

Department of Planning and Community Development

90 Pond Street
Braintree, MA 02184
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Mayor Joseph C. Sullivan

Braintree Conservation Commission

Patrick Flynn, Chair
Donald Murphy, Vice-Chair
Diane Francis
Matthew Hobin
Daniel J. McMorrow, Jr.
Gail Poliner-Feldman
Alan Weinberg

Staff Kelly Phelan

CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2013

Present: Patrick Flynn, Chair; Gail Feldman, Diane Francis, Matthew Hobin, Gus Murphy, & Kelly Phelan, Staff

Absent: Daniel McMorrow, Alan Weinberg

APPROVED

Public Hearings

None

Other Business

75 & 80 Oregon Ave. –No-disturb boundary markers

Staff explained that the boundary markers required to be installed on the five lots covered under the amended Order of Conditions 8-578, have not been installed at # 75 or #80 Oregon Ave. Staff sent both property owners a letter in early November to request they be installed by December 7th. Both owners responded to say they were having the survey company come out to stake the location but neither had completed the actual installation.

In light of the winter conditions and potential for freezing ground, the Commission extended the deadline for installation to the spring (April 1st). Staff will send letters to convey this information and notify them that if the installation is not done by that date, daily fines will begin to accrue.

Eaton's Pond Area Discussion

Staff gave the Commission an update on Eaton's Pond area. The conservation ranger was joined by a Braintree police officer to determine if the people camping in the area had left. They encountered three people still living there. The officer advised the people to contact Father Bill's or family

members as they are not allowed to camp on the conservation land. The officer will return to verify that the people have left.

Staff contacted the Sheriff's Department to ask for assistance in cleaning up the dump sites and received a positive response but no definite commitment yet.

Once the site is cleaned up, the Commission and Town need to ensure a regular presence to prevent the situation from reoccurring. This may include regular ranger patrols, requesting assistance from Braintree Police Dept., continuing to support New England Mountain Bike Association efforts to ride in the area and formalizing an entrance location for the public.

Mr. Flynn and staff will meet with Mayor Sullivan to discuss a long-term strategy.

River Access Discussion

Staff said she was getting quotes for the design of a kayak launch on the Monatiquot River at the Union St. site. She expects to have quotes at the January meeting for the Commission to consider.

This led to a discussion of various other passive recreational opportunities in Braintree. Mr. Flynn suggested that a publication providing information on these opportunities would be informative for residents. Mr. Flynn and staff will raise this with Mayor Sullivan.

Conflict of Interest Law

Commission members received a summary of the conflict of interest law and instructions for the online training. Staff provided forms for the members to acknowledge receipt. These will be returned to the Town Clerk.

Approval of Minutes

Motion by Mr. Murphy, second by Ms. Feldman, to approve the November 7th minutes. Vote: 5-0.

Adjourn

Motion by Mr. Murphy, second by Mr. Hobin, to adjourn the meeting at 8:12 pm. Vote: 5-0.