



Bank Building, 20 Centre Street, Middleborough, Massachusetts 02346

Received  
APR 20 2021  
Lakeville Town Clerk

## **MEETING MINUTES**

Date: Tuesday, March 2, 2021

Location: Middleboro Town Hall Auditorium (upstairs)

Meeting called to order at 7:13 PM

Wardens Present: Tom Barron, Ron Burgess, Carol "Krill" Carson, David Cavanaugh, Bill Orphanos Emily Ryan, Brad Day.

Absent:

Observers Present: Janet MacCausland (via phone/video call)

Visitors:

### **Unanticipated:**

Dave expressed that he was in favor of sending a letter of support for the sea wall/dam work at Stonybrook.

Ron made a motion to send a letter of support and include verbiage that indicates we are writing in support of improving the fish way.

Second: Tom. Voted - unanimous.

### **New Business:**

1. Motion by Tom to accept the minutes of the February 2nd meeting, with the correction to the name 'Tricia'. Second: Ron. Unanimous.

2. There were no new updates from Ron regarding Oliver Mill Park. However, there will be meetings periodically and Ron will provide updates as information is obtained.

3. The request from RI and DMF to take fish was discussed and Dave made the motion to approve the request as long as they let us know when they plan on taking the fish. Second: Tom. Voted - unanimous.

4. The vegetation removal scheduled on March 1<sup>st</sup> was actually the deadline the commission confirmed with Bill Napolitano. Both Ron and Tom have not heard back from Bill N.

5. Emily R had reached out to Emily S regarding getting the future meetings set up through zoom so it would be available to those that do not or cannot attend in person. No response from Emily S yet. It was decided once Emily R received response the zoom option would be considered as long as voting members are in person.

## **Old Business**

1. Discussion surrounding ethics training and when each warden is due to take the training again.
2. a. Tom reported seeing the first herring of the season, only one fish seen to date. Pond and river levels are up, and Oliver Mill is up about one foot from January. Boards one through four are out, the fifth board is still in to hold the sand back.  
  
b. Ron work with Chris Peck to raise the bascule dam, it was raised about five or six inches and that is as far as we will see it come up. Ron reported that while the river looks high at certain points of the river it doesn't look as high at the dam, and we will need to see where the level sits once everything stabilizes.  
  
c. Brad suggested as an update to the weeds at Wareham Street, we wait and monitor and take action when we can. And Ron agreed. Bill mentioned that down trees have been noted down all along the river. Dave and Tom discussed that trees have been removed in the past and usually around April/May trees are cleared for the canoe race. We have not had a river inspection trip in a while.
3. a. Ron gave a recap about the current status of the permitting and the deadline of March 1st we gave to Bill Napolitano. And although the grad student completed the research paper to help us get the permit, there was not enough in the paper to get the permit approved. Considering the urgency and limited time to use the ecoharvester, Ron made a motion to move forward with plans to do weed removal in the first two weeks in August. And Brad will talk to people with ecoharvester about dates and cost. The motion was made to move forward without federal permit. Second: Brad Voted – passed 6 to 1.  
  
b. Outback has completed the sediment trap plans and Ron presented them to the rest of the Wardens to review. The commission took some time to look over the plans. Now that plans are completed Ron has invoice for Outback in the amount of \$7,500 (the quoted amount) Motion made by Dave to pay invoice. Second: Krill. Voted – unanimous.  
Ron made a note that we have \$9,000 left from grant to be used towards sediment trap project and the permit for the turtles would apply to this project as well.  
Ron explained that when the sediment trap project is started, we will need somewhere to bring the sand, he looked into Byrne Sand and Gravel, and also considered DOT for use on roads, and local cranberry bogs. Krill offered to take some for her work with nesting marsh turtles. Although the project has no scheduled start date, Tom stated that now that we have the plans when the money becomes available, we already have the plans ready to go.  
Dave made motion to authorize Ron to bring the plans done by Outback to APC. Second: Brad. Voted – unanimous.

### **Communications and Bills**

1. Ron discussed incidents at Oliver Mill where he observed trucks at the river and believes they may have been taking water. Ron contacted the Conservation Commission and they responded that they will reach out to the company that was indicated on the side of the truck.
2. Dave mentioned tech expert working group meetings for river herring to be held via zoom on March 29<sup>th</sup> and November 1<sup>st</sup>. (an email was sent to the commission with details)
3. Louise mentioned she will be going to be speaking at a tourism committee meeting about the possibility of a trail along the Nemasket River. There are many possibilities and plans that are being discussed but overall, Louise believes it will be beneficial to Middleboro tourism.
4. Dave reminded wardens to be visible at the ladder to let people know we are there.

Motion by Ron to adjourn. Second: Tom: Unanimous. Meeting adjourned at 8:25 PM