



TOWN OF MENDON
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
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Meeting Date: 23-11-09
Meeting Location: Hybrid Teams / 2nd Floor Meeting Room
Minutes Approved: 24-01-11

Members Present: Carl Hommel, Lea Whiting, Mike Ammendolia, Susan Cahalan, Peter Coffin

Remote: Bob Sweet

Members Absent: Tim Aicardi

Recording: https://youtu.be/wrv6adB3efo?si=h-BDHPksNPnp_nB

Others: Jason Kuter, Kyle Raposo, Billy Palmer, Mark Manoogian, Kathryn Hackenson, Mike Penko (Metacomet Land Trust)

Quorum reached at 7:01 and the recording started. The meeting is called to order by Chairman Carl Hommel and the Conservation Commission members introduce themselves.

Correspondence

- From Dan Byer, about the 11/13 hearing on the Seven-Year Action Plan from the Open Space and Recreational Plan.

Lake Nipmuc Water Level

Present is Billy Palmer, property owner on Lake Nipmuc. He shared photos of recent high water on his property where he estimates a loss of up to 10ft. He blames a beaver dam on the outflow of Lake Nipmuc. Mike made a motion and Bob seconded to authorize Alan Tetrault to trap the beavers at the outflow site. Motion passed with Lea abstaining.

43 Quissett (Pearson Farm) Conservation Restriction

Present is Mark Manoogian (Owner) and Mike Penko (Metacomet Land Trust).

Commissioners conducted a site walk on 23-10-19. It was observed that boundary markers were missing from the building/farmstead envelope, making it unclear if a new shed is encroaching the northern boundary. Additionally, a portion of the stone wall running north/south was missing and 3 trees have been removed.

Mike Penko explained the Memoranda of Understanding, an agreement for Metacomet to conduct the yearly site inspections for the Town of Mendon, starting back in 2016. Mike stated that in the Conservation Restriction it is outlined that the stone wall cannot be altered, and boundary markers cannot be removed.

Chair Carl outlined action items.

- Install new boundary markers flush in the ground so that they do not interfere with agricultural activities.
- Delineate the 25, 50, and 100ft buffer zones for the wetland on the Mass Fish and Wildlife property, to allow for determination that farm activities do not negatively affect the wetland.
- Determine allowable uses of the building envelope in the conservation restriction.

Peter makes a motion and Bob seconded to reach out to Anne Mazar and the original surveyors to replace the boundary markers that have been removed. Passed Unanimously.

Lake Nipmuc Task Force

Report by Bob Sweet. The newly formed Lake Nipmuc Task Force will meet on the 3rd Tuesday of the month. The Task Force is interested in learning the historic mean water level for the lake and are looking into installing a water level gauge. Chair Carl stated that the goal is to have a water level gauge installed at the Town Beach for Dan Byer to monitor the water level. The ConCom request that the Task Force hire a consultant to better understand the Ch. 91 regulations. This will allow the ConCom and the Town to better understand the Great Pond regulations and know which activities require permits.

Review status of hiring and training staff

Isabella has been approved for the Conservation Agent position. Reviewed resume.
Chair Carl would like to have a consultant to help Commissioners better understand the Mendon Wetland Bylaws.

Sylvan Springs

Discuss site walk on Thursday 11/2 with engineer Desheng Wang. Moving forward there will be more frequent site visits and collaboration with the Upton Conservation Agent.

Meadow Brook Woods

Discuss site visit on Thursday 11/2 including trail maintenance and phragmites patch. Lea would like to wait until next fall to take action on the phragmites patch. Bill Dekai has stated to Lea that he would like to build a bog bridge at the impassable parts of the trail.

Online Signing

Following electronic signatures procedure posted by MSMCP.
Chair Carl conducted a roll call vote on the following motion to hereby recognize and accept the provisions of MGL c 111G regarding electronic signatures and that its members will henceforth execute documents either with electronic signatures or with wet ink signatures and that both will carry the same legal weight and effect.
Motion made by Susan, seconded by Bob.
Yes – Susan, Bob, Carl, Lea, Peter
No – Mike
Motion passed.

Set November / December Meetings

Discussion on availability for meetings during the holidays. The next meeting will be held on November 30th with the following being held on December 14th.

Con Com Finances

Mike would like to better know the budget for training of new Commissioners and Agent. Bob and Carl will need to submit their training and travel expenses to be reimbursed with the Training Budget.

During the special Town Meeting the Finance Committee authorized electronic keys for town buildings and authorized the purchase of the Vandersluis property.

Building Permits

- COM-23-12 149 Uxbridge Rd – install fence between Royal Fireside and Lew's Lawnmower, still on hold

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- Need more information
 - RES-23-314 41 Mowry St – build storage shed, not jurisdictional
 - RES-23-310 28 Rawson Farm Dr – build foundation, not jurisdictional but will be monitored
 - RES-23-304 69 Blackstone St – build house, not jurisdictional
 - RES-23-903 9 George St – not jurisdictional

Items not reasonably anticipated 48 hours in advance of the meeting

90 Park St

Kyle Raposo homeowner, looking for the Certificate of Completion. Peter motioned to authorize Susan to complete the COC, seconded by Mike. Passes unanimously.

Motion to adjourn by Peter seconded by Mike, passed unanimously, 8:30pm.