

Southampton Conservation Commission (SCC)
Meeting – June 8, 2015
Southampton Town Hall 1st Floor Meeting Room

Attendees: Chairman Charlie McDonald, Treasurer Arthur Lawrence, Rick Thibault, Secretary Marla Hanc

Absent: Vice-Chairman Matthew Christy, Randall Kemp, Robert Barcomb

Public Present: Todd Dionne, 8 Middle Rd.
Steven Silverman, 268 Fomer Rd.
Lisa Narkiewicz, Heritage Surveys, Inc.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM.

7:00 Open Time to the Public

No member of the public spoke at this time.

Regular Business

7:00 Minutes

The minutes from May 11, 2015 were reviewed.

7:02 A motion was made by Mr. Thibault to accept the minutes from May 11, 2015 as written. The motion was seconded by Mr. Lawrence. The motion passed unanimously with four (4) YES votes.

7:02 Treasurer's Report

Mr. Lawrence presented the Treasurer's Report. The CC Expense Account (15171.700) will be funded with \$750 effective July 1, 2015. The balance of the Wetlands Protection Account (245100.020) will be \$2,069.26 after FY15-P22.

Signatures:

- SCC-FY-15-P22 from Wetlands Protection (#245100.020)
 - Payable to WB Mason for ink, \$11.69
 - Payable to WB Mason for ink, \$35.07
 - Payable to Courtney Haff for SCC website renewal, \$158.82
- SCC-FY-15-P23 from Conant Wildlife Fund (#825200.701)
 - Payable to Fleury Lumber for wood for redecking the suspension bridge at Manhan Meadows, \$101.54

7:04 A motion was made by Mr. Thibault to accept the Treasurer's Report. Ms. Hanc seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with four (4) YES votes

7:05 Correspondence

Email

- May 12, 2015, from Mass. Division of Ecological Restoration – regarding Special Announcement: New Report on the Economic Benefits of Ecological Restoration
- May 18, 2015, from Citizen.Forester@bos-mailsec-002.state.ma.us – regarding Upcoming Events in MA Urban & Community Forestry

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- May 19, 2015, from Charlie McDonald to Nelson Shifflitt, Valley Solar, Northampton, Ma. – regarding Dionne property, 8 Middle Rd. Northampton
- May 19, 2015, from Mark Stinson (DEP) – regarding Southampton- DEP File Number Brickyard Road and Comments
- May 19, 2015, from Charlie McDonald to Beth McGowan – regarding Deck Reconstruction: 69 Brickyard Rd.
- May 19, 2015, from Charlie McDonald to Janice Rochon – regarding question of possible wetland areas at 32 Hillside Meadow Dr.
- May 20, 2015, from Resident of Coleman Rd – regarding Eversource utility work removing trees on Coleman Rd.
- May 27, 2015, from US Composting Council – regarding Your Chance to Contribute: Present at COMPOST 2016
- May 27, 2015, from Christine Volonte, Stewardship Manager, Kestrel Land Trust – regarding Kestrel Nest Box Project - Update
- May 28, 2015, from Richard LeBlanc (AGR) – regarding MDAR: Farm and Market Report Extras - Application Period Now Open for 3 Farm Viability Grant Programs and More!
- May 29, 2015, from Patty Gambarini, Senior Environmental Planner, Pioneer Valley Planning Commission - regarding Cook Road CPA project
- June 1, 2015, from Citizen.Forester@bos-mailsec-002.state.ma.us – regarding June DCR Citizen Forester Newsletter
- June 1, 2015, from mass.wildlife@state.ma.us – regarding MassWildlife Monthly: June
- June 2, 2015, from Mark Stinson (DEP) – regarding DEP Western Region Circuit Rider news for June 2015
- June 5, 2015, from US Composting Council – regarding Learn to Run A Compost Facility--the USCC Way! 3 courses upcoming!
- June 5, 2015, from Richard LeBlanc (AGR) – regarding MDAR: SNAP Sign Up Day For Farmers and Farmers' Market Managers
- June 5, 2015, from Richard LeBlanc (AGR) – regarding MDAR Continues to Monitor the Spread of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza in Other States

Hard Copy:

- May 13, 2015, letter from the SCC sent to Brendan Fuller, 156 East St. regarding review of findings at site visit on May 2nd
- Northern Woodlands, Summer '15, magazine plus renewal form
- Project Native, post card advertising Plant Nursery Open House May 16, 2015
- Mass Audubon Program Catalog, Central & Western Massachusetts, May – September 2015
- May 27, 2015, from Southampton Zoning Board of Appeals, copy of April 22, 2015 letter from Kopelman and Paige, P.C. regarding 14 Susan Drive – Requested Finding for Pre-Existing Nonconforming Building Lot
- Information regarding the wetlands on property at 186 College Highway was left at the Assessor's office for prospective buyers.

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7:13 CPC Comments:

Mr. Thibault was not able to attend the last Southampton CPC meeting.

Cook/County Road Property

At the 5/21 Easthampton CPC meeting, the committee voted (7-0) to deny funding for the purchase of the Gwinner property on Cook/County Roads over the Barnes Aquifer for the final funding cycle of FY15. However, the denial was without prejudice and the Committee encourages reapplication “in the future, once more of the project details are concretely determined.”

Szczypta Barn

Mr. McDonald spoke with Kristina Madsen, a member of the Historical Commission, regarding the historical significance of the Szczypta barn and possibly registering it as such. Timber Ridge will provide estimates of barn stabilization costs to the CPC.

New Business:

7:20 NOI 182 Brickyard Road, DEP #289-0200, Applicant: David Garstka Builders, LLC, Representative: Lisa Narkiewicz, Heritage Surveys, Inc.

Mr. McDonald read the notice which had been published in the May 14 edition of the Daily Hampshire Gazette. The proposed project involves the construction of a single family dwelling, driveway, utility connections, site grading, and a sewage disposal system. A portion of the project will be located within the 100 foot buffer zone to the bordering vegetated wetland. Work on the property is also subject to conditions defined by NHESP. The green card notices of the public meeting had been sent to the two abutters, Holyoke Water Works and Michael Wojtowicz.

On June 6, 2015 the site was visited by Mr. McDonald, Mr. Lawrence, Ms. Hanc, Mark Reed, and Ms. Narkiewicz.

7:30 A motion was made by Mr. Thibault to accept the project as defined with the standard plus SCC Orders of Conditions. Mr. Lawrence seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with four (4) YES votes. Three copies of the Orders of Conditions were signed.

7:37 RDA 8 Middle Road, Applicant: Todd Dionne, Representative: Steven Silverman, Valley Home Improvement

Mr. McDonald read the notice which had been published in the May 29 edition of the Daily Hampshire Gazette. \$76.18 is owed for the publication of the Gazette notice. A check was received for the \$75 RDA local fee. The proposed work is for the installation of a pile driven ground mount solar array. Ground mounts will consist of six pile driven posts with excavation limited to 1’ wide and 24” trench which will be exposed for 48 hours maximum. The work would be within 100 feet of an intermittent stream.

On June 6, 2015 the site was visited by Mr. McDonald, Mr. Lawrence, Ms. Hanc, Mr. Dionne, and Mr. Silverman

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7:45 A motion was made by Mr. Thibault to issue a Negative 3 determination with standard conditions on WPA Form 2 Determination of Applicability, section B Determinations. (The work described in the Request is within the Buffer Zone, as defined in the regulations, but will not alter an Area subject to protection under the Act. The work does not require filing of a Notice of Intent, subject to conditions.). The work also must be reviewed by the Planning Board due to the Town's Solar Bylaw. The motion was seconded by Mr. Lawrence. The motion passed unanimously with four (4) YES votes. Three copies of the RDA were signed.

**7:46 Stewardship
Szczypta Farm Signs**

Samples of the new signs for the entrance and trail were shown. \$1000 for the cost of the signs has been approved from CPA funds.

Environmental Assessment Greenway

A modified purchase and sale agreement has been created by the Town Attorney. Select Board member John Martin is now on the Negotiating Committee.

Next Meetings

The next SCC meetings are planned for July 6 & 20, August 3 & 17, and September 14 & 28.

7:52 Adjournment

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