

Southampton Conservation Commission (SCC)
Meeting – October 20, 2014
Southampton Town Hall Meeting Room

Attendees: Chairman Charlie McDonald, Vice-Chairman Matthew Christy, Treasurer Arthur Lawrence, Randall Kemp, Secretary Marla Hanc

Absent: Rick Thibault, Robert Barcomb

Public Present: Associate Commissioner Courtney Haff, Easthampton
Kate Bednaz, R. Levesque Associates, Inc., Westfield
Glenn West, 28 Katelyn Way
Peter Frary, 19 East St.
Dan Pellegrini, 76 Crooked Ledge Rd.
David Cameron, P.O. Box 119, Southampton
Mary Yan Xie, 103 Glendale Rd.

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM.

7:05 Open Time to the Public

Glenn West, owner of Sheldon's Ice Cream at 285 College Highway, said that the dam near Sheldon's is in need of repair. He wanted to know who to call. Mr. McDonald said he will call the Department of Conservation and Recreation to get information for Mr. West. Ms. Hanc suggested contacting the Army Corps of Engineers. Mr. West also said that he would like to expand his ice cream storage facility onto the new deck on the east side of the building. Since the footings for the deck are already in place, the SCC did not feel that storage on the deck itself would be jurisdictional.

Regular Business

7:10 Minutes

The minutes from March 31, 2014 were unavailable for review.

The minutes from October 6, 2014 were reviewed.

7:12 A motion was made by Mr. Lawrence to accept the minutes as written. The motion was seconded by Mr. Kemp. The motion passed with four (4) YES votes and one (1) abstention (Mr. Christy).

7:17 Treasurer's Report

Mr. Lawrence presented the Treasurer's report. The CC Expenses account has a balance of \$387.30, the Wetlands Protection account has a balance of \$769.49, Wolf/Szczypta Map/Signs (Act #285100.842), originally \$2,500, has a balance of \$1533.67. The Whittemore CPC Funds (Act #285100.841) begun with \$5000.00, was reduced by \$3,500.00 paid to Conservation Works LLC.

Checks for \$75.00 for the local RDA filing fee and \$85.74 for publication of the RDA notice in the Daily Hampshire Gazette were received from Pellegrini Development LLC.

Signatures:

- SCC-FY-15-P7 from CC Expenses (#15170.700)
 - Payable to Charlie McDonald for folders, \$14.79
 - Payable to USPS for Yearly PO Box Fee, \$48.00

7:21 Mr. Kemp made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report. Mr. Christy seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with five (5) YES votes.

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Correspondence

Email:

- October 7, 2014, from Mark Stinson (DEP) – regarding DEP Western Region Circuit Rider News for October 2014
- October 7, 2014, from Ecological Landscape Alliance – regarding Upcoming Educational Events
- October 8, 2014, from Environmental Compliance Services, Inc. – regarding 6 health and safety courses to sign up for
- October 9, 2014, from Richard LeBlanc (AGR) – regarding MassGrown and Fresher News – October
- October 9, 2014, from Mass.Wildlife@state.ma.us - regarding [masswildlife.news] MassWildlife Launches a New Facebook Page!
- October 9, 2014, from Kate Bednaz, PWS #1906, Project Manager/Registered Soil Scientist, R. Levesque Associates, Inc. – regarding Pellegrini RDA
- October 10, 2014, from Richard LeBlanc (AGR) – regarding Farm and Market Report Extras
- October 10, 2014, from Environmental Compliance Services, Inc. – regarding The Environment in the Headlines
- October 10, 2014, from Mollie Freilicher, Community Action Forester - regarding DCR Tree Steward Training--Reserve your spot by Oct 15!
- October 11, 2014, from David Cameron, PWS - regarding Riverfront Restoration Plan for Michael & Mary Yan
- October 13, 2014, from Mark Kassis – regarding Property on Gunn Rd. behind Bob & Denise Riggs' House
- October 14, 2014, from CICgrants (ANF) – regarding FY15 CIC Application Receipt (PVPC-Conservation Agent)
- October 16, 2014, from David Cameron, PWS – regarding Draft of Riverfront Restoration Plan for Michael & Mary Yan
- October 16, 2014, from Ecological Landscaping Association – regarding Newsletter - October 2014 Edition
- October 16, 2014 from DLS_Alert@dor.state.ma.us – regarding City & Town - October 16th, 2014
- October 20, 2014, from Jennifer Hedges, Application Coordinator, R. Levesque Associates, Inc. – regarding 20141019Pellegrini RDA Packet Revised

Hard Copy:

- From Applied Geospatial Analytics, letter of introduction of new full-service environmental research consulting firm located in Essex County, Massachusetts
- From Northern Woodlands magazine, survey for former subscribers who did not renew
- From Mass Audubon, membership renewal form (member since 1986)

7:21 RDA Crooked Ledge Road, Parcels 4 & 37, Map 17; Applicant: Pellegrini Development LLC; Representative: Kate Bednaz, R. Levesque Associates, Inc., Westfield

The application requests a review of the wetlands delineation of the proposed site and the jurisdictional responsibility of the Conservation Commission. The property to review is approximately 30 acres out of the 358 acres in the two parcels. Ms. Bednaz reviewed the characteristics of the property. There is no current building project. A site visit was scheduled for Sunday, November 2, 2014 at 10:00 AM.

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7:40 The RDA meeting was continued to November 10, 2014 at 7:20 PM

7:41 103 Glendale Rd Restoration Plan; Owner: Mary Yan Xie, Representative: David Cameron
An Enforcement Order was issued on October 6, 2014 to address the removal of trees within 200 feet of a perennial stream without having had a permit from the Conservation Commission. Mr. McDonald read the dates for the specific requirements on the addendum to the Enforcement Order. Mr. Cameron described his credentials and his proposal for corrective action.

8:04 A motion was made by Mr. Lawrence to approve of the choice of David Cameron as the Wetland Scientist to design the restoration plan for 103 Glendale Rd. The motion was seconded by Mr. Christy. The motion passed unanimously with five (5) YES votes.

8:11 A motion was made by Mr. Kemp to approve the draft of the restoration plan, noting concern about the location of the chickens and the removal of the foot bridge (regarding bank stability). The motion was seconded by Mr. Lawrence. The motion passed unanimously with five (5) YES votes.

Mr. McDonald gave Mr. Cameron the contact information for Christopher Wayne, the abutter to 103 Glendale Rd. It appears that the brook in question is the property line, and some of the work had been done across the brook. Mr. McDonald will arrange a meeting between Mr. Cameron and Mr. Wayne. The final version of the restoration plan should be available at the next SCC meeting.

8:21 Mr. Kemp left the meeting.

**8:21 Open Space Projects:
Whittemore Project**

Conservation Works LLC has begun the trail redesign. The trail has been rerouted around some marshy areas and roughly cleared. One set of stairs along the trail which had become dangerous due to erosion has been removed and a new crossing bridge over a ravine has been started. All wood from the previous structures has been reused in the replacement construction. Some of the white/green SCC boundary signs along the trail have been removed and new blue trail signs will be installed when available.

CPC Projects

The following projects have been submitted for CPC support for 2015:

- 1) \$5000 for the Manhan Trail Restoration
- 2) \$1000 for the Szczypta Signs (money that was returned last year)
- 3) \$1000 for the SCC Website: Hiking Map incorporation, yearly fee, and anything else
- 4) \$4000 for Survey work on the Whittemore and Szczypta Conservation Farm

PVPC

The \$1,500 for the SCC's membership in the PVPC Compact for Conservation was cut from the FY15 budget. PVPC has \$6,700 remaining of the funding which had been to be used for the Southampton Master Plan. Mr. McDonald will inquire if the money can be used to pay the FY15 fee for the SCC.

Hiking Maps

Mr. McDonald had the Wolf Hill Sanctuary and Szczypta Conservation Farm hiking trail maps printed; the maps are available in the Town Hall.

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New/Old Project

Part-time Conservation Agent: Easthampton Meeting & CIC Grant

On October 14, email was received from Tim Dodd, Director of Performance Management and Gregory Johnson, Performance Management and Grants Analyst which acknowledged the request for a \$32,000 Community Innovation Challenge (CIC) Grant to be used for a Shared Conservation Agent. Following review, the grant decisions will be announced in December.

Next Meetings

The next SCC meetings are planned for November 10, and December 8, 2014.

8:25 Adjournment

A motion was made by Mr. Christy to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Mr. Lawrence. The motion passed unanimously with four (4) YES votes.