

*Damon Tinio, Chairman
Peter Coffin, Vice Chairman*



*Timothy Aicardi
Michael Ammendolia
William Aten*

TOWN OF MENDON

Conservation Commission
Mendon Town Hall
20 Main Street
Mendon, Massachusetts 01756

Meeting Minutes of March 20, 2008

Attending: D. Tinio, P. Coffin, T. Aicardi, W. Aten and M. Ammendolia; Bob Poxon, Guerriere & Halnon; Robert Sweet, 50 Milford Street; Anne Mazar, 50 Pleasant Street; Shirley Smith, 188 Providence Road; Tony Willoughby, 7 Leonard Road; and Fred Lapham, Shea Engineering.

Meeting was called to order at 7:37 p.m.

Members reviewed the Request for Determination of Applicability (RDA) for 79 North Avenue. The owner plans to construct a 144' X 70' indoor riding arena and a 64' X 122' barn. P. Coffin walked the site this past winter. A channel had been created. Members would like to see a plan showing elevations and what is being done with the runoff. *Action: D. Willoughby to invite M. Salvador to the next meeting.*

Members discussed the RDA for 97 Hartford Ave. East. The owner would like to construct a 16' X 20' barn and a 5' X 8' mud room attached to the house. Both will have poured concrete foundations. Upon reviewing the assessor's map and knowing firsthand that the area is sandy, members signed the negative determination.

Members read the RDA for 33 Kinsley Lane. The owner wants to build a dock with a landing approximately 4' X 12' and an 8' x 10' deck. He inquired what type of wood or composite can be used and what limitations are. There used to be a dock there. S. Smith informed members that permission is need from the State. *Action: D. Willoughby will get information from Shirley and DEP and pass on to owner.*

7:45 p.m. NOI hearing continuation, 18 Kinsley Lane. D. Tinio performed site visit and noticed terraces pulling apart. R. Poxon said owner would clean up terraced area. Members required that walls shall remain in good working order or a new NOI shall be filed. They also required that silt fence and hay bales must be installed per the engineering plan presented. P. Coffin made and T. Aicardi seconded a motion to approve the plan for 18 Kinsley Lane with aforementioned conditions discussed. The motion carried unanimously.

D. Tinio informed members he learned that a third party must hold the conservation restriction for the "Fino" property. The Conservation Commission will be attending the Selectmen's meeting on Monday, March 24 at 8:30 p.m. to discuss it.

Shirley Smith provided members with copies of the Mill River Stream Team Shoreline Survey Report and Action Plan dated June 30, 2007. The Homeowners' Guide to Protecting Water Quality in the Blackstone River Watershed will be delivered to anyone who lives near a waterway.

8:20 p.m. M. Ammendolia joined the meeting.

Anne Mazar and Shirley Smith presented the Open Space Communities bylaw (March 20, 5:00 p.m.). M. Ammendolia inquired as to how this method would protect farmland. Shirley and Anne explained that a farmer could sell the land if he/she wishes. He can then lease the land and still farm it. This Open Space Community is not mandatory but an option. There is less roadway and smaller lots (20,000 square feet). The rest is open space. F. Lapham noted that common

driveways are mentioned in the bylaw. The zoning bylaw does not allow common driveways. There was also discussion regarding subdivision waivers. T. Aicardi suggested that section V. B. should be changed to note that house sites shall comply with DEP Wetlands Protection Act or town bylaws instead of stating distances from waterways, open space and wetlands. Attendees discussed how open space requirements should be calculated. Members differed on what percentage of wetland should be used in formula, ranging from 100 percent of the wetland area to 50 percent. One goal was to give some credit for wetlands to encourage a developer to build within an open space community. Mr. Willoughby noted there is nothing stated in the bylaw that indicates it is an alternative to the existing development rules. S. Smith said that it would be stated at town meeting. Mr. Willoughby voiced concern that the entire bylaw was vague.

Fred Lapham addressed the committee regarding 50 Milford Street. Mr. Sweet has stopped cutting trees on his property. They have been stumped. Mr. Wang will re-flag the wetlands in filled area. The original base soil was not removed. Seven areas need to be excavated for soil analysis in the fill area. Once they are flagged and mapped, they will present a plan to the commission. T. Aicardi mandated that no other activity be done near the wetland area, no work be done on the slope or buffer zone, no digging unless F. Lapham is present and no other activity be done unless there is a plan. Two trees in the gravel area need to come out. Fred will be there Tuesday to do borings and will attend the April 10 meeting with an update.

T. Aicardi made and P. Coffin seconded a motion to approve the meeting minutes of March 6, 2008. The motion carried unanimously.

F. Lapham informed members that he is submitting an NOI for a tight tank at the Town Beach.

D. Willoughby told members that the Annual Report input for Stormwater Management from the Conservation Commission is due by April 25. *Action: D. Willoughby to inform L. Hawkes that no work is being done on a bylaw and that 4A & 4B and 5A and 5B should not be carried under the Conservation Commission. Diane will work with Mendon Lion's Club for Annual Town Cleanup. She will also include that Con. Com. is working with Mass Highway and monitoring catch basin on Rt. 16.*

D. Tinio told members that he saw Mass Highway trucks on Route 16. Dirt is coming across Route 16 by Sola's Gym up the hill and going into the catch basins. A Mass Highway worker said it was cleaned out in September and was full.

M. Ammendolia received a request from the Finance Committee to reduce the Conservation Commission's FY 2009 Engineering budget to \$1000. *Action: D. Willoughby to resubmit FY 2009 budget with changes.*

A motion was made to adjourn at 9:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Willoughby
Administrative Clerk