

**ACTON CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

**MINUTES**

**December 18, 2013**

**7:15 PM**

**TOWN HALL - 472 MAIN STREET**

**ROOM 204**

**COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:** Terry Maitland, William Froberg, Tom Arnold, Amy Green, Jim Colman, Theresa Portante-Lyle

**NATURAL RESOURCES DIRECTOR & RECORDING SECRETARY:** Tom Tidman

**VISITORS:** Roswitha Pinto, Jim Snyder-Grant, Janet Adachi, Linda McElroy, Doug Haley, Roland Bartl, Kristen Domurad-Guichard

**7:15** Notice of Intent: 97 Concord Road, 85-1140 (020)

Places Associates Inc. representing Carolyn & Jason Brady for installation of a septic system at 97 Concord Road, Acton, MA 01720, town atlas plate F4, parcel 101.

Susan Carter from Places Associates Inc. presented the project. The existing four bed-room home failed Title 5 inspection. A new system will be located at the rear of the house, meeting the 75 foot set-back. The work involves replacing the leaching field and septic tank. Some grading will extend into the buffer zone between the 75 foot and 50 foot set-back area. The work will take place as soon as possible. A chambered system is being installed which reduces the overall area of disturbance.

**Hearing closed:** 7:26 PM

**DECISION:** Mr. Arnold moved to issue a standard Order of Conditions, Ms. Green seconded, vote unanimous.

**7:30** Trail Through Time: update from Linda McElroy and Doug Halley

Ms. McElroy described this project as a unique heritage trail providing access to a number of sites, both native and European American cultures. This area is a melding of land use of two cultures through time. Mr. Halley mentioned the Pine Hawk site and that an archeological sensitivity study was undertaken and a map of Acton's potential archeological sites was created. They also presented the current status of the project and future goals. Mr. Halley asked the Commission to consider what should be done with the Robbins Mill dam. Options ranging from breaching to full restoration were discussed and the Commission felt that making any decision about the appropriate option would wait until more detailed information was provided describing the impacts of each option.

**7:40** Request for Determination: Assabet River Rail Trail (030)

Mr. Maitland announced that he was a direct abutter to the proposed Assabet River Rail trail, and hence would recuse himself from any business regarding same. As such he left the chair.

Acton Planning Department requesting "determination of applicability" for work along an abandoned right-of-way in preparation for the Assabet River Rail Trail. Area of work runs approximately from Maple Street to Sylvia Street, passing through portions of town atlas plates H2,

H2A, H3B and I2. Project involves the removal of approximately 3606 linear feet of track, steel rails only. The intention is to complete the project during the winter months.

Kristen Domurad-Guichard and Roland Bartl presented the project representing the Town of Acton. A bid will be going out for removal of the old rails. The work will occur from within the rail bed. Mr. Arnold inquired what would be used to remove the rails. Ms. Domurad-Guichard explained that a bob-cat or small tractor would be used. There will be two staging areas, one on the Simeone and Caouette land and the other in the Silvia Lane area. It's expected to be a two or three day project.

**Meeting closed: 8:10PM**

**DECISION:** Ms. Green moved to issue a Negative 3 determination, i.e. the work described in the request is within the Buffer Zone, as defined in the regulations, but will not alter an area subject to protection under the "Act." Therefore, said work does not require the filing of a Notice of Intent. As a special condition, no trees or chippings are to be left within 100 feet of wetlands. Mr. Colman seconded, vote unanimous.

**7:50** Review of Open Space and Recreation Plan: draft printing

Mr. Maitland returned to the Chair.

Mr. Tidman asked that the Commission review the draft for grammatical and spelling errors. If they have significant content recommendations or changes, they should submit them as letters to be included in Section 10.

**8:55** Land Steward Committee: Plaque Policy Review (040)

Jim Snyder-Grant presented the LSC's proposed policy regarding installation of plaques on conservation lands.

**Decision:** Mr. Colman moved to support the policy, Mr. Arnold second, unanimous vote.

**9:00** Land Steward Committee: Proposed license for trail across Scout-lands (050)

Jim Snyder-Grant presented a brief history of this issue. He also stated that the trustees are willing to sign a renewable license and are now reviewing the "drop" license.

**Certificates of Compliance:** not ready

**Minutes:** 12/04/2013, reviewed by AM, AG, TM, TPL

Ms. Green moved to approve, Ms. Portante-Lyle 2<sup>nd</sup>, unanimous vote

**Meeting adjourned at 9:05PM**

  
Terry Maitland  
Chairperson

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**AGENDA**  
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**8:05** Land Steward Committee: Proposed license for trail across Scout-lands (050)

**Certificates of Compliance:**

61 Powdermill Road: 85-649 (060)

60 Powdermill Road: 85-707 (070)

**Minutes:** 12/04/2013, reviewed by AM, AG, TM, TPL

Type	Title	Owner	Edited	Size	Actions
	0001 - Agenda 12-18-2013	naturales	12/12/13	15 KB	
	020 - NOI 97 Concord Rd 85-1140	naturales	12/11/13	22 MB	
	021 - NOI 97 Concord Road Septic Plan 85-1140	naturales	12/11/13	1 MB	
	022 - NOI 97 Concord Road DEP 85-1140 assign	naturales	12/11/13	49 KB	
	030 - RDA ARRT ROW RAIL REMOVAL	naturales	12/11/13	2 MB	
	040 - LSC Plaque Policy November 2013	naturales	12/11/13	100 KB	
	050 - LSC License Agreement- Scoutlands	naturales	12/11/13	109 KB	
	060 - Request for Certificate of Compliance DEP 649	naturales	12/11/13	106 KB	
	070 - Request for Certificate of Compliance DEP 85-707	naturales	12/11/13	100 KB	

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