Cathy conducted visit.
- 9/6 - 9am, Fitchburg State Rd, Map15/Parcel51. The Commission viewed the site to assess the extent of wetlands. Cathy, Roberta, and Bob conducted visit. The entire property is wet. Not even enough wetland to meet the set-back requirement for placement of a house back from the road. Appears unbuildable to the Commission.
- 9/12 @10am, Whitney Rd, DEP, ACC, AHD, culvert enforcement order. Roberta, Bob, Cathy and Tim met with Judy Schmitz, circuit rider and Steve Beauregard, Jason and Bruce from Ashby Highway Dept. The Check dam put in as a temporary measure has worked to constrain siltation from reaching the stream. Judy suggested building a “dam/bank” outside the stream bed to prevent siltation from reaching the stream and creating a “sump” area behind this construct that could be cleaned out – thus eliminating the need for the Highway Department to be working in the stream. Judy also suggested grading the road with a gradual pitch to the down slope side of the land rather than crowning the road. This might remove some of the water from entering the stream up gradient of the culvert. Additionally, Judy suggested creating dips ion the road to slow the velocity of the water traveling on or alongside the road. Piper Rd. – Judy suggested that chutes need to end with sumps that are reinforced so that they don’t blow out during heavy rain, but rather overflow on a spillway. She also suggested the use of check dams where possible.
Harris Rd. – viewed the perched culvert on the downside of the stream. Clearly not the preferred method of installation. Possible to use an open bottom culvert?
Ingerson Rd – It appeared that the wetland has been replaced with a rock lined pool(?) in the stream bed. Again, Judy emphasized that any sump should be placed outside the wetlands/stream to allow for cleaning without entering the resource area. She did say that the apron at the roadside was GREAT!
The Highway Dept opened a gap at the downside of the detention pool they had created after the culvert.
- 9/18 @8:30, 151 Erickson Rd. Cathy and Roberta met on site with Chris MacKenzie from Ducharme and Dillis. The house location was staked. The corner of the house was less than 20 ft from the edge of wetlands. Streams were flowing on either side of the proposed house location and around the leach field

location. The leach field is within the 50 ft buffer to wetlands – although no paperwork has been submitted on how the edge of wetlands was determined. Ribbons were hanging from speckled alder (wetlands obligate shrub) all along the wetlands “bound”. Wetland flags 20, 21 & 22 were the convergence of 3 streams.

- 9/18 @9:00, 420 Main. Cathy and Roberta met the owner’s father on site. The siltation barriers had been removed and were apparently stable as there was no movement of soils during the deluge of rain. However, there were no wetland bounds signs in evidence.
- 9/18 @9:15, Flint Rd - Cathy and Roberta met on site with John Brownell to view the new location of the building that had originally been built at the edge of the pond. It now has been moved back 50 ft. The steel structure constructed upon which to move the building was still in place and will probably remain so. Mr. Brownell will put some small stone or crushed stone on the driveway to reduce the sands flowing towards the wetlands during heavy rains.
- 9/18@ 9:30, Bennett Rd Cathy and Roberta met with Steve Sokol to sign building permit for new building entirely out of the 100 ft buffer to the wetlands and stream. Also viewed the existing work on the culvert and noted that the dry well had caved in on the stream side, allowing water and siltation to flow to the stream. Steve noted and said he would fix . View site again in 2-4 weeks. Roberta signed the Building Permit.
- 9/18 @ 10:00 Pillsbury Rd next to stream – new construction of home and septic system flowing into stream. No siltation barriers or anything in place to prevent siltation of project. Told owners they needed to correct since they were now in violation and we could issue an enforcement order. Need to go back to check.
- 9/18 @10:18, 389 Turnpike Rd. Cathy and Roberta missed meeting with Bud Lightfoot since were delayed by an impromptu site visit on Pillsbury Rd. Could not find wetland markers along stream. Siltation barriers appeared to be removed and area appeared stable.
- 9/18 Roberta and Cathy checked with Rick Metcalf (BOH) on 151 Erickson Rd. Rick stated that the project was considered an upgrade and hence none of the limitations normally in place in new construction were imposed on this newly proposed construction of a single family home. He showed it as a system for a 3 bedroom home and not connected to the tank in front of the existing home, although the leach field had been installed. Roberta will check with prior owner for more information on the prior work done on the property.

Site Visits needed:

- End of Harris Rd - Wayne Hardy
- Lodestar replication area
- 466 Wares Rd – NOI septic system replacement
- 389 Turnpike Rd – check for wetland signs
- Pillsbury Rd – siltation barriers or need for Enforcement Order
- Bennet Rd – check on dry well
- 420 Main St – check for wetland signs

Meeting closed at 10:00pm

Respectfully submitted

Roberta Flashman