

**HARVARD CONSERVATION COMMISSION
MINUTES OF MEETING
SEPTEMBER 21, 2017
APPROVED: OCTOBER 5, 2017**

Vice Chairman Don Ritchie called the meeting to order at 7:01pm in the Town Hall, 13 Ayer Road, under MGL Chapter 131 §40 Wetland Protection Act and Code of the Town of Harvard Chapter 119 Wetland Protection Bylaw

Members Present: Don Ritchie, Wendy Sisson, Joanne Ward, Jaye Waldron and Mark Shaw (Associate Member)

Others Present: Liz Allard (LUB Admin), Carl Sciple, Marty Green (Harvard Press), David Outman (HCT), Greg Louis, Garry Baer, and Peter Dorward

Davis Land – Still River Road (Map 16 Parcel 15)

- Finalize Questions from CPIC – Jaye Waldron made a motion to approve the answers to the questions from the CPIC as prepared by Wendy Sisson, Peter Dorward and Liz Allard. Joanne Ward seconded the motion. The vote was unanimously in favor of the motion
- Update from CPC Meeting 9/20/2017 – Liz Allard stated the CPC suggested a new appraisal be done if the lot is determined to be unbuildable. CPC was interested in what “Plan B” is if the lot is not buildable and the appraisal comes in much lower. CPC has limited funds and two other requests for funding for the special town meeting on November 6th. A final decision will be made at their next meeting.
- Review Letter to Broker/Owner - Jaye Waldron made a motion to approve the letter as drafted to Suzanne Dutkewych, dated September 21, 2017. Wendy Sisson seconded the motion. The vote was unanimously in favor of the motion.

CPIC Fiscal Year 2019 Application

Wendy Sisson suggested a letter be sent to the Board of Selectmen explaining the process for requesting funding seems overwhelming for a committee of volunteers. Members agreed with this suggestion and Ms. Sisson will draft a letter for the next meeting.

Members reviewed the cover letter to the CPIC application for funding of the Conservation Fund in fiscal year 2019. After a brief discussion, Wendy Sisson made a motion to approve the letter and application as amended this evening. Jaye Waldron seconded the motion. The vote was unanimously in favor of the motion.

Request for Determination of Applicability Hearing – Willard Shores, between 2 Wilroy and 110 Clinton Shores, Harvard#0917-01. Opened at 7:33pm

Executive Session

Don Ritchie made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss the possible purchase of real property, the public discussion of which could have detrimental effects on the negotiating position, only to return to the public meeting once completed. Jaye Waldron seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken: Wendy Sisson, aye; Jaye Waldron, aye; Joanne Ward, aye; and Don Ritchie, aye.

At the end of executive session Don Ritchie made a motion to adjourn and return to the public meeting. Joanne Ward seconded. A roll call vote was taken: Wendy Sisson, aye; Jaye Waldron, aye; Joanne Ward, aye; and Don Ritchie, aye.

Charter Commission Comments

After a discussion in regards to the Commission opinion of the Charter, the members agreed the comments are too fundamental for the Charter Commission itself and may be better suited prior

to Town Meeting in the spring. All agreed if they so chose they would send comments individually as residents prior to the October 4th meeting of the Charter Commission.

2018 Protective Bylaw Amendments – Erosion Control Bylaw

In January the Commission discussed working with the Planning Board (PB) on a revised version of the erosion control bylaw that failed at town meeting in 2016. One of the action items within the 2016 Master Plan is the creation of an erosion control bylaw. The PB has recently requested input on bylaw amendments for the 2018 annual town meeting.

The Commission agreed they may not have the bandwidth to complete this task in time for the annual town meeting. Liz Allard will discuss with the PB to determine how it would work with their schedule.

Potential Open Space – Woodside Road, Map 30 Parcel 14

Liz Allard stated Town Administrator Tim Bragan is still working on finding a funding source to repay the principle owed on this property.

Licensing of Conservation Land Update

Don Ritchie has reviewed the conservation lands around town that previously were licensed for agricultural use. The deed for the gift of land from James Dunlap along Old Littleton Road will need to be reviewed to determine what the stipulation was for Carlson to use that field. Wendy Sisson is willing to talk to Frank Carlson to determine if there are any other fields the Commission has over looked. Ms. Sisson had started this process 5 years ago, at which point she wanted to create criteria for the use of these properties. She stated field crops are worth more than orchard land or hay fields. Mr. Ritchie will expand the spreadsheet to include additional info, such as when the land was acquired and how much the Commission paid.

Update from the State Service Forester

The State Forest Service, Lara Dooley, has not been in touch with the Conservation Agent in regards to the review of the property on Cruft Lane. The Agent will follow up with Ms. Dooley.

Approve Proposal for the printing of the Open Space & Recreation Plan

Wendy Sisson made a motion to approve the price proposal of \$375 from J&S Business for the printing of the Open Space & Recreation Plan. Joanne Ward seconded the motion. The vote was unanimously in favor of the motion.

Approve Minutes

Wendy Sisson made a motion to approve the minutes of August 3rd as amended, including the executive session minutes of that date. Jaye Waldron seconded the motion. The vote was unanimously in favor of the motion.

Approve Invoice

Joanne Ward made a motion to approve the following invoice:

- ESRI - \$400.00

Jaye Waldron seconded the motion. The vote was unanimously in favor of the motion.

MDAR Notification re: Pesticide Control Act and Chapter 147-17 Wetland Protection Bylaw Setbacks

This item was tabled until the next meeting.

Adjournment

Wendy Sisson made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:09pm. Jaye Waldron seconded the motion. The vote was unanimously in favor of the motion.

Respectfully submitted,
Liz Allard Land Use Administrator/Conservation Agent

**Harvard Conservation Commission
Request for Determination of Applicability Hearing Meeting Minutes
Willard Shores, between 2 Wilroy and 110 Clinton Shore, Harvard#0917-01
September 21, 2017**

The public hearing was opened at 7:33pm by Vice Chairman Don Ritchie under Massachusetts Wetland Protection Act, Ch. 131 §40 and Harvard Wetland Protection Bylaw, Chapter 119 of the Code of the Town of Harvard in the Town Hall Meeting Room, 13 Ayer Road, Harvard

Members Present: Don Ritchie, Wendy Sisson, Joanne Ward, Jaye Waldron and Mark Shaw (Associate Member)

Others Present: Liz Allard (LUB Admin), Carl Sciple, Greg Louis and Garry Baer,

This Request for Determination of Applicability was filed on behalf of Willard shores for the removal of a tree, within 200' of Bare Hill Pond, that is causing threat to human health and safety due to an insect infestation between 2 Wilroy and 110 Clinton Shore, Harvard.

Greg Louis explained the tree in question has been a concern for a few years now and has extensive insect damage which could cause damage to surrounding homes should it fall.

Jaye Waldron made a motion to close the hearing and issue a Negative #2 Determination of Applicability. Joanne Ward seconded the motion. The vote was unanimously in favor of the motion.

Respectfully submitted,

Liz Allard
Land Use Administrator/
Conservation Agent

EXHIBITS & OTHER DOCUMENTS

Conservation Commission Agenda, dated September 21, 2017