

**Pembroke Conservation Commission
Minutes of the Meeting of
July 25, 2016**



Disclosure: These minutes are not verbatim – they are the administrative agent's interpretation of what took place at the meeting.

All materials presented during this meeting are available in the Conservation Office.

Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A § 22.

Agenda – May include topics not reasonably anticipated by the Chair at time of posting of the meeting.

Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A § 20.

Attending: Andy Stevenson, chairperson; Rick Madden, vice-chairperson; Art Egerton (using audio recording and camera device); Greg Walsh; Bob Clarke; Sharon Tuells; and Scott Glauben
Staff: Bob Clarke, agent; and Mary Guiney, administrative agent
Location: Town Hall, Veteran's Hall
Opened: 7:30 p.m.

Chairperson Andy Stevenson opens the meeting at 7:30 p.m.; reads the names of members and staff in attendance; and states that the meeting is being recorded for PACTV for airing at a future date.

Appointment: William Ferrara re: Latin Club project at Tubbs' Meadow

Present: William Ferrara

Mr. Ferrara is a student at Pembroke High School and president of the Latin Club who is requesting permission to construct a trebuchet [a trebuchet is a type of hurling device (catapult), consisting of a large beam, a sling, a counterweight, and a frame] at Tubbs' Meadow for the Junior Classical League competition. The trebuchet will be operational from September through mid-December. Mr. Ferrara plans to install the trebuchet in the area of the former sand pits. Projectiles, consisting of one (1) pound bags of beans and pumpkins, will be catapulted towards the sand pit embankment located at a distance of approximately 1,000 feet from the site of installation.

Mr. Ferrara reviewed safety measures with the commission which included: the design and assembly of the trebuchet by a professional engineer and a professional carpenter; signage and horn warning signals while operational; and mechanisms to disable the unit while unmonitored. The commission made inquiries regarding event attendance (maximum 100); limited vehicular access to the site; and the possible need for a police detail to monitor traffic during an event.

Motion to allow the use of Tubbs' Meadow by the Pembroke Latin Club to construct and operate a trebuchet: Bob Clarke

Second: Sharon Tuells

All in favor

The commission in giving Mr. Ferrara their overwhelming support and approval for the project requested additional information, details and dates of operation for the project.

Discussion: Request to Extend Order of Conditions (OOC) for Hobomock Pond (DEP file no.: SE56-869)

Motion to extend the OOC for Hobomock Pond for three years: Bob Clarke

Second: Scott Glauben

All in favor

Discussion: Wild Parsnip/Route 14 project

Member Rick Madden had made an appointment with Michael Shackleton to meet with the commission and discuss methods to remove Wild Parsnip from Herring Run Park. Mr. Madden has received communication from Mr. Shackleton that he will be unable to attend tonight's hearing. The commission requests that Mr. Madden reschedule the appointment with Mr. Shackleton.

Agent Bob Clarke reminds the commission that the Route 14 project is getting close to the infestation at the Herring Run Park. Member Rick Madden states that he is removing 'heads' from the plants in the area and would like a hazmat suit to continue working. Mr. Madden is also doing educational outreach and has identified other outcroppings of wild parsnip in Marshfield. Mr. Madden reminds the commission that he has not found any volunteers to assist him in the removal process. The commission discusses: the advancement of funds to professionally treat the wild parsnip; the need for warning signs for hogweed (approximately 6 signs); and the purchase of a tyvek suit for Mr. Madden.

Motion to advance up to \$2,000.00 for the immediate treatment of Wild Parsnip: Scott Glauben

Second: Greg Walsh

All in favor

Other items discussed: Use of Herring Run Park as a staging area storage for the Route 14 project; the need to install a water service connection to Herring Run Park; and the possible need for an Enforcement Order until the infestation of Wild Parsnip is under control.

Appointment: Ed Thorne, Town Administrator and Leah Stanton, Weston and Sampson (W&S) re: Herring Run Park

Present: Ed Thorne, Town Administrator
Leah Stanton, PE, Weston and Sampson

Town Administrator introduces Leah Stanton, PE of W&S, who has been retained by the Town of Pembroke to make improvements to the Herring Run Park. Mr. Thorne explains that there is money left over from the 300th Anniversary fund and approximately \$100,000.00 available from the state. Mr. Thorne would like the conservation commission to provide ideas and input to Ms. Stanton with respect to making Herring Run Park handicap accessible as well as for future uses of the park.

Mr. Thorne leaves the meeting and returns to the concurrently occurring Selectboard meeting.



Leah Stanton requests that conservation commission provide her with direction and ideas so that when she prepares the submittal that the commissions input is incorporated into the plans. Presently she is looking to install gravel paths, handicap parking, redesigning the culvert for truck traffic, handrails along the bridge, shoring up the sides of the stream edge to reduce erosion and a water wheel. She anticipates that the project will be implemented in phases.

Commission member comments:

Rick Madden: Mr. Madden feels strongly that the park should accommodate veterans as well as people with handicaps and that the conservation commission should advocate on their behalf. He recommends the overlay of materials throughout the park to avoid the disturbance of a natural heritage site and any archeological materials. Erosion is an issue. He would also like Ms. Stanton to focus on enhancing herring and wildlife habitat in the park. He suggests the creation of pools within the stream bed to allow migrating fish to rest on their journey; the creation of gardens in the area of the culvert to allow wheelchair bound visitors to overlook the pools; and the removal of 'traps' at this location in the stream bed. He discusses the creation of education facility on-site for canoes and possible native huts. He further states that grant monies are available as well as matching funds for the monies already provided to the Town. He would also like to plan to include the donation of granite and other materials that he anticipates receiving.

Andy Stevenson: Mr. Stevenson asks about a survey of the site (W & S has already surveyed the site); the bridge (W & S is taking a *de minimus* approach and will not be changing the stream beds); and input from the historical society. Mr. Stevenson also informs Ms. Stanton that member Sharon Tuells has put together an extensive folder of ideas for the park and recommends that she borrow the folder for review.

Art Egerton: Mr. Egerton requests that any plantings included in the plan be native to the area.

Scott Glauben: Mr. Glauben recommends that Mr. Stanton review the approved plans for the Route 14 project for reference in her design plans of the park and, if necessary, request any needed changes. Mr. Glauben also informs Ms. Stanton and the commission that permeable 'grids' are in use at Town Landing that may be used to create handicap accessible walkways in lieu of gravel paths (and avoid the possible migration of fine particles into resource areas). Finally, Mr. Glauben requests that Ms. Stanton look at the retaining walls on both sides of the bridge which may need the installation of wing walls to control erosion (Ms. Stanton says that the installation of wing walls will not be included in the first phase of her design)

Bob Clarke: Mr. Clarke states that the commission needs a basic long term plan that is workable for the next 5 – 10 years. The commission needs to consider the project as long-range plan that can be implemented as monies become available. He recommends that, since money is on the table right now to make the park handicap accessible, W & S make this a priority and move quickly. He also feels that the granite and sluiceways need



to be addressed. He is looking for Ms. Stanton to provide advice and assistance to create a basic plan for the commission to work from.

Mr. Clarke also informs Ms. Stanton that the conservation commission is putting a weight limit on the bridge and nothing larger than a golf cart (or necessary DPW vehicles) is allowed to cross the bridge. Currently there is a chain barring access to the bridge.

Mr. Clarke informs the commission that he is confident that Ms. Stanton will provide good ideas for the park.

In response to commission comments, Ms. Stanton states that W&S is looking at the bridge as being handicap accessible. She needs to determine how to spend the money that is available (and she reminds the commission that W&S design services are expensive). She informs the commission that the selectboard has requested the inclusion of the waterwheel in the plan. The commission requests that the first part of the project focus on making the park handicap accessible. W&S needs to put the waterwheel with the second phase of the plans along with the creation of pools, etc. Member Sharon Tuells requests that the Ms. Stanton create a waterfall and fern plantings with the water wheel. Ms. Stanton will focus on handicap accessibility; make a master plan for permitting for conservation to build off; and (at the request of the selectboard) installation of the water wheel.

RDA – 36 High Avenue – Wight Application Withdrawn

The commission reviews correspondence from the applicant in the file. Member Art Egerton questions ownership of the retaining wall as it does not appear to be located on the applicant's property. Agent Bob Clarke states that issue will need to be addressed when the applicant reapplies.

Discussion: Correspondence to Plymouth County Water District Commission

Member Art Egerton claims he has sent the contact information for the letter to the conservation office. The address was not included in Mr. Egerton's email. The administrative agent will request the information from the selectboard office and place it on the agenda for the next meeting.

Mattakeesett Ball Fields

No updates to report.

234 and 242 Valley Street (DEP file nos: SE56-948 and SE56-949)

No updates to report.

Route 14 Reconstruction project (DEP file no.: SE56-955)

Changes to plans are in progress.



Unscheduled Discussions:

36 Adams Street/Furnace Pond Dredging: Agent Bob Clarke inspected the area and reports that weeds are growing at the end of the drainage pipe that terminates in the pond. Mr. Clarke also informs the commission that the continued discharge of untreated stormwater into the ponds by the Town of Pembroke does not enhance their chances for receiving funding for future pond cleanup projects.

Wooden pedestrian bridge conditions at Herring Run Park: Assistant DPW Director and member Scott Glauben reports that he is waiting for the building inspector to make an inspection of the bridge.

Tree removal at Town Barn (ATM warrant article): Assistant DPW Director and member Scott Glauben reports that he solicited three bids for the work. Letourneau Tree and Landscape Supply was the low bid and were awarded the job. Work is to begin on August 5, 2016. Member Rick Madden asks about acquiring trees for public projects. Mr. Glauben reports that the trees are scheduled to be chipped onsite to reduce the possible spread of infection/disease. Mr. Glauben also informs the commission that the tree removal by Letourneau appears to be only Phase I of a larger project. Red Pines all over the area are dying. Further removal of trees will need another warrant article.

171 Wampatuck Road: Member Rick Madden reports that he has visited the site and does not like the installation of the septic system. He does not feel that the installation is best practice, soils were not dug out, there is no membrane to protect the leaching field and the catchbasin needs to be monitored for fecal matter. Agent Bob Clarke states that he has also inspected the site. Board of Health Agent Lisa Cullity was on-site at that time. Mr. Clarke reminds the board that the commission does not have any authority on the design and installation of the septic system – that falls under the jurisdiction of the Board of Health. Mr. Clarke also informs the commission that he has a tremendous amount of respect for Board of Health Agent Lisa Cullity. She is very conscientious and takes her responsibilities seriously. He suggests that perhaps the commission can request a copy of the as-built plan for their own review. Assistant DPW Director and member Scott Glauben states that the DPW will begin routine testing of all outfalls within the year.

Lindy's Market trash: The commission reports that trash at this location is not properly contained. They would like the administrative agent to draft a letter requesting the owner correct the situation.

Discussion: Lage Preserve - Acceptance of Deed

Motion to accept the deed for 190 Barker Street (Lage Preserve): Scott Glauben\

Second: Rick Madden

All in favor.

The commission also discusses possible future plans for the property. Member Rick Madden advocates for 'soft plans' of the site (i.e. community gardens). Agent Bob Clarke informs the commission that many groups have had their eye on the property and



have plans for the site. He does not want to rush in and step on peoples toes. He reminds the commission that much still needs to be done.

Negotiations with Dr. Lage called for a sign/kiosk; and a Conservation Restriction. Member Scott Glauben states that it needs to be decided who will have responsibility for security and maintenance of the buildings.

Meeting Minutes: May 23, 2016; June 13, 2016; and July 11, 2016

Motion to passover until next meeting: Art Egerton

Second: Sharon Tuells

All in favor

Documents signed:

- Acceptance of Deed re: 190 Barker Street
- Ext. OOC for Hobomock Pond (DEP file no.: SE56-869)
- Reappointment as Special Municipal Employees (2016-2017)

Adjournment

A motion was made by Art Egerton to adjourn the meeting at 9:20 p.m. Second by Scott Glauben. All in favor

