



**TOWN OF NORTHBRIDGE
CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

**7 MAIN STREET
WHITINSVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS 01588
Telephone: (508) 234-0817
FAX: (508) 234-0814**

RECEIVED
16 JAN 27 AM 9:05

NORTHBRIDGE TOWN CLERK
JAN 16 2016

**Meeting Minutes
December 9, 2015**

Gerry Ouillette, Justin Arbuckle, Bill Dausey, Joy Anderson and Rich Chiras were present. Cindy Campbell arrived at 7:10PM. No one was absent. Barbara Kinney, Administrative Assistant was also present.

Mr. Dausey opened the meeting at 7:00PM.

Motion made and seconded. The Conservation Commission (NCC) voted 5-0 to cancel the NCC meeting for December 23, 2015 because no new submittals have been received and anything on this agenda that will be continued can wait until the first meeting in January, 2016.

Motion made by Mr. Ouillette and seconded by Mr. Chiras. The NCC voted 5-0 to accept the resignation of Jeremy Deorsey. The NCC asked Ms. Kinney to reach out to a past member, Terry Bradley, to see if his circumstances have changed and he is interested in returning.

Cindy Campbell arrived.

Reorganization

Motion made by Mr. Ouillette and seconded by Mr. Arbuckle. The NCC voted 6-0 to appoint Mr. Dausey as Chair.

Motion made by Mr. Chiras and seconded by Ms. Anderson. The NCC voted 6-0 to appoint Mr. Arbuckle as Vice Chair.

Ms. Anderson will remain as Clerk.

Citizen's Forum

None

(02-RDA-2015) 1405 Quaker Street (Map 28, Parcel 6)

Proposed harvesting of timber from the wooded wetland lot associated with the property. The timber collected (3 to 5 cords) will be used for the sole purpose of a primary heating source of the dwelling. The applicant is Melissa Fossbender, 1405 Quaker Street, Northbridge, MA 01534.

The NCC reviewed the pictures that were submitted. It is hard to tell how big an area the cutting will take place in and exactly how many trees are to be cut because it looks as though some trees may be duplicates in the pictures.

A site visit has been scheduled for December 14, 2015 at 9:00AM. Mr. Ouillette, Mr. Chiras and Ms. Campbell will attend.

Motion made by Mr. Arbuckle and seconded by Mr. Ouillette. The NCC voted 6-0 to continue the Public Meeting to January 13, 2015 at 7:05PM.

Old / New Business

(248-334) Sutton Street – Request for Certificate of Compliance (COC)

Three dwellings share the same driveway. The replication area on Lot 3 was never constructed. Now the owner has raised beds, etc. there. Lot 2 received a COC. Lot 1 is selling their house and looking for a COC.

The NCC discussed the situation and how to handle. The replication area must be built before the complete COCs are issued. Lot 2 has a complete COC so they may not be legally obligated for the replication area construction. The NCC needs to understand their responsibilities under the law. They are not sure they are there yet. They could possibly issue a partial COC to Lot 1 with stipulations such as an escrow payment or bond to cover the cost of the replication area. Before anything is done, the Town Manager needs to be informed and maybe town counsel contacted on how to proceed. Then letters need to be sent to the owners advising them of the situation and how the NCC will proceed. Ms. Kinney will also contact the MA Association of Conservation Commissioners (MACC) for any guidance they can provide.

Motion made by Mr. Chiras and seconded by Mr. Arbuckle. The NCC voted 6-0 to table this request until more guidance is provided.

Enforcement Actions

17 Erica Drive – Cease & Desist Letter

The NCC received a complaint that the owner at 17 Erica Drive is clearing the wetlands between the houses with a brush hog. Mr. Chiras visited the neighbor and viewed the area in question. Dale Phillips called and spoke to Ms. Kinney on the phone. He stated that he could not make the meeting because he is having a medical procedure. Mr. Phillips also said that the neighbor is dumping brush, grass, etc. into the wetlands and he was just cleaning it up.

The NCC suggested removing the equipment and maybe planting a couple of trees. The rest should come back on its own if left alone. The NCC decided to have Mr. Phillips come to the second meeting in January (27) to discuss the concern(s) with the NCC. They will ask the neighbor to attend the first meeting in January (13) to discuss with the NCC exactly what her complaint is and to make sure she is doing nothing wrong.

Minutes

June 24, 2015

Motion made by Ms. Anderson and seconded by Mr. Dausey. The NCC voted 2-0-4 (Mr. Arbuckle, Mr. Chiras, Ms. Campbell and Mr. Ouillette abstained) to approve the minutes of June 24, 2015 as written.

November 18, 2015

Motion made by Mr. Arbuckle and seconded by Mr. Chiras. The NCC voted 4-0-2 (Mr. Dausey and Ms. Anderson abstained) to approve the minutes of November 18, 2015 as written.

Executive Session

None


Other

The NCC members present performed administrative tasks (signed Orders, etc.) that were needed.

Motion made by Mr. Arbuckle and seconded by Mr. Chiras. The NCC voted 6-0 to adjourn the meeting on or about 8:15PM.

Respectfully submitted,

DATE APPROVED:



Barbara A. Kinney
Conservation Administrative Assistant



December 9, 2015

CONSERVATION MAIL LIST

[illegible]

ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTS USED AT MEETING