

**HARVARD CONSERVATION COMMISSION
MINUTES OF MEETING
AUGUST 1, 2019
APPROVED: SEPTEMBER 19, 2019**

Vice Chair Paul Willard called the meeting to order at 7:06pm 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: Paul Willard, Wendy Sisson, Jaye Waldron, Joanne Ward and Mark Shaw

Others Present: Liz Allard (LUB Admin), Ryan Vickers (Ducharme & Dillis), Pradeep Khurana, Jason Cole (Deer Management Subcommittee), Zachery Shipman, Greg Roy (Ducharme & Dillis), Br. Peter Mary (St. Benedict Center), Maria Walton, and David Crossman (B&C Associates)

Discuss Maintenance at Thurston's Cove with Pradeep Khurana of 110 Warren Avenue
Pradeep Khurana updated the Conservation Commission (ConCom) on the discussion between the Town Administrator, Tim Bragan; and Attorney Lou Levine in regards to the allowance of unloading and loading at the cove by the ConCom, which constitutes "public vehicular traffic", therefore per the common driveway covenant the ConCom is responsible for a portion of the maintenance and snowplowing of the common driveway. Mr. Khurana is anxious to get the repairs to the driveway completed before the winter season; he will provide quotes to the ConCom in regards to snow plowing and repairs to the road.

Eagle Scout Project Request – Zachary Shipman

Zachary Shipman, a local Eagle Scout, explained his proposal to create a kiosk at the Town Beach. Members of the Commission had questions about the location of the kiosk and suggested it be located on the parking lot side of the building in an area that is already disturbed. Wendy Sisson suggested gravel be used for the footings as opposed to concrete due to the potential of needing to relocate the sign in the future and for freezing and thawing that will occur. Paul Willard asked about donations from Commission; with the Parks & Recreation Commission already contributing and this project not being a conservation project it was agreed a donation from the Commission was not necessary.

Wendy Sisson made a motion to allow the installation of a kiosk, as detailed in the "Harvard Town Beach Sign Eagle Scout Project Proposal" prepared by Zach Shipman, Troop 1 Harvard without the need to file a Request for Determination of Applicability with the Commission. Joanne Ward seconded the motion. The vote was unanimously in favor of the motion.

Notice of Intent Hearing – St. Benedict Centers, 284 Still River Road, DEP#177-682, Harvard#0719-03. Opened at 7:33pm

Continuation of a Request for Determination of Applicability Hearing – B&C Associates, 169 Littleton County Road, Harvard#0619-01. Opened at 8:09pm

Notice of Intent Hearing – Matthew Ellis, 62 South Shaker Road, Harvard#0619-02, Road, DEP#177-679 Harvard#0619-02. Opened at 8:15pm

Update Pine Hill Village – Site Monitoring Proposals

Recommendations for who should make the final decision on hunting conservation land
This item was passed over

Approve Minutes

Jaye Waldron made a motion to approve the minutes of May 16, June 6 and 27, 2019 as amended. Mark Shaw seconded the motion. The vote was unanimously in favor of the motion.

Update on Hosking's Point Graffiti

Wendy Sisson detailed the work completed by volunteers to remove the graffiti at Hosking's Point. Although some evidence of the graffiti remains, the volunteers did a great job at reducing its appearance on trees and rock outcroppings. Before an after photos had been circulated to the Commission members previously.

Accepting Precipitation Frequency Statistics prepared by the Northeast Regional Climate Center at Cornell University

After a brief discussion, Liz Allard agreed to follow up with the Massachusetts Association Conservation Commissions and the Mass Society of Municipal Conservation Professionals to determine what other communities are doing and how they are implementing the use of NOAA Atlas 14 precipitation statistics.

Request for a Certificate of Compliance – 36 Lovers Lane, DEP#177-670

Joanne Ward made a motion to issue the Certificate of Compliance for 36 Lovers Lane, DEP#177-670. Jaye Waldron seconded motion. The vote was unanimously in favor of the motion.

ZBA Request for Comments – 166 Littleton Road

The Commission had no comments for this application to increase the number of units within the existing structure.

Environmental Forum Recommendation Meeting – August 29, 2019 @ 7:30pm

Wendy Sisson will attend this meeting on behalf of the Commission.

Adjournment

Jaye Waldron made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:41pm. Joanne Ward seconded the motion. The vote was unanimously in favor of the motion.

Respectfully submitted,

Liz Allard
Land Use Administrator/
Conservation Agent

**Harvard Conservation Commission
Notice of Intent Hearing Minutes
St. Benedict Centers, 284 Still River Road
DEP#177-682, Harvard#0719-03
August 1, 2019**

The public hearing was opened at 7:33pm by Vice Chair Paul Willard under MGL Chapter 131 §40 Wetland Protection Act and Code of the Town of Harvard Chapter 119 Wetland Protection Bylaw in the Town Hall Meeting Room, 13 Ayer Road, Harvard

Members Present: Paul Willard, Wendy Sisson, Jaye Waldron, Joanne Ward and Mark Shaw

Others Present: Liz Allard (LUB Admin) Ryan Vickers (Ducharme & Dillis), Greg Roy (Ducharme & Dillis), Br. Peter Mary (St. Benedict Center) and Maria Walton

This hearing is for a Notice of Intent filed on behalf of St. Benedict Centers for the development of a new parking lot, sub-surface infiltration area and landscaping within 100' of a wetland resource area at 284 Still River Road, Harvard.

Ryan Vickers and Greg Roy, of Ducharme & Dillis, were present to represent the applicant. Mr. Vickers explained the existing conditions at the site including the bordering vegetated wetland (BVW) on the south side of the property. Additional erosion controls for the grading of the new driveway were discussed, along with the installation of turf reinforcement mat. It was requested a biodegradable mat be used as opposed to the one detailed on the plan. It was requested the snow storage area closest to the BVW be relocated or eliminated.

During the site walk last night the Commission observed activity to stabilize the existing slope to the BVW. This slope receives stormwater run off from Still River Road and was in need of remediation. A restoration plan was presented that detailed the removal of debris, fill and brush and the grading of the area with 4" of topsoil, stabilization mat and seeding. Wendy Sisson noted the small patch of Japanese knotweed should be removed by hand digging before it becomes a bigger problem.

With revisions to be made to the plan, Wendy Sisson made a motion to continue the hearing to the 15th of August at 8:00pm in the Town Hall at 13 Ayer Road, Harvard. Joanne Ward seconded the motion. The vote was unanimously in favor of the motion.

Respectfully submitted,

Liz Allard
Land Use Administrator/
Conservation Agent

Harvard Conservation Commission
Continuation of a Request for Determination of Applicability Hearing Minutes
B&C Associates, 169 Littleton County Road, Harvard#0619-01
August 1, 2019

The public hearing was opened at 8:09pm by Vice Chair Paul Willard under MGL Chapter 131 §40 Wetland Protection Act and Code of the Town of Harvard Chapter 119 Wetland Protection Bylaw in the Town Hall Meeting Room, 13 Ayer Road, Harvard

Members Present: Paul Willard, Wendy Sisson, Jaye Waldron, Joanne Ward and Mark Shaw

Others Present: Liz Allard (LUB Admin) and David Crossman (B&C Associates)

This hearing was continued from July 18, 2019 for a Request for Determination of Applicability filed on behalf of Luciano Manganella for the removal of invasive plant species within the 100' wetland buffer zone at 169 Littleton County Road, Harvard.

Dave Crossman was present to discuss the request to manage invasive plants on the property at 169 Littleton County Road. Mr. Crossman stated the property owner has completed some clearing on the site that has encroached onto the 100' wetland buffer zone; no further activity has happened. Mr. Crossman stated the application before the Commission is for work within the wetland buffer zone only. The proposed plan is to remove the invasives plants entirely, including the roots, with the exception of bittersweet, which may be hand painted with herbicide.

The Commission stated all work to remove the invasive plants between the 0'- 50' wetland buffer zone shall be done by hand. There shall be no disturbance between wetland flag 12 and wetland flag 22, unless Mr. Crossman or another Commission approved individual, is on site to supervise the activity. The same condition shall apply to the area from the existing stone wall to the north property line. Within the 50' wetland buffer zone no native trees of any size shall be cut. A planting plan shall be provided to the Commission. No tree within the 50' – 100' wetland buffer over 6" caliper shall be cut or removed. During activity the Commission shall receive weekly reports; once planting is completed monthly reports shall be submitted during the growing season. The 50' wetland buffer zone shall be added to the plan. Snow fencing to demarcate the limit of work shall be installed prior to any activity. Baseline photos shall be submitted prior to any activity. Protected wetland markers along the 50' shall be installed by the property owner. Mr. Crossman will develop a plan detailing the above requirements for approval by the Commission.

Wendy Sisson made a motion to continue the hearing to the 15th of August at 8:15pm in the Town Hall at 13 Ayer Road, Harvard. 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
Continuation of a Notice of Intent Hearing Minutes
Matthew Ellis, 62 South Shaker Road,
DEP#177-679, Harvard#0619-02
August 1, 2019**

The public hearing was opened at 8:15pm by Vice Chair Paul Willard under MGL Chapter 131 §40 Wetland Protection Act and Code of the Town of Harvard Chapter 119 Wetland Protection Bylaw in the Town Hall Meeting Room, 13 Ayer Road, Harvard

Members Present: Paul Willard, Wendy Sisson, Jaye Waldron, Joanne Ward and Mark Shaw

Others Present: Liz Allard (LUB Admin)

This hearing was continued from July 18, 2019 for a Notice of Intent filed on behalf of Matthew Ellis for the construction of a garage within 100' of a wetland resource area at 62 South Shaker Road, Harvard.

At the request of the applicant's representative, Joanne Ward made a motion to continue the hearing to the 5th of September at 7:30pm in the Town Hall, 13 Ayer Road, Harvard. Jaye Waldron 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 August 1, 2019

Eagle Scout Project Request – Zachary Shipman

- Harvard Town Beach Sign Eagle Scout Project Proposal” prepared by Zach Shipman, Troop 1 Harvard, received August 1, 2019

Notice of Intent Hearing – St. Benedict Centers, 284 Still River Road, DEP#177-682, Harvard#0719-03

- Saint Benedict’s Elementary Addition, 264 Still River Road, Still River, MA 01467, Existing Conditions Sheet, Grading Sheet, and Erosion & Sedimentation Control Sheet, Proj. 2969, prepared by Ducharme & Dillis Civil Design Group, Inc., dated 02/15/2019
- Restoration Plan, 284 Still River Road, Harvard, Massachusetts, DWG No. 2969 – Buffer Zone Restoration, prepared by Ducharme & Dillis Civil Design Group, Inc., dated 8/01/2019

Continuation of a Request for Determination of Applicability Hearing – B&C Associates, 169 Littleton County Road, Harvard#0619-01

- Request for Determination of Applicability Exhibit Plan, 169 Littleton County Road, Harvard, MA prepared for Luciano Manganella, JOB 181080A, dated 0/09/2019

Approve Minutes

- DRAFT HARVARD CONSERVATION COMMISSION MINUTES OF MEETING MAY 16, 2019, prepared by Liz Allard
- DRAFT HARVARD CONSERVATION COMMISSION MINUTES OF MEETING JUNE 6, 2019, prepared by Liz Allard
- DRAFT HARVARD CONSERVATION COMMISSION MINUTES OF MEETING JUNE 27, 2019, prepared by Liz Allard