

**TOWN OF HAMPDEN
MASSACHUSETTS**

Town House
625 Main Street
Hampden, MA 01036

Phone 413-566-2151 Ext. 110
Fax: 413-566-3513
e-mail conservation@hampden.org
Judith Mikkola, Clerk



Conservation Commission

Jeffrey Liquori
Judy McKinley Brewer
Patricia Cote
Bonnie Geromini
Philip Grant

Minutes approved 3/18/2009

**HAMPDEN CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEETING
February 18, 2009**

Present: Jeff Liquori, Phil Grant, Judy MckInley Brewer and Bonnie Geromini
Guest: Carmine Angeloni, Dept. of Conservation & Recreation and Jack Matthews

7:00pm – Carmine Angeloni from the Dept. of Conservation & Recreation was present to provide information regarding Forest Cutting Plans and what the Commission should be looking for. Mr. Angeloni reviewed the application for forest cutting and what the process is once it is received by them. Land owner regulations and Best Practices of Forest Management materials were given to members. The Commission has 10 business days to review plans and to reply if there any problems. Any problems identified by the Commission will stop the whole project and the Dept. will take a closer look at the plan and make any necessary changes.

7:55pm - Connie Witt came before the Commission with a proposed article for the Town meeting to establish a by-law for Scenic Roads. Ms. Witt would like the Conservation Commissions support for it. Phil Grant expressed concern for the property owner rights and their ability to cut down a tree on their own property. He would like to have something specific in the by-law that would protect the home owner's rights. Judy Brewer also stated homeowners should have the right to say they do not want their trees cut. Ms. Witt will include the following in the proposed bylaw: 1.1 Purpose -1.25 stating: Individual private property rights as to cutting down, trimming or removal of trees will in no way be violated. She will finalize the bylaw and return for the Commissions decision on support of by-law.

8:40pm – Heather Comee-NOI Highland Circle (cont.) A revised plan was presented to the Commission reflecting the changes Natural Heritage requested and the driveway changes requested by the Conservation Commission. Natural Heritage has responded in the affirmative to the new plan.

Jeff Liquori made motion to close hearing. Seconded by Bonnie Geromini. Jeff Liquori made motion to accept plan as presented with revision of 1/12/2009. Seconded by Bonnie Geromini. Motion approved.

VOTE: Yes: Jeff Liquori, Phil Grant and Bonnie Geromini. Abstained: Judy Brewer

Heather will ask owner to waive 21 day time frame for Order of Conditions which will be voted on at the next meeting. Heather Comee will send approval back to the Conservation Commission.

Minutes of the January meeting were read and accepted. Phil Grant made motion to accept minutes. Seconded by Jeff Liquori. Motion approved.

Level funded and 5% decrease budgets were approved and will be submitted to the Advisory Board.

Meeting adjourned at 9:15.

Respectfully submitted,

Judith Mikkola, Clerk