



Town of Uxbridge
Conservation Commission
21 South Main Street
Uxbridge, Massachusetts, 01569
508-278-8600, x 2013 and x 2020



Posted by
Uxbridge
Town Clerk

Conservation Commission Minutes
March 11, 2013
7:00 - 9:12 PM

MAY 08 '13 PH01:39

*Lower Town Hall, Uxbridge Town Hall, 21 South Main Street, Uxbridge, MA
Please note some items may have been taken out of agenda order.*

Conservation Com. Present: Russ Holden (Chair), Dave Lewcon, Mike Potaski

Conservation Commission Absent: Larry Lench, Tracy Tivedo

Commission Staff Present: Jennifer Steel, Conservation Agent

At 7:00 pm, the properly posted meeting with a quorum present was called to order by Chairman Holden.

LAND USE MANAGEMENT ISSUES

Annual Plan Categories/Priorities

- Education/Engagement
 - Land brochure (mailed with tax bill – LATER)
- Stewardship
 - Walk our properties – invite abutters for a naturalist guided tour on a Saturday morning or Sunday afternoon (JMS will draft a letter for CC to consider)
 - Walk our CRs – invite abutters for a naturalist guided tour on a Saturday morning or Sunday afternoon (JMS will draft a letter for CC to consider)
 - Mark our land with boundary (JMS will price out Adrian Sign, Voss Sign)
- Administrative

Pout Pond

- Russ Holden and Dave Lewcon will start drafting a simple "Owner's Manual" for Pout Pond (starting with a table of contents)
- Cottage needs money to make it occupy-able. Russ Holden and Dave Lewcon will continue to move forward with getting an agreement to allow someone to occupy the cottage. Mike suggested that the Commission could ask legislators to pass a special act to allow the curatorship program to be applied to the cottage, and will ask about the timeframes involved.
- Commission resolved to run all anticipated expenditures through the Commission before committing funds and signing off on bills, including Pout Pond summer activities

Legg Farm (and Pout Pond)

- Dave Lewcon will look to see whether the "500 feet of downed fencing" is there and could be reinstalled
- Dave Lewcon will remind North Smithfield to look at the "30 feet of downed fencing" to give an estimate for repair. The fence was a planning board requirement of the developer, but is on town (CC) land.
- Russ Holden will inquire about Eagle Scouts looking for projects (and propose fence repairs or a boardwalk as possibilities)
- Jennifer Steel will work with Russ Holden to finalize language of the abutter letter.

Open Space and Recreation Plan (OSRP)

- Russ Holden will draft a letter of introduction and invitation explaining function and anticipated timeframes and responsibilities for all to review. Mike will then generate a form for Barry Giles to advertise on local access TV for volunteers.

Land Use Regulations

- Commission discussed each regulation in detail.
- Commission will promulgate one set of regulations for every parcel of conservation land in town.
- Jennifer Steel will redraft regulations as per the discussion and distribute for 3/18/13 CC meeting.

APR application for 168 South St

- Commission agreed with proposing the exclusion of the gravel-mined area (roughly 1/5 of the land).

CoC resign

- Commission re-signed CoC for 312-719 that the owner had never recorded.

Quorum

- Sean Hendricks told the Commission that MGLs say that quorum is based on the number of members a commission should have, but there is a special statute that says that quorum for Conservation Commissions is based on the number of seated members.

PP Special Committee

- Sean Hendricks noted that the committee must be purely advisory, i.e., they can't act as members of the Commission.
- Discussion occurred about whether the commission has the authority to appoint special committees. To standardize committee formation town manager requests that the special committees submit talent forms to town hall and go through appointing process

Uxbridge Town Charter

SECTION 2: POWERS AND DUTIES

The powers and duties of the Town Manager shall include, but are not intended to be limited to, the following:

B. To appoint, to remove, subject to applicable statutory provisions or collective bargaining agreements, all department heads, officers, members of boards and commissions and employees for whom no other method of selection or removal is provided by this Charter or bylaw. Copies of the notices of all such appointments shall be posted on the Town bulletin board.

Conservation Commission Law MGL Chapter 40 Section 8c

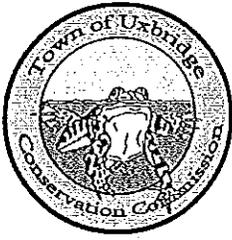
"The commission may appoint a director, clerks, consultants and other employees, and may contract for materials and services within available funds insofar as the same are not supplied by other departments."

- Commissioner Potaski disputed the authority of the Commission to appoint a special committee.

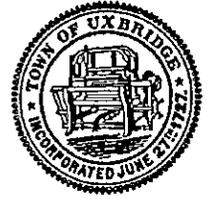
WPA Fund

Sean Hendricks noted his understanding of a shared salary for the new agent position (19 hours/week) (\$12,500 (50%) from WPA, \$12,500 (50%) from ConCom budget). Russ Holden noted that the Commission has not yet voted on such an understanding and that currently there is another understanding. Russ Holden noted that past practice is that the Commission is charged with authorizing expenditures from the WPA Fund. Sean Hendricks noted that Donna Hardy (Administrative Assistant) is paid only from Planning Board, but is asked to "help out as required". Sean Hendricks will send memo to Russ Holden outlining the details.

Motion to Adjourn at (9:12) Moved: Mike Potaski, Second: Dave Lewcon, Vote: Unan.



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MARCH 11, 2013

Conservation Commission Meeting Minutes

Board of Selectmen's Room, Uxbridge Town Hall, 21 South Main Street, Uxbridge, MA

Respectfully submitted by Ms. Jennifer Steel, Conservation Agent

Russell Holden, Chairman

Vice-Chair (vacant)

David Lewcon, Treasurer

Lawrence Lench, Clerk

Michael Potaski, Member

Tracy Tibedo, Member

5/6/13

Date

