

**Town of Foxborough
Conservation Commission Minutes
May 23, 2016**

Members Present: Robert Boette (Chair), Judith Johnson (Vice Chair), Eric Nelson (Clerk),
Michael Kelleher and Jeff Ambros

Members Absent: James Marsh

Staff Present: Jane Sears Pierce, Conservation Manager, Diana Gray, Land Use Administrator

Others Present: See attached sign-in sheet

Meeting Opened

Bob Boette opened the meeting, held in the Boyden Library, at 7:00 p.m.

The Commission met with Ryan Clapp who is interested in a summer internship working with the Commission. He is an Environmental Science Major at Boston University looking for experience. The Commission feels that he could help with the vernal pool database and the management plans for the conservation properties.

Mass Coastal Railroad Right of Way, RFD

The applicant or a representative was not present; this hearing will be tabled until later this evening.

Forbes Crossing, DEP #157-537 Enforcement and Restoration Order

The Commission met with Eric Prive of DiPrete Engineering and Ed Avizinis of National Restoration Services to discuss the restoration of the Forbes Crossing site. Mr. Prive stated that the erosion controls have been placed on the site. They have prepared a tree inventory as well as a list of the native species bushes and shrubs to be hand planted.

Ms. Johnson feels that since the wetland is steep there should be facultative plantings.

The Commission is also concerned with watering, Mr. Prive stated that water trucks will be on site during construction and could be used for watering the area.

The deadline for the restoration is July, but Mr. Avizinis feels that fall would be a better time for planting and they will have a higher success rate if they wait until October or November to plant. The Commission is concerned that the invasive plants will take over if they wait that long. Mr. Prive stated that the Order of Conditions required treatment of invasives in July.

The Commission then reviewed the tree inventory that was prepared. The Commission would prefer to have a list of trees that were left versus trees that were supposed to be saved. There was also a discussion of placement of the trees and underplantings. Ms. Johnson is concerned with the shading of the river.

The mitigation for the green pond at Foxborough Boulevard is still being worked on.

The Commission would like to see a recalculation of the impact areas, a total including the DOT land that was cleared also as the NOI may be affected. The Dot property did not file a NOI.

The Commission will meet with the representatives again on June 6, 2016.

Conservation Commission Membership

With the resignation of Valerie Marshall, the Commission has another opening. The Commission reviewed the list of recent applicants and would like to recommend Rich Golemme as the next candidate.

Motion was made by Ms. Johnson to recommend Rich Golemme to the Board of Selectmen as the next Conservation Commission member, replacing Valerie Marshall; seconded by Mr. Kelleher. **Vote: 5-0-0**

Minutes

The Commission reviewed the minutes of April 25, 2016

Motion was made by Mr. Nelson to approve the minutes of April 25, 2016 as amended; seconded by Ms. Johnson. **Vote: 5-0-0**

Offer to Donate Lot – Corner of Mill and Prospect Street

In regards to land donations, the Town Manager would like to know if the Commission has a policy for accepting donations. Ms. Pierce noted that this land is located near an easement to the dam for Foundry Pond and would be good for access. The Commission supports the acquisition of this land; Ms. Pierce will see how land was donated in the past.

Offer to Sell Land – Bear Island and 69 Ridge Road

Correspondence has been received from the owner of these two properties offering them to the town. Ms. Pierce feels that the island would be hard to manage. The Commission is not interested in purchasing these lands.

Motion was made by Ms. Johnson that the Commission is not interested in acquiring Bear Island or 69 Ridge Road due to the difficulty in upkeep and maintenance; seconded by Mr. Ambs. **Vote: 5-0-0**

Mass Coastal Railroad Right of Way, RFD

Motion was made by Ms. Johnson to continue the hearing for Mass Coastal Railroad RFD to June 6, 2016; seconded by Mr. Kelleher. **Vote: 5-0-0**

Lincoln Hill Conservation Area

Ms. Pierce has asked Town Counsel to find a way to memorialize the town meeting vote that the property was purchased for conservation and recreational purposes.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Eric Nelson, Clerk

Draft minutes submitted by Diana Gray: 6/10/16

Approved by Commission: 7/11/16

Documents, Not Referenced Above

Attached Documents

1. Agenda, May 23, 2016
2. Meeting Sign In Sheet

Location of Other Documents

3. Manager's Report, filed in Manager's Report binder in the Conservation Office.
4. Referenced projects' documents: please see Conservation Commission's project file