



Mason Conservation Commission Minutes

Mar. 13, 2019
7:00 pm to 9:20 pm

In Attendance

- Barbara DeVore
- Bob Dillberger
- Anna Faiello
- Liz Fletcher
- Bob Larochele
- Lundy Lewis
- Rosanna Nadeau
- Matt Robinson-Liu

Barbara moved that we accept February minutes. Liz seconded. Passed unanimously.

On February 26, the BOS did give approval for us to pursue the purchase of B-4-2.

Received a check for \$400.00 from LCHIP as incentive payment for our high-quality easement monitoring of the Fifield Tree Farm, money to go into the Stewardship Fund.

The BOS has asked us to reconsider accepting parcel L-7, a small landlocked parcel near the Lucy Lawrence lot off Townsend Rd. We considered it previously and decided to pass because it's all wetland anyway and so is *de facto* protected and could cost money for a title search or survey. However, at the Feb. 26 BOS meeting, the BOS opined that we could forego these formalities in this case because its unlikely anyone would contest this particular parcel. Given that, Rosanna moved that we accept the gift of L-7 as conservation land from the Adams family. Liz seconded. Passed unanimously.

Bob D. and Barbara gave a report on the ARM seminar they attended on 3/11 and the status of the Spaulding Brook Headwaters Project. Three potential grantors, including ARM and LCHIP, have posted updated grant materials on their Web sites, so the grant process can now begin in earnest. From the ARM seminar, in addition to getting helpful information about ARM grants, we learned that a recent DES rule change encourages conservation commissions to maintain a "mitigation priorities list" of potential mitigation projects for developers. Developers are required to ask the relevant Town's CC for project before putting money into the ARM fund. The CC agreed that enhancing our current mitigation list (first developed during the NED pipeline incident) is a worthwhile long-term project.

Also regarding B-4-2, Bob L. will contact Dennis Labombard about examining the dam to assess condition and provide an estimate for removal. The dam could be either an asset or a liability depending on how things work out with the various funding sources we're pursuing for the purchase.

Liz moved we authorize the purchase of two licenses for Manifold, the commercial GIS tool used for our NRI. Rosanna seconded. Passed unanimously. It's unclear how many licenses we truly need, so Matt will research the license details (at manifold.net) to ensure we understand what we need, and then purchase one or two licenses for the CC, depending on his assessment. He'll submit a request for reimbursement next month.

Now that the BOS has approved our OPDMD policies for the Rail Trail and the Mason Quarry land, Bob D. noted that we need to replace the signs on the Rail Trail that say "No wheeled motorized vehicles" and we also need additional signs for Quarry land. Both sets of signs must tell visitors where they can find our OPDMD policy. Also, while we're at it, Rosanna noted we should add "Property of the Town of Mason" to the signs so it's a more serious offense to steal or damage them.

Bob L. reports that Kathy has requested we establish a public email address that can be posted on the town web site. Bob L. will follow up with Kathy. Barbara and Rosanna volunteered to monitor the account.

Barbara reports the next Drug Take Back Day is on April 27.