

Town of Ayer Conservation Commission

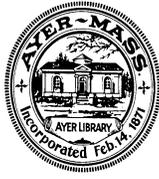
Town Hall * One Main Street * Ayer, MA 01432 * 978-772-8249 * 978-772-8208 (fax)
Minutes for **3/28/2013** –Approved 4/4/2013

Location: Ayer Town Hall, 1st Floor

Members present: Bill Daniels (BD, Chair), George Bacon (GB, Vice-Chair), Takashi Tada (TT),
Jessica Gugino (JG, Clerk), Lee Curtis (LC), Becky DaSilva-Conde (CA, Conservation Administrator)
APAC taped: Yes

7:47 PM – Open Meeting

- **Confirmation of Agenda**
 - GB moved to confirm agenda as posted; TT 2nd.
 - Motion approved unanimously.
- **Meeting Minutes Approval**
 - GB moved to accept the minutes for 3/21/13 as amended; TT 2nd.
 - Motion approved 4-0 (LC abstained).
- **Accounts Payable**
 - Takashi Tada: \$115, reimbursement for attending MACC Annual Conference on 3/2.
 - GB moved to approve payment of \$115 to TT; LC 2nd.
 - Motion approved unanimously.
 - Payment will be drawn from ConCom's line item for membership dues.
- **Discussion: Upcoming Site Walks**
 - Due to late snow cover, the site walks for Pingry Hill's NOIs have been rescheduled to 9 a.m. on 4/13/13.
 - The site walk for 1 Barnum Road was also moved to 8:30 a.m. on 4/13 for the same reason.
- **CA Updates**
 - Enforcement Orders (EO)
 - 186 Littleton Road
 - CA said the soil pile has yet to be moved.
 - Conrad Donell, speaking for Brent Routhier on 3/14, said the pile would be moved per ConCom's order within 2 weeks.
 - BD directed CA to issue another EO for this failure to comply and to also send a copy to Mass DEP.
 - ConCom will ratify the EO at its next meeting on 4/4.
 - 31 Central Avenue
 - CA still has not heard from John Hillier, Trustee of Central Realty Trust.
 - The heavy equipment has been removed from the lot as requested.
 - BD noted that ConCom was clear in its 3/14 meeting with Mr. Hillier that he was to contact CA for a site walk to evaluate for possible remediation as well as for a future NOI if work is to continue.
 - Mr. Hillier needs to follow through or ConCom will need to take additional action.
 - Plow Shop Pond
 - CA received a final draft of the Army Corps of Engineer's remediation plan for Plow Shop Pond.



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- Plow Shop Pond is a Superfund site over which the EPA has had jurisdiction for the past 18 years.
- The remediation plan is very different from earlier versions in that, for the first time, it mentions plans to lower the pond 5-6 feet below the mean water level.
 - Twelve inches of contaminated sediment are to be excavated and removed.
 - This drawdown is significant since Plow Shop Pond averages a depth of 4-8 feet.
 - Such a drawdown may result in fish kills and other significant ecological impacts.
- If the drawdown is to have an impact on adjacent land over which ConCom has jurisdiction, the Commission has concerns about the new plan.
 - TT said it is in ConCom's interest to respond to the plan during the comment period.
 - BD agreed and asked CA to request more hard copies of the draft plan for ConCom review and discussion.
 - If additional copies are not forthcoming, CA will ask for an electronic copy to be sent to Grafix for possible printing if the cost is within reason.
- The comment period is 45 days in length, ending some time in early May.
- TT said PACE (People of Ayer Concerned about the Environment) has a grant to pay for consultant Rich Doherty.
 - CA will coordinate with Laurie Nehring, of PACE, so that ConCom is copied on Mr. Doherty's comments to the plan.
- TT took the single hard copy of the plan for review and LC took the CD version.
- CA said the next Devens Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) meeting to discuss Plow Shop Pond will be on May 16.
- April 4 Agenda
 - ConCom's next meeting will focus on three things:
 - Final discussion and vote to award the contract for the Flannagan Pond RFP.
 - Discussion of an RFQ for a comprehensive pond review.
 - Discussion of the Plow Show Pond remediation plan.
- **Member Updates**
 - JG said CPC would be meeting on 4/3 and that Ed Cornelier would be coming in to further discuss the status of the crossing easement for the strip of land that lies between Wright Road the Kohler Place.
 - ConCom members were in agreement that without legal documentation, including deeded access, to support the crossing easement, the Commission was unlikely to be willing to sponsor an Open Space purchase by CPC.
- **8:40 PM – Adjourn Meeting**
 - GB moved to adjourn; TT 2nd.
 - Motion approved unanimously.