

# DRAFT

## BRENTWOOD CONSERVATION COMMISSION

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Meeting of January 13, 2020

Members in attendance: Bob Stephens, Brian Silva, Robin Wrighton, Andy Laroche, Lise McNaughton

Selectmen in attendance: Phyllis Thompson

Alternates in attendance: Michelle Siudut (remote access via phone)

Public Present: None

Meeting convened at 6:30 pm

- Thompson moved to accept 12/09/2020 minutes. Wrighton seconded. Carried unanimously.

- Town Properties:

Split Rock / Stevens field: Both fields were mowed. The fields are supposed to have a yearly alternating schedule. There is evidence that the field may have been hayed as well. Wrighton to speak to Doug Cowie and Bob Magnusson.

Stephens received monitoring reports in the mail. No further discussion on the monitoring reports. Wrighton to file all reports.

Reviewed newsletter for SELT. Amanda Hollenbeck from SELT sent us monitoring reports for properties, Poesse Bertram, Waldron, and Deerhill Farm. Received letters of correspondence for Dunham, Schmalzer. Merrill, Huggins and MacMullen/Rankin.

- Goals

Still looking for a volunteer for the planning board meetings. McNaughton continues work on the Conservation Commission Charter.

- Property Reviews

Conservation Commission was requested by Joe Falzone, developer of Three Ponds and commencing Three Ponds Phase 2, for a prioritized list of properties for possible conservation. McNaughton and Wrighton put together a preliminary list based on several factors, including location, habitat, and prime wetlands. Conservation Commission is working on a larger list of all the open properties.

Sig Sauer has withdrawn their application for expansion for the time being due to cost.

Conservation Commission is getting inquiries about the Amazon development in Kingston. Wrighton read some of the article from a Sandra Maida. Maida attended the site walk of the proposed warehouse distribution center at 266 Route 125. The scope of the project is set to have 159 docks, 507 parking spaces, 239 slips for parking 53 ft tractor trailers. The site is near Little River wetlands, forested areas. Some concerns were also brought up for aquifers. Stephens, Wrighton and McNaughton met separately to review the project then discussed issues with the rest of the Conservation Commission. Concerns were raised by Conservation

Commission about the impact to Little River and potential effects on Brentwood's water. There are also concerns about traffic and commuters seeking alternate routes to avoid 125 during traffic times, and others. Stephens to write a letter stating Conservation Commission's concerns.

Conservation Commission is reaching out to the owners of the Prime wetlands. Thompson provided past list of Brentwood Top Parcels.

#### Bills and Reimbursements -

Received an invoice for A and B Lock and Security for 15 dollars to unlock the cabinet and re-key, plus two keys. Laroche made a motion to pay the bill and Wrighton seconded. Stephens needs to submit a form and give it to the town administrator.

#### Other Business -

Stephens relayed some concerns were brought up to Sportsmen of Brentwood club by landowners/abutters concerned about shooting on private land. They want to keep land open to all, but do not want to deal with the noise and trash of recreational target shooting. Stephens wondered if Town should consider, through Conservation Commission, designing and supplying or reimbursing for signage for private landowners who restrict shooting but keep property open for all other legal uses. Sportsmen of Brentwood club is nonprofit, with few discretionary funds. Conservation Commission concluded to keep it a private land matter.

A concerned resident has twice emailed the Town Administrator and Conservation Commission about getting the meeting minutes posted in a timely fashion as stipulated under statute. As Stephens has come to understand it from the exchange, according to the Town Administrator, the practical application of the statute stipulates approved minutes need to be posted within 5 business days of being approved, or in the case of draft minutes (not yet approved by Con Comm vote), within 5 business days of being requested. Minutes are typically approved at the next Conservation Commission meeting. If the minutes are in draft form, they need to be requested and Conservation Commission has 5 business days to provide the minutes to the requestor. Stephens reminded the commissioners that they serve the Town and should endeavor to do so to their ability within statute, but that we are volunteers operating in good faith, and that clerical support previously provided by Town personnel has been dropped from Conservation Commission when this slate of commissioners took over and henceforth.

A bill of ~\$2500 was received from SELT for 2020 easement monitoring services. A proposal for 2021 easement monitoring services has been received and will be further discussed at our next meeting. Wrighton moved to pay the bill reviewed by Con Comm, and McNaughton seconded. Motion carried. Also, Thompson questioned which budget that it comes out of (2020 or 2021). Other members were unsure.

Wrighton is requesting some office/partitioned space with a desk to review documents and other associated Con Comm tasks. Wrighton will follow up with Select Board.

Next meeting February 10th.

Wrighton moved to adjourn the meeting. Silva seconded the motion. Vote passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted by: Brian Silva