**Minutes of the BOXFORD CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

**TOWN HALL MEETING ROOM #1**

**February 7, 2019 7:30 PM**

*Present: Kerry Lummus, Mark Mitsch, Natasha Grigg, David Smallman*

*Absent: Peter Delaney, Frank Di Luna, Alan Fowler*

*Others Present: Randy Johnson, Carol Johnson, Mike Smolak, Jessica Grigg, John Dold, Christine Chisholm, Christine Viola, Pat Huckery, Jenn Jones, Kristen Sykes, Priscilla Welch, and others*

**Meeting Called to Order**

With a quorum present, Acting Chair Mark Mitsch called the meeting to order at 7:30PM.

**7:30 PM HEARINGS**

* **Discussion: Small Oxx Farm Forest Management Plan, 494 Ipswich Road**

**Supporting Docs:**

* + **Forest Cutting Plan**

Michael Smolak, owner of Small Oxx Farm in Boxford and Smolak Farm in North Andover, met with the Conservation Commission to respond to the Commission’s inquiries from the last meeting. Smolak provided photos, plans, and drawings for the Commissioners to view as he spoke. After Smolak’s brief presentation, the Commissioners had a few questions for Smolak. Commissioner David Smallman and Commissioner Natasha Grigg both asked to be read into the record that they are opposed to the Smolak Forestry Plan because they believe it breaks the Conservation Restriction on the Otis Curtis/Small Oxx property. After discussion, the acting Chair thanked Smolak for attending and clarifying the questions they had from the last meeting.

* **Discussion: Trail System in Boxford State Forest**

**Supporting Docs:**

* + **Letter and accompanying materials from Greenbelt to Conservation Commission:** Re: Rerouting Bay Circuit Trail, 1/31/19
	+ **Narrative and accompanying materials:** Bay Circuit Trail Low Impact Reroute through MassWildlife JC Phillips Wildlife Sanctuary, Boxford

Christine Viola, Bay Circuit Trail, met with the Conservation Commission to discuss the proposed changes to the trail system in the Bald Hill area. They would be assisted by the Appalachian Mountain Club to make adjustments to the Bay Circuit Trail system at Bald Hill. After a brief discussion, the Commission took the following action:

On a **MOTION** made by **Grigg,** second by **Smallman,** the Conservation Commission **VOTED** unanimously to accept the documents, photographs, and maps submitted as a request for a Determination of Negligible Impact on behalf of DNC, for relocating the trail and constructing the bog bridges, as proposed.

On a **MOTION** made by **Smallman,** second by **Lummus,** the Conservation Commission **VOTED** unanimously to issue a Determination of Negligible Impact for the Bay Circuit Trail Low Impact reroute through MassWildlife JC Phillips Wildlife Sanctuary, Boxford.

* **DNI 2019-2: Rerouting of Trail at Boy Scout Park**

**Supporting Docs:**

* + **Sketch of Proposed Bypass Trail**

Priscilla Welch, BTA/BOLT, Inc., met with the Conservation Commission with a proposal to reroute part of the trail at Boy Scout Park. Welch provided a drawing and photos for the Commissioners to view as she made her brief presentation. After a brief discussion, the Commission took the following action:

On a **MOTION** made by **Smallman,** second by **Lummus,** the Conservation Commission **VOTED** unanimously to issue a Determination of Negligible Impact for the relocation and leveling for a short section of trail at Boy Scout Park.

* **DNI 2019-1: Ipswich Road and Pond Street Intersection Guardrails, Boxford DPW**

**Supporting Docs:**

* + **Plan:** Massachusetts Electric Company East Boxford Substation Rebuild, Permitting Plans, Submitted by Center Mount Land Development LLC, dated 8/31/18, revised 11/9/18, revised 12/3/18.

John Dold, DPW Superintendent/Town Engineer, met with the Conservation Commission with a request for a Determination of Negligible Impact to install guardrails at the intersection of Ipswich Road and Pond Street. Dold provided drawings for the Commissioners to view as he made his presentation. After a brief discussion, the Commission took the following action:

On a **MOTION** made by **Grigg,** second by **Smallman,** the Conservation Commission **VOTED** unanimously to issue a Determination of Negligible Impact for DNI 2019-1, to install guardrail at the Ipswich Road and Pond Street intersection.

* **RDA 2017-1: R.O.W. near 4 Livermore Road, 33-2-21, Boxford DPW**

**Supporting Docs:**

* + **Public Hearing Notice:** Request for Determination of Applicability: Applicant: John Dold, Boxford DPW, for the property located at: Road Right of Way near 4 Livermore: Map 33, Block 2, Lot 21, to grind and resurface a portion of roadway and to feather the grade on the adjacent road shoulder.
	+ **Letter and accompanying materials from Wetland Consulting Services to Boxford Conservation Commission:** Re: Request for Determination,

Livermore Road, Boxford, MA, January 15, 2019

* + **WPA Form 1 – Request for Determination of Applicability**

The Director read aloud the public hearing notice and collected proof of abutter

Notifications. John Dold, DPW Superintendent/Town Engineer, met with the Conservation Commission with a Request for Determination of Applicability to grind and resurface a portion of roadway and to feather the grade on the adjacent road shoulder. Dold provided photos, drawings, and plans for the Commissioners to view as he made his presentation. After a brief discussion, the Commission took the following action:

At the request of the applicant and on a **MOTION** made by **Smallman,** second by **Lummus,** the Conservation Commission **VOTED** unanimously to close the hearing for RDA 2019-1 R.O.W. near 4 Livermore Road, 33-2-21, under the Act and the Bylaw.

a **MOTION** made by **Grigg,** second by **Smallman,** the Conservation Commission **VOTED** unanimously to issue a Negative Determination checking box 3 for RDA 2019-1 R.O.W. near 4 Livermore Road, 33-2-21, under the Act and the Bylaw.

**8:21 PM OTHER BUSINESS**

* **Annual Report:** The Director provided the Commissioners with a draft annual report for their comments and edits.
* **Minutes:** The Commissioners reviewed the minutes of January 17, 2019 and took the following action:

On a **MOTION** made by **Smallman,** second by **Grigg,** the Conservation Commission **VOTED** unanimously to approve the minutes of January 17, 2019, as amended.

* **$95 for Director Education:** The Director requested that the Commission approve the expenditure of $95 for a course he would like to take. After a brief discussion, the Board took the following action:

On a **MOTION** made by **Smallman,** second by **Grigg,** the Conservation Commission **VOTED** to approve the request for $95 for continuing education for the Director.

**8:27 PM ADJOURN**

With no further business, on a **MOTION** made by **Smallman,** second by **Grigg,** the Conservation Commission **VOTED** unanimously to adjourn at 8:27PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Judith A. Stickney

Minutes Secretary