

Hubbardston Conservation Commission Minutes

September 3, 2014

Library Basement

Meeting called to order at 7:27p.m. in the Hubbardston Library Conference Room located in the Library Basement.

Present: Steve Mossey, Tony Coppola, Tom Larson

Absent: Larry Therrien

Guests: Brandon Doane, Chase Bernier, Kenneth Dow, Vincent Ritchie, Rebecca Foucher,
Jennifer Howald

First Order of Business:

Seaboard Solar came in to let the board know that there are three abutters presently over at the planning board meeting tonight. Mrs. Smith, one of the abutter's who called the Conservation Commission to question the tree removal that had taken place, was at the Planning Board meeting and was in favor of Seaboard Solars plan to replant the area with different trees. The Conservation Commission was on board with the plan presented.

Motion: Tom Larson

Second: Tony Coppola

Motion made to accept the minutes of July 16, 2014 as written. All in favor, motion carries.

Lions Club Hayride:

The Lion's Club would like to have another haunted hayride on Mt. Jefferson on October 25, 2014. They would like to have the hayride go behind the stone wall this year. The Conservation Commission discussed having the hayride go behind the stone wall. The Conservation Board is okay with them going behind the stone wall as long as it is safe to do so. After last year's hayride, Jassy Bratko from Open Space Committee, asked Conservation that if the Lion's Club requested to do the hayride again that we let them know that they need to remove the blocks for the fire pit and take them off Mt. Jefferson. The Lion's Club will need to provide an Insurance Liability Certificate before they can hold the hayride. The Lion's Club will need to make sure that all trash is removed and Mt. Jeff looks as good if not better than how they found it.

Motion: Tom Larson

Second: Tony Coppola

Motion was made to approve Lions Club hayride with conditions stated above. All in favor. Motion carries.

Geocaching:

Mr. Donald Schofield, a resident of Hubbardston, emailed and asked if he could place a cache on Mt. Jefferson. Mr. Schofield explained that someone places a "cache" which is a game piece in a container. Once the cache is hidden, the hider then places its longitude and latitude coordinates on the internet on a site designated specifically for this game. Other "cachers" then set out to find this new piece. Whoever finds it will replace the prize with another prize and the game continues. Chairman Mossey stated that the piece needs to be placed in areas that are structurally sound. Chairman Mossey also stated that we need to find out from the Town if insurance is necessary for the game.

POA: Toni will call the Board of Selectmen office to see if insurance is necessary. If no insurance is necessary then Toni will email Mr. Schofield to let him know it is okay.

Motion: Tom Larson

Second: Tony Coppola

Motion was made to allow the Geocaching Game to take place on Mt. Jefferson as long as the piece is placed in an area that is structurally sound and as long as no insurance certificate is needed. All in favor, motion carries.

Nexamp:

Ken Dow, Chase Bernier and Brandon Doane came before the Board to discuss the storm water controls that they have in place. Tony Coppola did go to the site this evening before the meeting to see how the area looked and what the plan was to clean the silt from the wetland area. Mr. Dow spoke first bringing the board up to date since they were in last to let the board know what their plan was. Mr. Dow stated that they are looking to modify their original plan. Nexamp would like to remove only what's been compacted and where no vegetation is growing. 15-20% of the area that was impacted has no vegetation growing. The largest area which needs to have silt removed is approximately 20 x 30 feet. Mr. Dow stated that the water is higher now due to beavers than it was originally. Mr. Dow stated that the turtle biologist will be called in again. Nexamp will hire someone to come in and remove silt by wheel barrow and shovels. Some areas will have an excavator removing the silt. Nexamp will be going down three to four inches to remove the silt. Nexamp will reseed with a New England seed mix in the fall once the cleanup has been completed. Mr. Coppola did state that the area along the roadway needs to be cleaned up as well. Mr. Doane stated that they would like to start in mid to late September and hope to have it wrapped up by October 15th. Mr. Chase Bernier, wetland scientist, spoke regarding how well some of the areas that were impacted are looking. A lot of vegetation is growing and they are happy with what they see. Mr. Doane stated that they would like the board to approve the modification. Chairman Mossey stated that he would like to have Mr. Dow to send us a letter regarding all the modifications that they spoke about

tonight. If the modification paper that they send is the same as discussed tonight, then the Board would email Mr. Dow to approve the modification.

Motion: Tony Coppola

Second: Tom Larson

Motion made to approve modification plan when they present it to us via email as long as it is exactly as discussed tonight. Hay bales will need to be taken out of the wetlands and the roadways. All in favor. Motion carries.

Mr. Ritchie:

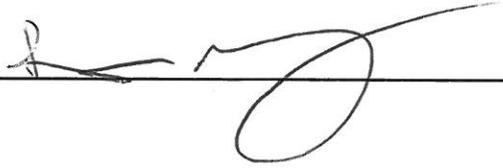
Mr. Vincent Ritchie came before the board to discuss the Order of Conditions he has for his property on Simond Hill Road. In the Order of Conditions it states that there needs to be a kick off meeting at the property with the Conservation Commission and with his engineer. Mr. Ritchie will call Mr. Mossey with a few dates for him to choose from to meet at the property.

Motion: Tony Coppola

Second: Tom Larson

Motion made to adjourn at 8:10 pm. with no further discussion. All in favor.

Approved: _____



Date: _____

11/5/14

