

**Town of Concord
Conservation Restriction Stewardship Committee**

Minutes of March 26, 2019 Meeting
Concord Main Library basement conference room

Attendees: Kathy Angell, David Bell (Chair), John Ferguson, Richard Higgins, Mary Ann Lippert
Neil Ryder, Art Schwope, Jane Wells, Michelle Wiggins, Lori Capone,
Natural Resources Assistant Director.

Dave called the meeting to order at 3:33 pm.

1. New members – Richard Higgins and Michelle Wiggins – were welcomed.
2. Art Schwope assumed role of Secretary.
3. A motion to approve the Jan. 22, 2019 meeting minutes was made by Art, seconded by Neil, and passed unanimously.
4. Committee Work
 - 4.1. Monitoring in progress

| CR | Name | Address | Assignee | Action/Status |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|---------------|--|
| #10 | Emerson | 280 & 366 Estabrook | John | Delia and Lori will walk CR with the landowner to follow-up on fence concern reported in Jan. 22 minutes. |
| #30, 31, 32, 45 | Cambridge Savings | Silver Hill Rd | Art/John | Monitoring visit scheduled for March 28. Brad Moriarty of Silver Hill Assoc. to join for #30, 31, 45 |
| #137 | Concord River Walk | 1631 Main St | Mary Ann | Lori is working to identify new Trustees of the Concord Riverwalk Condominium Trust. In meantime Mary Ann walked the property which is open to public. If Lori identifies new contacts and they want to walk the property, Mary Ann and Rich will re-walk. If a POC is not identified relatively soon, Mary Ann will write report. |
| #145 | CHA Thoreau St | 282 Thoreau St | Mary Ann | Lori to send notification letter. |
| #100 | Hurley | Pond View Lane | Jane/Rich | Jane to inform Lori when to send notification letter. Kathy to accompany Jane and Rich for continuity. |
| #148 | Monsen Farm | Monsen Rd | John/Michelle | Lori to send notification letter. |
| #1020 | Moses Pond | Wayside Rd | Jane/Kathy | Prior to sending final draft of |

| | | | | |
|------|-------------|-------------------|---------------|---|
| | | | | monitoring report to Committee, review with Lori March 27 |
| #124 | Macone Farm | 79 Macone Farm Rd | Jane | Awaiting completion of restoration work. |
| #2 | Wells | Wolf Pine Way | Neil/Michelle | Lori to send notification letter. |
| #57 | Moore Homes | Thornton Lane | Neil/Michelle | Lori to send notification letter. |

Note: First-named assignee is Leader.

4.2. Monitoring to be assigned

| CR | Name | Address | Acres | Action/Status |
|-----------|-----------------------|--------------------|----------|---|
| #141, 142 | Domini, Brett | Lowell Rd | 1.4, 4.3 | Awaiting completion of restoration work |
| #112 | Elm Brook | Elm Brook Way | 7.95 | |
| #154 | Black Birch | Forest Ridge Rd | 6.3 | |
| #134 | Nashoba Brooks School | Strawberry Hill Rd | 2 | CR term ends 2021 |

4.3. BDRs in progress

| CR | Name | Address | Assignee | Action/Status |
|-------|----------|---------------|----------|--|
| #1001 | Ayrshire | Ayrshire Lane | John | John and David did an initial visit (there are six different landowners to coordinate with). Return visit needed for photographs and to visit the other parcels. |

4.4. BDRs to be assigned

| CR | Name | Address | Acres | Action/Status |
|-------|------------------|---------------------|-------|----------------------------|
| #123 | Macone Farm | 57 Macone Farm Lane | 2.3 | Awaiting completion of CR. |
| #1002 | Bartkus Farm | Bartkus Farm | 12.9 | |
| #1005 | Brewster's Ridge | Monument St | 5.1 | |
| #1019 | Landmark | ORNAC | 2.8 | |
| #1027 | Wright Farm | Wright Farm Rd | 27.3 | |

Lori stated that any CRs numbered above 1000 have been accepted by the Town but do not have Commonwealth sign-off.

5. Other Business

- 5.1. Knowledge of invasives is needed for the monitoring report as well as the edification of some property owners/stewards. Direction to information on local invasives can be found on Division

of Natural Resources page on the Town Website. One of several links is:
<https://concordma.gov/765/Invasive-Species-Fact-Sheets>

- 5.2. Following up on Mary Ann's suggestion at the previous meeting, Lori will pursue the acquisition of stakes that committee members can place to make more visible existing bounds on CRs.
- 5.3. Members were reminded that each of us has the responsibility for updating the CR spreadsheets for CRs assigned to us. Particular attention should be placed on the currency of the dates as the Chair uses the dates to schedule monitoring. The color code is: green = active; orange = Delia/Lori activity; and yellow = open questions. Delia/Lori have the responsibility for adding new CRs and BDRs.
- 5.4. Jane is leading (with the participation of Kathy and Art) the development of a step-by-step summary of the monitoring process. Codification of the process will guide current and future new members. Jane will produce a draft and review it with Kathy and Art in the next week or so.
- 5.5. Dave brought to the attention of the committee that (1) the first week of April is Concord clean-up with yellow trash bags are available and sign-up for locations at the Division of Natural Resources 133 Keyes Rd, and (2) the Pilot Town garlic mustard pull is May 18-26. Lori asked to be informed of any particularly large patches of garlic mustard.
- 5.6. Dave informed the committee that the former Starmet property now belongs to the Town, and a new committee is being formed to recommend alternatives for the disposition of the property to the 2020 Town Meeting. The property approximates 40 acres and the scope of alternatives is wide open, ranging from business to housing to schools to playing fields to conservation land and more. Dave suggested that the CRSC has the opportunity to formulate its own recommendation for presentation to the Select Board and the Natural Resources Commission. Agreed that this subject would be added to our April agenda.
- 5.7. Dave and Kathy's terms on the committee – including each having served as Chair – have ended. Congratulations and thank you for your work.
- 5.8. John's term will end at the end of May. In view of his experience and the number of new members, however, Dave asked John nominated him to serve as Chair; Kathy seconded. Approval was unanimous. The search for another new member will continue to take John's place on the committee. A new Chair will then be elected.
- 5.9. The outgoing Chair offered his closing thoughts:
 - 5.9.1. Invasives are dominating an ever-increasing amount of Concord's natural habitats. Committee members have a wonderful opportunity to raise the awareness of and educate CR owners and stewards to the harm done by invasives and how to counter them.
 - 5.9.2. CR compliance can be helped by knowledge of the CR property lines. To this end, the CRSC is in a position to propose Town funding be appropriated for bounds.

The next 10-15 years will be critical to maintaining and expanding conservation and public lands in Concord. While Concord has been and is blessed with property owners and benefactors who have

generously contributed to land conservation, there are fewer opportunities to do so and there is considerable financial upside to develop open land. Committee members have special insight into beauty and value of open land – including some not accessible by the public – and as a committee or individuals can advocate for conservation. A starting point is to become knowledgeable of the Town Plan developed by the Comprehensive Long Range Planning Committee. <https://concordma.gov/1067/Comprehensive-Long-Range-Plan-Comm>

5.10. Kathy further emphasized the significance of conservation land to the character of Concord and that the committee membership has an important role in maintaining the character. Kathy suggested that the committee consider proposing town funding for completion of the BDRs listed earlier in these minutes and replacement of the Trimble with modern technology.

6. The committee's next meeting is Tues., April 23, at 3:00 pm in the first floor meeting room at 141 Keyes Rd

A motion to adjourn was made by Mary Ann and seconded by Rich. The meeting adjourned at 4:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Art Schwope