

Hubbardston Conservation Commission Minutes

November 5, 2014

Library Basement

Meeting called to order at 7:01p.m. in the Hubbardston Library Conference Room located in the Library Basement.

Present: Steve Mossey, Larry Therrien, Tom Larson

Absent: Tony Coppola

Guests: Bob Coppolino, Harold Goldsmith, Jassy Bratko

First Order of Business:

Jassy Bratko from the Open Space Committee came to the meeting tonight to update the Board about Mt. Jefferson. Mrs. Bratko stated that the Committee has cleared up the trees and had the trail go in such a way as to bypass some of the wet areas. In some of the mucky areas, they had placed some mats in those areas to make them passable. After the work was done, one of the abutters, Mr. Dan Beauvais, didn't like the work that was done even though they were not on his property. Mrs. Bratko met with the Mr. Beauvais and they came up with a plan to do a planting next to where the trail goes by his property. Mr. Beauvais wanted some apple trees right at the end of the field and along his property line. Mr. Therrien asked how many trees would be planted and what variety will be planted. Mrs. Bratko stated that she did not know how many trees but they would be wild trees. Mrs. Bratko stated that they do not have a budget for this but will be writing grants or look for funding somewhere. Mrs. Bratko stated that there is a byway going into the field and they would like to put some boulders in front of that so as not to have unauthorized traffic in there. Mrs. Bratko stated that up at the other end of the field towards the foundation, there is an area just to the right of the foundation that goes into the field is always mucky and doesn't look good. They would like to put some mats down in that area as well. Mr. Larson happened to go by there today and noticed the area that she was speaking of. Mr. Larson thinks the mats would be a good idea. Mr. Larson suggested that you could put gravel down to raise the level so the water runs off. Mrs. Bratko would like to keep things looking as natural as possible. Mrs. Bratko would like to put boulders in by that area as well as there have been vehicles in that area that are not authorized to be there. The boulders would have to be moved for mowing. Mr. Larson suggested putting gravel down, then put the mats down and then reseed it. It would look natural yet the muckiness would end. Mrs. Bratko asked if there is an event at Mt. Jeff, could we put it on the town calendar. Mr. Mossey said that he would have Toni get the information to Elaine to put on the calendar.

Motion: Tom Larson

Second: Larry Therrien

Motion made to accept the minutes of September 3, 2014 as written. All in favor, motion carries.

Williamsville Pond:

Mr. Bob Coppolino and Mr. Harold Goldsmith came before the Board to discuss the dam at Williamsville Pond near Burnshirt Road. Chairman Mossey said that he recalls DCR stating that they were at one time thinking of taking it out completely or rebuilding it. Mr. Goldsmith spoke and stated that a number of years ago they sought someone to fix the dam and even had quotes for the material that was needed. The dyke that is there is owned by Charles G. Allen and when they spoke with the Allen Co., the Allen Co, stated that DCR had spoken to them in the past and stated that the trees should not be on the dam and they were going to take the trees down. The DCR also noted some leaking on one side and was going to look into that as well. Mr. Coppolino got in touch with Steve Brewer and Senator Brewer called DCR to let them know that he believes the dam should stay. Mr. Coppolino and his wife saw a Wildlife and Fisheries truck at the dam recently and the gentleman they spoke with said that this would have to go on the next fiscal year's agenda. Mr. Coppolino and Mr. Goldsmith brought letters with them regarding this situation from Senator Brewer. Mr. Coppolino and Mr. Goldsmith want to preserve the area and asked the Conservation Commission take note of this and stand behind them. Chairman Mossey said we could draft a letter and send it in to DCR showing our support of keeping the dam. Chairman Mossey thanked them for coming in and keeping the Conservation Commission in the loop.

Old Princeton Road:

Mr. Tomas Larson came in to talk to the board about a piece of property on Old Princeton Road which he would like to build on. Mr. Larson brought a plan in and asked the board to look it over and see if there is anything that may need to be changed. Chairman Mossey told Mr. Larson that he needed to fill out a site inspections form and the Conservation Commission would inspect the property. Mr. Larson will come in to get an application for a site inspection.

Request For Change of Minutes Dated May 7, 2014:

Ms. Wendy Howes sent a memo to the Conservation Commission dated October 21, 2014 stating that she would like to make corrections to the minutes dated May 7, 2014. After reviewing the memo Ms. Howes sent, the Conservation Commission made the following motion.

Motion: Larry Therrien

Second: Tom Larson

Motion made to keep the Minutes of May 7, 2014 as originally written with the exception of making note that Ms. Howes' name be changed from Ms. Howe to Ms. Howes.

All in favor, motion carries.

Motion: Larry Therrien

Second: Tom Larson

Motion made to adjourn at 7:45 pm. with no further discussion. All in favor.

Approved: _____



Date: _____

12/3/14

