

***Topsfield Conservation Commission  
Minutes of Wednesday, February 12, 2014  
Topsfield Library Meeting Room***

**Present:** Jennie Merrill, Chairperson; Cheryl Jolley, Vice Chairperson; Holger Luther; Jim MacDougall; Jim Carroll; Lana Spillman, Administrator; and MaryAnn Tuxbury, Minutes Secretary.

**Absent:** None

**Other Attendees:** Greg Hochmuth, Hancock Associates; Laura Zalewski, Library Director; Joe Geller; Lisa O'Donnell; and Dick Gandt, Selectman.

The meeting was called to Order at 7:01 p.m.

**HEARING:**

**Continued NoI 307-0711: 13 Pond Street, (Map 02, Lot 004), Anderson Cook & Acheson/C. G. Johnson Engineering, Inc.**

There was no one present to represent the applicant for this continued public hearing. Spillman informed the Commission that the applicant wishes to continue this hearing to the March 12, 2014 meeting.

A motion was made and seconded (Holger/Carroll) to continue this public hearing to the March 12, 2014 meeting. So voted unanimously.

**REQUESTS:**

**CoC Bylaw Amended #307-0262, 1 South Common Street, (Map 33, Lot 038), Topsfield Town Library**

Greg Hochmuth, from Hancock Associates, and Laura Zalewski, the Director of the Library, were both present.

Spillman reported to the Commission that an O&M plan for the stormwater structures has been submitted by Hancock Associates. Some other requirements that have been met are as-built plans have been submitted; an engineer's letter has been submitted; and a landscaping report has been submitted. Spillman recommended to the Commission that a Bylaw CoC be issued. She added that the next step is for the Library to apply for the Superseding CoC.

A motion was made and seconded (Luther/Carroll) to issue a Bylaw CoC. So voted unanimously.

**RDNI #2014-01, 95 Wenham Road, (Map 71, Lot 001), O'Brien**

Spillman reported to the Commission that a recently installed shed is too close to the property line, and that the applicant wishes to move this shed into the outer Riverfront Area, outside of the buffer zone.

Spillman recommended to the Commission that a Determination of Negligible Impact be issued.

Luther asked if there was a foundation proposed for the shed's new location. Spillman explained that there will be no foundation, and that the shed will be on six (6) sonotubes.

A motion was made and seconded (Luther/Jolley) to issue a Determination of Negligible Impact. So voted unanimously.

**OTHER:**

**Ipswich River Rail Trail Bridge Repairs, (Map 58, Lot 052) – Army Corps of Engineers, review? – Discussion**

Joe Geller and Lisa O'Donnell, the structural design engineer, were present for this discussion. O'Donnell stated that they would like to repair the bridge before spring, and she then explained the process of how it would be repaired. They will be requesting an Emergency Certification for the support repair work, which would take a couple of days.

Luther wanted to know what was required from the TCC, and whether this project is in the jurisdiction of the ACE. The ACE said that the work would not be jurisdictional since it would not involve placing fill in the river.

Geller informed the Commission that there is a tree on the other side of the bridge with roots growing into the granite of the bridge supports, and that this tree needs to come down.

Spillman explained that the next step is to find out if they received bids for the project. O'Donnell responded that they received three (3) bids, and that one (1) is within their budget. The Emergency Certification will be good for 30 days from the date of issuance.

**Violation Notice 2014-01, DoA 2013-11: 124 Hill Street, (Map 68, Lot 049), Iovanella/J. Masterson Construction/J. MacDowell, P.E. – update**

There was no one present to represent the applicant for this discussion.

Spillman reported on her site visit that was done between snow storms. She learned from workers at the site that water was found two (2) feet below the surface, and drainage tiles were found out in the field. Drainage tiles are typical for draining old agricultural fields. Spillman explained that drainage on this site is a challenge and likely will continue to be a challenge. Spillman commented that she thinks it's good that the PB and the CC have the use of colored soil maps.

**OoCs 307-0507: 120 High Street, Hickory Beech Subdivision – update**

Spillman reported to the Commission that the office received as-built plans of the ponds today, and that an Eagle Scout (Andrew Granata) has been found to construct the second foot bridge and the access to Pine Island. Luther stated that he thinks the bridge should be done before the CoC is issued. Some of the requirements that still need to be met are a site visit to review the buffer zone and the open space boundary markers; establishment of an inspection fund with the Treasurer's Office; and removal of debris from an old farm dump located near an intermittent stream.

**Proposed ATM Warrant Article – number of Commissioners – update**

Spillman stated that Town Counsel is going to review and approve the language of the warrant article before it goes on the Warrant. Consensus of the Commission is that 5 members is a good number.

**School Brook at High Street, (Map 33), - set up site visit**

Spillman reported that DEP said the proposed work would need to meet the relevant performance standards, and that Mr. Mscisz is requesting that the TCC do a site visit. Luther stated that he is not sure if he wants to proceed with this, and he wants them to file a NOI for the work.

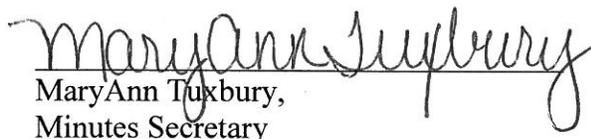
There was some discussion on how the Commission should proceed on this. Spillman will speak with Dave Bond and ask him to go out and look at the inlet and the outlet of the culvert and see what is going on.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

There being no further business to come before the Commission, a motion was made and seconded (Luther/Jolley) that the meeting be adjourned. So voted unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

  
MaryAnn Tuxbury,  
Minutes Secretary

*Minutes approved at the TCC meeting on March 12, 2014*

Pursuant to the 'Open Meeting Law,' G.L. 39, § 23B, the approval of these minutes by the Commission constitutes a certification of the date, time and place of the meeting, the members present and absent, and the actions taken at the meeting. Any other description of statements made by any person, or the summary of the discussion of any matter, is included for the purpose of context only, and no certification, express or implied, is made by the Commission as to the completeness or accuracy of such statements.