

Topsfield Conservation Commission
Minutes of Wednesday, April 23, 2014
Topsfield Library Meeting Room

Present: Cheryl Jolley, Vice Chairperson; Holger Luther; Jim MacDougall; Jim Carroll; and MaryAnn Tuxbury, Minutes Secretary.

Absent: Jennie Merrill, Chairperson; Lana Spillman, Conservation Administrator

Other Attendees: Aidan Crowley; Frank Crowley; Jim Wilkinson; Roy Calanino; and Selectman Dick Gandt.

The meeting was called to Order at 7:22 p.m.

REQUESTS:

RDNI #2014-02: 35 Main Street Rear, (Map 41, Lot 133), Iovanella/Eastern Land Survey – continuation of discussion

There was no one present to represent the Owner.

Jolley stated that the applicant has requested a continuance to the May 14, 2014 meeting, so the Commission will put this matter to the side.

RDNI#2014-03: 362 Boston Street/Conservation Land, (Map 26, Lot 001), Crowley – Eagle Scout Project

Aidan Crowley and his father, Frank Crowley, were present. Packets of information describing the work and the project were distributed to the members.

Crowley reviewed his information packets for the members, and stated that the work will begin in the spring, and the plantings will take place in the fall. He stated that he had spoken to Spillman about the plantings, and she had suggested that he contact local nurseries to ask for donations of native plantings for this project. He stated that he is going to contact the Parks and Cemetery Commission to see if they would be willing to do yearly mowing on the site. He has also contacted the Highway Department in regards to placing boulders onsite to block one of the accesses to the site, but that the Highway Department has not gotten back in touch with him. Crowley added that he will be constructing a bench at home, and moving it to the site to be installed.

MacDougall stated that he thinks the plan is excellent, and he mentioned the knotweed on the site. He thinks eliminating it first, before any planting is done, would be the best way to go; that way the knotweed won't kill off anything planted.

Selectman Dick Gandt interjected that the Parks and Cemetery Commission maybe be too busy to do the yearly mowing of the site, and suggested that the Conservation Commission mange it.

A motion was made and seconded (Luther/Carroll) to issue a Determination of Negligible Impact with two conditions – (1) any application of herbicides shall be done by qualified personnel, and (2) there will be periodic consultation with the TCC Administrator. So voted unanimously.

RDNI #2014-05: 20 Central Street, (Map 41, Lot 042), Rehak

There was no one present to represent the Owner.

Luther stated that he had emailed the members a report on his site visit. The owner wishes to remove a total of three (3) trees from the site – a large rotten maple tree and two (2) decrepit willow trees. The trees are located in the back yard, and are in the Riverfront Area of School Brook. Mayer Tree Service will be doing the work. They will be using a crane that will go over the house, cut the trees, and remove them; there will be no mechanized traffic in the resource area. The only thing left of the trees will be the stumps.

Jolley asked if any of these trees create a hazard to any of the homes there. Luther replied that they did, to the homeowner, as well as to the neighbor. The trees are off to the side along a property line, and they lean towards the neighbor's house.

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

CoC #307-0536: 137 High Street, (Map 50, Lot 003), Arcidi

There was no one present to represent the owner.

Luther stated that at the last meeting, Spillman reported that everything was done on site, except for the placement of the conservation markers. Since then, the conservation markers have been put in place, and the Commission can now issue the CoC.

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

CoC Act #307-0507: 120 High Street/Hickory Beech Subdivision, (Map 49, Lot 056)

Meeting Way Corporation/Beals Associates, Inc.; and

CoC Bylaw #307-0507: 120 High Street/Hickory Beech Subdivision, (Map 49, Lot 056)

Meeting Way Corporation/Beals Associates, Inc.

There was no one present to represent the applicant for either of these requests.

Jolley stated that the Commission had received letters from the applicant withdrawing both requests for CoCs.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS:

- **Jim Wilkinson, Trustee, Hickory Beech Homeowner Association – discussion regarding inspection of stormwater management system**

Jim Wilkinson was present for this discussion. He stated that it was the Homeowners Association responsibility to have an annual inspection of the stormwater system done. In the Fall 2013, he and Beals Associates met, an inspection was done, and the system needed to be cleaned. In January 2014, the catch basins and storm cepters were cleaned. Beals Associates made sure it was done. He stated that the swale work and the drainage system are still under review, and have not been accepted by the TCC as being complete.

Luther stated that the Commission doesn't know if Beals and Thomas has received the money to do the peer review.

Wilkinson stated that he has a quote from Beals Associates to do the annual inspection for \$1,800; he thinks this is expensive. Wilkinson asked the Commission that since the storm cepters were just cleaned in January, would the Commission waive the requirement for them to be inspected in the Spring. Luther stated he thinks the Commission needs to take this under advisement, because they would need to co-ordinate with the Planning Board. Jolley asked if a report had been submitted to the TCC Administrator after the January cleaning. Wilkinson replied that he wasn't sure, but that he would check into it.

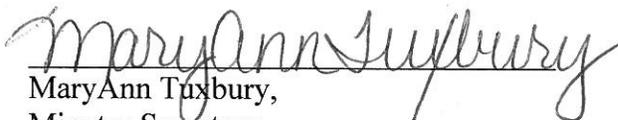
Luther suggested that the Commission take this under advisement in order to check with the TCC Administrator to see if anything was submitted, and to defer this item to the next meeting agenda – May 14, 2014. Members agree.

ADJOURNMENT:

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

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


MaryAnn Tuxbury,
Minutes Secretary

Minutes approved at the TCC meeting on June 11, 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.