

**Hamilton Conservation Commission
Minutes of Meeting of January 22, 2014
Meeting held at Hamilton Town Hall**

Commissioners present:

Richard Luongo, Chair, Stacy Carpenter, Virginia Cookson, Bob Cronin, Peter Dana,
George Tarr.

Staff present:

Jim Hankin, Conservation Agent

Richard Luongo opened the meeting at 7:31 p.m.

Violation Notice

84 Old Cart Rd.

Jeremy and Hannah Fraley

Animals and land alterations in jurisdiction

Jim Hankin summarized how the property owners had sheep and goats in wetlands jurisdiction and the Commission had issued a Violation Notice to begin a process to achieve compliance with the Wetlands Protection Act and Conservation Bylaw.

In addition, there were Board of Health keeping of animals regulations that had not been complied with at 84 Old Cart Rd., and the Board of Health intervened in the matter after the Commission had issued its Violation Notice. The Commission then decided to await the outcome of the Board of Health action. In December 2013, the Board of Health issued an Enforcement Order requiring removal of the animals because the Fraleys never filed a completed application seeking all of the variances that would be necessary from the Board of Health. Following the Board of Health action, the Fraleys donated their animals to a farm in Ipswich. This has brought the matter to an end.

Stacy Carpenter moved to withdraw the Violation Notice for 84 Old Cart Road. Peter Dana seconded the motion. The Commission voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

Jim Hankin will send a letter to the homeowners notifying them that the matter is closed and the Violation Notice is no longer in effect.

Acceptance of minutes of November 6, 2013, November 20, 2013 and December 11, 2013

Virginia Cookson moved to accept the minutes of November 6, 2013. Bob Cronin seconded the motion. The Commission voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

Ms. Cookson provided an amendment to the minutes of November 20, 2013. Ms. Carpenter moved to accept the minutes of November 20, 2013 with the annotations as made by Ms. Cookson. Mr. Dana seconded the motion. The Commission voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

Ms. Cookson moved to accept the minutes of December 11, 2013. Ms. Carpenter seconded the motion. The Commission voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

Discussion Items

Mr. Hankin will supply the Commission with a chart of expiration dates for maintenance plans for Myopia Hunt Club and Essex County Trails Association at the February 12, 2014 meeting.

MACC Registrations Selections MACC Annual Conference on Saturday March 1, 2014 Holy Cross College Worcester, MA

Ms. Cookson, Mr. Tarr and Richard Luongo are planning to attend MACC Conference.

Myopia Hunt Club: Golf course and water supply

Mr. Dana explained that Myopia Hunt Club is planning ahead to address upcoming golf course and water supply issues. He referred to a Club meeting attended by Mr. Hankin and Mr. Luongo. He spoke to the interest in cleaning up the Miles River and referred to a Miles River Task Force that was created a few years ago and had received some conditional funding. However, one of the four towns that abut the Miles River backed out and the task force became defunct. Mr. Hankin indicated that he expected a filing from the Club for some golf course work. He stated that Club members are concerned about the condition of the Miles River and want to be involved in any river clean-up projects.

Planning Director Position

Mr. Hankin described proposal from Town Manager Michael Lombardo for a Planning Director who would be a supervisor over the land use staff. Mr. Hankin would be subordinate to this new employee but he would continue in his role as Conservation Agent and no longer report directly to the Town manager. He added that his responsibilities as well as those for the Health Agent, Building Department personnel, and inspectors would not change, but there would be a new level of management reporting to Mr. Lombardo.

Chebacco Woods Land Management funding

Discussion ensued about interest in raising annual funding (\$1,600) that is allocated for Chebacco Woods trails maintenance.

Mr. Cronin moved to adjourn. Ms. Cookson seconded the motion. The Commission voted unanimously in favor of the motion. Commission adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Minutes submitted January 30, 2014 by Jane Dooley