

Topsfield Conservation Commission
MINUTES FOR SEPTEMBER 7, 2011
Topsfield Library Meeting Room

Members present: George Hall, Holger Luther, Mark Erickson, Jim MacDougall, Jennie Merrill, and Lisa-Marie Cashman, Minutes Secretary
Absent: Member Cheryl Jolley and Conservation Administrator Lana Spillman

Others present: Greg Hochmuth of The Neve-Morin Group, Kate Connolly of Murtha Cullina, LLP, and Dick Gandt, BoS Liaison

7:11 p.m. Hall called the meeting into session.

DISCUSSIONS:

Continuation NoI 307-0678 : 207 & 233 Boston Street (Topsfield Fairgrounds) and 37 River Road (South Main Street frontage), (Map 57, Lots 4-1,4-2 & 7; Map 48, Lot 13; & Map 49, Lot 82), Essex Agricultural Society and Aftandilian/The Neve-Morin Group

On August 24, the public hearing had been continued to the next TCC meeting at that time, scheduled for September 14, 2011. In this discussion, TCC deliberated potential responses to the submitted Notice of Intent to implement a Conservation Plan prepared by USDA NRCS including construction of a 170 sq. ft. paved access path within 100 ft. of Bordering Vegetated Wetland, and to install gas service, install cement pads, maintain fences & paths, conduct grading, and install plantings within 200-ft. Riverfront Area at 207 & 233 Boston Street and 37 River Road (So. Main St. frontage portion) in Topsfield (Map 57, Lots 4-1, 4-2 & 7; Map 48, Lot 13; & Map 49, Lot 82). Applicants are Essex Agricultural Society (Topsfield Fairgrounds) and Ara Aftandilian.

Discussions continued among TCC members. Legal counsel Connolly and wetlands scientist Hochmuth were present for the Fairgrounds.

The question of how the two incongruous uses of parking and agricultural activities should be decided was left with unanswered questions.

The TCC asked Topsfield Fairground legal counsel if the Fair would agree to an extension of the hearing and discussions on September 14 so that a fair and accurate engineering solution could be determined after sitting down with other key players including Army Corps of Engineers, Fairground representatives and even DEP.

Legal counsel said she would ask her client to consider. Final action is to be delayed until after the Fair scheduled to begin on September 30, 2011.

Restoration Plan [EPA A.O.] for Cross Street, (Map 62, Lot 2), Nash/Wetlands and Land Management – review of proposal

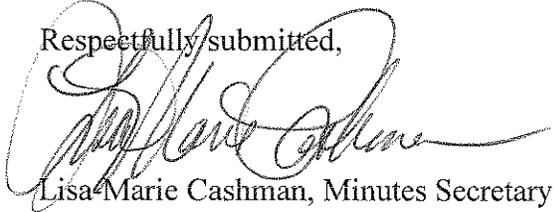
Extended discussions of the new plan by wetland scientist Bill Manuell took place amongst TCC members. Members decided they would like to see more detail, including hydrographs, since the current plan is vague and less detailed than the 2008 plan on file.

Erickson moved to adjourn the meeting.

MacDougall seconded the motion.

Meeting adjourned at 8:26 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Lisa Marie Cashman', written over the typed name below.

Lisa Marie Cashman, Minutes Secretary

Accepted at the TCC Meeting on September 28, 2011

Pursuant to the 'Open Meeting Law,' G.L. 39, § 23B, the approval of these minutes by the Commission constitutes a certification of the date, time and place of the meeting, the members present and absent, and the actions taken at the meeting. Any other description of statements made by any person, or the summary of the discussion of any matter, is included for the purpose of context only, and no certification, express or implied, is made by the Commission as to the completeness or accuracy of such statements.