

Hamilton Conservation Commission
Minutes of Meeting of November 5, 2014
Meeting held at Hamilton Town Hall

Commissioners present:

Richard Luongo, Chair, Virginia Cookson, Bob Cronin, Keith Glidden, George Tarr.

Staff present:

Jim Hankin, Conservation Agent

Others present: Dr. Celeste Bowler, Assistant Superintendent HWRSD

John Morin, Morin-Cameron Group

Richard Luongo opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Request for Determination

104 Blueberry Lane

Install Title V compliant septic system

Barbara Essensa Owner, Morin-Cameron Group Rep.

John Morin spoke to the proposed new septic system for the property at 104 Blueberry Lane. The existing system failed Title 5 inspection and property is for sale. The lot is approximately 74,000 square feet and a large wetland runs through the center of the property. Mike DeRosa, DeRosa Environmental, flagged the wetlands. The resource area is right behind the dwelling and there is limited space outside of the buffer zone to install a septic system. The existing failed leaching facility is 24' from the wetland resource area. Soil testing was done on the side of the house and proposal is for a Presby environmental septic system 67' from edge of wetland. Basement plumbing will be redirected to the side of the house with a new septic tank installed.

A minimal amount of grading will be done on the limit of work line (51' closest spot to wetlands) with a foot of material brought to the site to maintain high spot on property. The existing septic tank will be pumped, crushed and backfilled. Erosion control is carried beyond septic tank. RDA was filed instead of NOI because 50' setback to resource area will be maintained. The Board of Health has reviewed the plan and agrees with proposed design. Jim Hankin mentioned area where leaf dumping has occurred (8' long by 3' high) that is within flagged area and 25' NDZ and suggested a condition under the Bylaw to have it removed back to pre-existing grade.

Keith Glidden moved to issue a Negative #3 Determination with a condition that leaves identified by Conservation Agent be removed as part of the project. George Tarr seconded the motion. Virginia Cookson suggested a condition where leaf disposal could be done outside of the 50' buffer zone. The Commission voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

Mass Audubon Environmental Education Program 2014-2015

Review Proposal for education workshops, classes for HWRSD

Academic Year 2014-2015

HCC to take under advisement and vote on funding on Nov. 20, 2014

Dr. Celeste Bowler described how students created maple syrup, and garden with wildflowers, pumpkins, vegetables and sunflowers behind HWRSD administration building as the result of what they learned as part of Audubon educational program. This year there is interest in the frogs and toads program for kindergarteners. Dr. Bowler stated that the HWRSD is appreciative of the Commission's financial gift, and the cost of buses has gone up so the request this year is \$500 more. There are more students in HWRSD including seven full-day kindergartener programs (children who are 5 years old by September 1st) and 18 to 22 children per classroom.

Discussion addressed how the Commission typically takes this proposal under advisement (\$7,170.50 with 2/3rds to be paid by Hamilton Conservation Commission and 1/3 by Wenham Conservation Commission) until its next scheduled meeting when it votes on the proposal. Dr. Bowler has had a discussion with the Conservation Agent for the Wenham Conservation Commission regarding the Audubon education proposal and has been told for the last two years that there are no discretionary funds to use for this purpose. The Hamilton Conservation Commission uses money from the Conservation Fund for the education program. Mr. Glidden offered to call the Wenham Conservation Agent.

The Commission took this under advisement and will vote on the funding at its November 20, 2014 meeting.

Conservation Restriction

Municipal Certification review and signing

375 Bridge Street

Essex County Greenbelt

The Commission signed the Municipal Certification form, pursuant to a Commission vote to do so at the October 22, 2014 Commission meeting.

Acceptance of minutes of October 22, 2014

The Commission noted that Mr. Hankin had received these minutes from the Minutes Secretary today and the Commission will address the October 22, 2014 and November 5, 2014 at its next meeting.

Coordinator's Report

Mr. Hankin reported that he visited the landfill site after recent major storm and there is serious erosion associated with big hills at the site. Work is being done on Phragmites removal. Erosion control (hay bales and silt fence) is being repaired. A new road will be built that the gun club members can use (this is outside of the Commission's jurisdiction and part of original approved plan). The goal is to finish capping the landfill site in the spring.

The Director of Planning and Inspections will begin work for the Town on Monday, November 10. Patrick Reffett will attend Planning Board meetings on a regular basis but would likely only attend a Commission meeting to introduce himself.

Bob Cronin moved to adjourn. Mr. Tarr seconded the motion. The Commission voted unanimously in favor of the motion. Commission adjourned at 7:29 p.m. The Commission's next meeting is on Thursday, November 20, 2014.

Minutes submitted November 10, 2014 by Jane Dooley