

Heath Conservation Commission
Meeting Minutes
May 2, 2024

Chair called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM

Members present: Brian DeVriese, Chair, Sue Draxler, Pam Porter

Members absent: Carrie McNay, Heather Row

Others in attendance: Heath ConCom Consultant, Bill Latrell, Kristen Howe, Abram Howe

1. Review of determination. Abram Howe reviewed plan to remove three stumps, old carport and old RV. The Plan is to build a new, larger carport and install a new RV. New carport will require precast pilings every eight feet along two long sides of the structure. An intermittent brook runs along the back of the property. A silt fence is already in place between the brook and the project area.

Consultant advised that the intermittent brook is more than 25' from the closest corner of the carport. He will check the silt fence to make sure it is still in good shape and sees no problem with the project.

Motion to issue a negative determination. #3. Was made by Pam Porter, seconded by Sue Draxler, passed unanimously.

Check # 1182 in the amount of \$94.41 for posting was received from Kristen Howe. Signed copied of determination was given to same. Consultant reminded the Howes that there is a ten-day waiting period from the date determination was signed, before work can begin.

2. Will Sloan Anderson of the Franklin Land Trust submitted a request for ConCom signatures in support of a Woodland Partnership Implementation Grant, FY2025. Grant is for building a parking area at the Crowningshield Conservation Area.

Motion to sign made by Pam Porter, seconded by Sue Draxler. Passed unanimously.

3. Discussion of need to schedule a visit trail through Heath, joining with a trail in Rowe, that is being planned by the Heath Parks and Recreation Committee. The purpose of the visit is to identify wetlands. The FRCOG map the Committee uses is incomplete according to Heath CONCOM Consultant. In the past, use of this map led to a wet lands violation that the Parks and Rec Committee needs to remedy by either moving or elevating a path through a wetlands area.

Consultant was concerned that the Parks and Rec Committee is characterizing the need to move forward on this project as an emergency due to the need to expend the funds by an impending due date. It was, he said, just such a situation that led to the previous violation.

It was agreed that the Consultant will contact the Parks and Rec. Chair to alert him about the need for a visit and to arrange such to include himself and two ConCom members. Both the Chair and member Pam Porter will be away and not available for the visit during this month.

To protect the town from being in violation of its own and the states wet lands and conservation bylaws, the Chair will email the Select Board reminding them that the need to spend grant funds by a given date, even a near one, does not preclude the need to delineate wet lands before the project can begin. In addition, the chair will suggest that the SB may want to review grant requests for trail work to see that the cost of wet lands delineation is included in the proposal.

4. Review of minutes from this and previous ConCom meeting will be included in the agenda for our next meeting and sent out ahead of that meeting so members can come prepared to amend and approve them.
5. Review of application by Mohawk Estates for extension of Order of Conditions for nuisance aquatic vegetation treatment in Papoose Lake.

Request being found to be in order and received before the 7/31/24 expiration date of current Order, A motion to approve the request for extension of Order of Conditions to 7/31/27 was made by Pam Porter, seconded by Sue Draxler, and passed unanimously.

6. Consultant reported having been asked to look at 5 perk tests. He advised new property owners on Avery Brook Rd. that they need to flag the wet lands on the property.
7. Next meeting: June 6, 7:00; A hearing to review AT&T request for and amendment to an order of conditions. (Request to reserve space at Jacobs Road Cafeteria submitted May 3, 2024)
8. Motion to adjourn at made by Pam Porter, seconded by Sue Draxler, and passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:57.

Respectfully submitted,
Pam Porter