

**HARVARD CONSERVATION COMMISSION
MINUTES OF MEETING
FEBRUARY 18, 2021
APPROVED: JULY 1, 2021**

Chair Don Ritchie called the meeting to order at 7:08pm, virtually in accordance with the Governor's Executive Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, MGL Chapter 30A §20, under MGL Chapter 131 §40 Wetland Protection Act and Code of the Town of Harvard Chapter 119 Wetland Protection Bylaw

Members Present: Don Ritchie, Paul Willard, Jaye Waldron, Joanne Ward, Jim Burns (arrived at 8:12pm) and Eve Wittenberg (Associate Member)

Others Present: Liz Allard (Land Use Boards Administrator/Conservation Agent), Peter Dorward (Open Space Committee), Jim Lee (Open Space Committee), Marty Green (Harvard Press), Margaret Kusner, Marc Sevigny, and Dan Wolfe (Ross Associates)

Update from Open Space Committee Representative – Peter Dorward

Peter Dorward, chair of the Open Space Committee (OSC), stated revisions have been made to charter, which clarify the role of the OSC. Mr. Dorward reviewed the 2021 goals of the OSC. Mr. Dorward explained when reviewing a property for recreation it is in the context of playing fields and not areas for play grounds or picnic areas. Mr. Dorward reviewed the maps created by the OSC using their scoring tool. Those maps include, open space, agricultural, ecological significance, open space for athletic fields, unprotected land near protected open space and lands containing wetlands and waterways. Maps are available on the OSC webpage. Mr. Dorward will share the step-by-step process of creating these maps with the Commission. The OSC will start with the top two tiers of parcels that scored well and develop a list of potential parcels the Town should consider for purchase. The maps will be included on the Town's GIS program this spring, allowing for users to turn on and off layers on the maps. Lastly, Mr. Dorward reviewed the tax delinquent parcels and the recommendations of the OSC.

Continuation of the Revisions to Code of Harvard Chapter 147 Harvard Wetland Bylaw Regulations. Opened at 7:48pm.

Notice of Intent Hearing - Estate of Anthony L. Graceffa, 204 Ayer Road, DEP#699, Harvard#0121-04. Opened at 7:50pm

Request for Determination of Applicability Hearing – Marc Sevigny, 74 Shaker Road, Harvard#0221-01. Opened at 8:00pm

Approve Minutes

This item was passed over this evening.

Approve Invoice – Nitsch Engineering (Pine Hill Village)

Jaye Waldron made a motion to approve the invoice for Nitsch Engineering in the amount of \$1240.00 for inspections at Pine Hill Village. Jim Burns seconded the motion. The vote was unanimously in favor of the motion by a roll call, Joanne Ward, aye; Paul Willard, aye; Jaye Waldron, aye; Jim Burns, aye; and Don Ritchie, aye.

Approve Allocation of Funding for Land Stewardship Subcommittee

Joanne Ward made a motion to allocate \$90.00 from the conservation fund for improvements to the Holy Hill signage. Jaye Waldron seconded the motion. The vote was unanimously in favor of the motion by a roll call, Joanne Ward, aye; Paul Willard, aye; Jaye Waldron, aye; Jim Burns, aye; and Don Ritchie, aye.

Review 310 CMR 10.03(3) - Presumption Concerning 310 CMR 15.000: The State Environmental Code, Title 5

This item was passed over this evening.

Request to use William's land for movie set

After a brief discussion, the members present agreed to pass on the request.

Annual Appointments – Paul Willard, Joanne Ward & Eve Wittenberg

Members up for re-appointment stated they were all still interested in remaining on the Commission for another term.

Update on Pine Hill Village Stow Road

None

Adjournment

Jim Burns made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:24pm. Jaye Waldron seconded the motion. The vote was unanimously in favor of the motion by a roll call, Joanne Ward, aye; Paul Willard, aye; Jaye Waldron, aye; Jim Burns, aye; and Don Ritchie, aye.

Respectfully submitted,

Liz Allard,
Land Use Administrator/
Conservation Agent

EXHIBITS & OTHER DOCUMENTS

- Conservation Commission Agenda, dated February 18, 2021

**Harvard Conservation Commission
Continuation of the Revisions to Code of Harvard
Chapter 147 Harvard Wetland Bylaw Regulations Hearing
February 18, 2021**

The public hearing was opened at 7:48pm by Chair Don Ritchie under MGL Chapter 131 §40 Wetland Protection Act and the Code of the Town of Harvard Chapter 119 Wetland Protection Bylaw virtually in accordance with the Governor's Executive Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, MGL Chapter 30A §20.

Members Present: Don Ritchie, Paul Willard, Wendy Sisson, Jaye Waldron, Joanne Ward, Jim Burns and Eve Wittenberg (Associate Member)

Others Present: Liz Allard (Land Use Administrator/Conservation Agent)

This hearing was continued from January 21, 2021.

Edits to the stormwater section and vegetation removal have not been completed as of yet, therefore, Paul Willard made a motion to continue the hearing to March 18, 2021 at 7:30pm. Jaye Waldron seconded the motion. The vote was unanimously in favor of the motion by a roll call, Joanne Ward, aye; Paul Willard, aye; Jaye Waldron, aye; and Don Ritchie, aye.

Respectfully submitted,

Liz Allard,
Land Use Administrator/
Conservation Agent

**Harvard Conservation Commission
Notice of Intent Hearing
Estate of Anthony L. Graceffa, 204 Ayer Road,
DEP#177-699, Harvard#0121-04
February 18, 2021**

The public hearing was opened at 7:50pm by Chair Don Ritchie under MGL Chapter 131 §40 Wetland Protection Act and the Code of the Town of Harvard Chapter 119 Wetland Protection Bylaw virtually in accordance with the Governor's Executive Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, MGL Chapter 30A §20.

Members Present: Don Ritchie, Paul Willard, Jaye Waldron, Joanne Ward and Eve Wittenberg (Associate Member)

Others Present: Liz Allard (Land Use Administrator/Conservation Agent) and Dan Wolfe (Ross Associates)

This hearing is for a Notice of Intent filed on behalf of the Estate of Anthony L. Graceffa for the construction of a replacement sewage disposal system within 100' of a wetland resource area at 204 Ayer Road, Harvard.

Dan Wolfe, of Ross Associates, provided the details of the project, which is the installation of an upgraded septic system. A suitable leaching area was located at the front of the building. The upgrade of this system will relocate the pump chamber further from the wetlands at the rear of the property. The force main will be located along the north side of the property. The paved area in which the system will be located will be loamed and seeded, as this type of system does not allow for parking over the system. The Commission was unable to conduct a site walk due to weather conditions; Mr. Wolfe was amenable to continuing the hearing.

Joanne Ward made a motion to continue the hearing to 7:30pm on March 4, 2021. Paul Willard seconded the motion. The vote was unanimously in favor of the motion by a roll call, Joanne Ward, aye; Paul Willard, aye; Jaye Waldron, aye; and Don Ritchie, aye.

Respectfully submitted,

Liz Allard
Land Use Administrator/
Conservation Agent

**Harvard Conservation Commission
Request for Determination of Applicability Hearing
Marc Seigny, 74 Shaker Road, Harvard#0221-01
February 18, 2021**

The public hearing was opened at 8:00pm by Chair Don Ritchie under MGL Chapter 131 §40 Wetland Protection Act and the Code of the Town of Harvard Chapter 119 Wetland Protection Bylaw virtually in accordance with the Governor's Executive Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, MGL Chapter 30A §20.

Members Present: Don Ritchie, Paul Willard, Jaye Waldron, Joanne Ward and Eve Wittenberg (Associate Member)

Others Present: Liz Allard (Land Use Administrator/Conservation Agent) and Marc Seigny

This hearing is for a Request to for Determination of Applicability, filed by Mark Seigny for the installation of a 96' boardwalk within a wetland resource area to access an upland area at 74 Shaler Road, Harvard.

Marc Seigny detailed the location and boardwalk he is proposing to install on his property to access an upland area. Mr. Seigny stated the design of the boardwalk is low-impact with no footings required and would provide access when the ground is not frozen or dry. Jaye Waldron was concerned with allowing for access to an upland through a wetland.

Due to weather conditions the site was unable to be conducted, therefore Mr. Seigny was amenable to continuing the hearing. Paul Willard made a motion to continue the hearing to March 18, 2021 at 7:45pm. Joanne Ward seconded the motion. The vote was unanimously in favor of the motion by a roll call, Joanne Ward, aye; Paul Willard, aye; Jaye Waldron, aye; and Don Ritchie, aye.

Respectfully submitted,

Liz Allard
Land Use Administrator/
Conservation Agent