

Lincoln Conservation Commission
Meeting Minutes – May 18, 2016

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Peter Von Mertens, Jordan McCarron, Jim Henderson, Richard Selden, Ari Kurtz

STAFF PRESENT: Tom Gumbart, Angela Kearney

CONSERVATION DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Tom Gumbart discussed a draft plan for the management and rehabilitation of the Farm Meadow field edges. The project includes efforts that aim to balance sustainable agriculture and wildlife habitat. Specifically, the project includes invasive-species management, native woodland-edge planting, clearing of a large section of invasive trees and shrubs in order to relocate the trail and expand the field, and installation of a boardwalk along the southeast edge of the field. Tom Gumbart will continue to coordinate this effort. Tom Gumbart, Angela Kearney, Peter Von Mertens, conducted a site visit to Lincoln Woods with Noah Sawyer of Community Builders to inspect the erosion control and to discuss the restoration planting plan that they are planning to do around the perimeter fence of the solar installation. Tom Gumbart discussed the changes that Codman Community Farms is initiating on their licensed farm fields.

CONSERVATION PLANNER'S REPORT

The Open Space and Recreation Plan Update "Advisory Group" will have its first meeting next Thursday, May 26th.

WETLANDS FILINGS

7:45pm Notice of Intent. Christopher Boit. 61 Bedford Rd (134-16-0)

Peter Von Mertens opened the hearing with a brief introduction of the property and tree-clearing work that was done without a permit. Primary concerns include managing re-growth of invasive species. Christopher Boit stated that he shares the concern of managing invasive species on the property, which is why he did the work. He expressed remorse for doing the work without a permit and wants to come to consensus with the Commission for restoring and managing the area in a manner that is consistent with the historic preservation and conservation restrictions. Dave Burke, wetland specialist presented the existing conditions of the wetland boundary and site. He explained the proposed restoration plantings including (8) trees and several groups of native shrubs.

The Lincoln Land Conservation Trust submitted a letter stating that they approve the restoration plan as proposed and are amenable to minor changes as discussed in the field. Major changes should be reviewed and approved by the Land Trust prior to work. The Commission noted that they were amenable to relocating the proposed trees outside the view.

Points of Discussion and Special Conditions requested by the Commission include:

- The applicant shall be allowed to grind the stumps and move rocks back onto the existing fieldstone walls
- The applicant shall be allowed to remove the designated pile of invasive vines
- The applicant shall plant the shrub groupings and move (3) large boulders such that the mow line is established in a smooth peninsula approximately 10-15 out from the wetland boundary demarcated on the plan
- The applicant shall be allowed to continued invasive-species management on LLCT land with prior approval
- The two properties should be managed consistently and uniformly at the same time
- Permanent iron pins in plastic sleeves shall be installed at the drill rod at the intersection of the stonewalls at the cart path, on either side of the wetland boundary, along the boundary, and at the property corners adjacent to Bedford Road. Proposed trees that are near the property line shall be moved onto the line
- Cleared areas with exposed soil shall be seeded with pasture and wet-meadow grasses

Several abutters wrote letters and attended the hearing to express their support for the project. They expressed their support for maintaining the property as an open, field character.

The Commission conducted a site visit on Wednesday, May 17, 2016.

Documents Reviewed During the Meeting: Recovery Plan for 61 Bedford Road dated May 4, 2016.

The Commission **voted 5-0** to continue the hearing to June 8th at 7:45pm.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

- Sub-Committee & Liason Reports
 - Agricultural Sub-Committee Update – Codman Community Farms
 - Solar meeting was postponed
 - Stewardship Sub-Committee meeting will be scheduled
- **New Commissioners:** Six potential Commissioners attended the hearing. The Selectmen will appoint the new Commissioners at their meeting next Monday evening.
- Other Reports & Announcements

ACTION ITEMS

- Order of Conditions Issued to Vincent Mula. 7 Forester Road (168-7-0)
- Extension of the Order of Conditions #203-814 Issued to Farrar Pond Associates
- Meeting minutes approved from April 27, 2016
- Bills Paid and Payroll Signed

Respectfully Submitted,
Angela Kearney, Conservation Planner