

Conservation Commission Minutes for August 27, 2007

1. Chairperson George McManus called the meeting to order at 7:38 pm. Members present: Noreen Slevin-Koczak, Clyde Burkhardt, George McManus, Kealoha Freidenburg, and Heather Crawford. Not present were Mary Jean Hale and Dick Gedney. Other attendees: Donn Dobson, Bill Bilcheck, Tom Paul and Bob Kuchta.
2. The commission discussed the Dobson re-subdivision. Members asked whether the owner had considered a land trust donation. One member discussed using the 100 foot review line for the conservation easement boundary along with part of the vernal pond. This would involve the removal of the river bottom from the easement. The Chairperson will write another letter to P & Z advising that after walking the property that the boundary of the easement should be adjusted so that the bluff edge is included which would allow for a trail in the future.
3. George advised that **CACIWC** Annual Recognition Awards are looking for nominations.
4. Stormwater management was then discussed. Bob Kuchta discussed the River Run subdivision which used rain gardens, less pavement and cape-cod curbing. A meeting was set up before the wetlands review to keep the developer informed. For future subdivisions the town engineers will hold the same type of meeting discussing the need for considering stormwater management. As the wetlands commission is currently reviewing their regulations our commission will review to see if stronger language is needed. Sections 7.5 G and 10.2 A & D are the sections to review. They are available via the Madison Town website. Also, the inland wetlands commission is looking into using fines but that process will require a change to the town charter. They do not have anything in their regulations about referring to the best management practices from DEP because if DEP changes their information new regulations would be needed.
5. Heather gave an update on the water company meeting. She advised that they are selling class 3 watershed land in order to purchase class 1 watershed land. There is a State Open Space plan with the first right of refusal being the town, followed by the state and then others.
6. Tom Paul also discussed the Hammonasset Solstice Line which runs through N Madison.
7. The commission reviewed town maps looking at the lands the water company is selling & the natural diversity database “blobs”. A meeting with DEP will need to be set up as one area does have NDDB resources in it.
8. The commission reviewed the meeting minutes from 7/23/07. Clyde moved to approve them with the changes, Heather seconded. All were in favor and the minutes were approved.
9. Heather motioned to adjourn, Noreen seconded. All were in favor. Meeting adjourned at 9:42 pm. The next meeting is scheduled for September 10, 2007.

Respectfully submitted by Noreen Slevin-Koczak, Secretary/treasurer