



## **Town of Ayer Conservation Commission**

Town Hall \* One Main Street \* Ayer, MA 01432 \* 978-772-8249

Minutes for **12/12/2016** – Approved 1/26/2017

Location: Ayer Town Hall, 1st Floor

Present: Bill Daniels (BD, Chair), George Bacon (GB, Vice-Chair), Bonnie Tillotson (BT, Member), Jessica Gugino (JG, Member/Clerk), Brian Colleran (CA, Conservation Administrator)

Not Present: Takashi Tada (TT, Member)

### **7:15 PM – Open Meeting**

- **Confirmation of Agenda**

- Brief discussion of edits made to the 2017 RFP was added.
- GB moved to confirm the agenda as amended; BT 2<sup>nd</sup>.
  - Motion approved unanimously.

- **West Main Street**

- On driving by, BD observed an excavator and large soil piles adjacent to wetlands in the backyard of a house on West Main.
  - BD asked CA to notify the homeowner to provide erosion controls or remove the piles.

- **Discussion: RFP for 2017 weed treatments on Sandy, Flannagan, and Pine Meadow ponds**

- The RFP will go out later in the week after BD prepares the photography plans for the RFP.

- **Discussion: Updating Ayer's Wetland Bylaw**

- Ayer ConCom is using the Massachusetts Association of Conservation Commissions (MACC) model Bylaw (2006) as the basis for its revisions.
  - The first four sections were reviewed and edited.
    - Purpose
      - Protection of open space was added.
    - Jurisdiction
      - Language from the Town of Reading's Bylaw was added to indicate that jurisdiction includes activities on lands outside of the buffer zone if those activities are likely to alter an area subject to protection.
    - Exemptions and Exceptions
      - Sewerage and stormwater management were added to the list of exemptions not needing a permit for maintenance, repair, or replacement.
    - Applications and Fees
      - CA will contact Eugene Benson, of MACC, for further information.
      - Commission members were not in support of charging additional local application filing fees.
      - Specifying that projects beyond a certain size would require inspections that the contractor would pay for was discussed.
  - The next Special Meeting for updating the Bylaw will be held on Tuesday, 1/17/2017.
    - ConCom will review and edit at least the next four sections (Notice and Hearings; Coordination with Other Boards, Permits and Conditions, and Regulations) of the MACC model Bylaw at that time:

- **9:20 PM – Adjourn Meeting**

- GB moved to adjourn; BT 2<sup>nd</sup>.
  - Motion approved unanimously.



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