TOWN OF HARVARD CONSERVATION COMMISSION AGENDA THURSDAY FEBRUARY 15, 2024 @7:00PM

Pursuant to Chapter 2 of the Acts of 2023, an Act Making Appropriations for the Fiscal Year 2023 to Provide for Supplementing Certain Existing Appropriations and for Certain Other Activities and Projects, and signed into law on March 29, 2023, this meeting will be conducted via remote participation. Interested individuals can listen in and participate by phone and/or online by following the link and phone number below

THVolGovt Pro is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Conservation Commission

Time: Feb 15, 2024 07:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85951726569?pwd=cnhCY0xxN3V3ak9QSmpyellLMXdkZz09

Meeting ID: 859 5172 6569

Passcode: 924030 One tap mobile

+13126266799, 85951726569# US (Chicago)

+16469313860, 85951726569# US

Dial by your location

• +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

• +1 646 931 3860 US

• +1 929 436 2866 US (New York) Meeting ID: 859 5172 6569

Find your local number: https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kcRyvzLbj9

Public Hearings:

- 7:02pm Continuation of a Notice of Intent Hearing Shakers' Quarry Property Owner's Association, Inc., Stonecutters Path and Quarry Lane, Harvard#0124-01, for the grinding and removal of existing asphalt, repairs to gravel base, and resurfacing the roadways, and the replacement of an 18" culvert and reforming portions of the existing open channel drainage system within the 100' wetland buffer zone- Waiver Requested
- 7:20pm Request to Amend & Extend the Order of Conditions Hearing -Kevin O'Malley, 8 Wilroy Ave, DEP#177-674, Harvard#0119-01, to include the installation of a potable drinking water well within the 200' wetland buffer zone of Bare Hill Pond
- 7:35pm Notice of Intent Hearing Paul Cavicchio, 39 Turner Lane, Harvard#0124-02, for the addition of a mudroom, shower, and deck within the 200' wetland buffer zone of Bare Hill Pond
- 7:55pm Notice of Intent Hearing CSX Transportation, Inc., CSXT Railway Right-of-Way at Route 2,

 Harvard#0124-03, for improvements to the existing bridge clearance within the 100' wetland buffer zone Waiver Requested

New Business:

- 1. Informal Review with Ross Associates, Inc. for Proposed Site Improvements at 10 Houghton Land
- 2. Request for Certificates of Compliances 8 Wilroy Avenue, DEP#177-487 and 641

Old Business:

- 1. Update on Enforcement Order at 351 Ayer Road
- 2. Status Report Pine Hill Village, DEP#177-586
- 3. Status Report 90 Warren Ave, DEP#177-719, Harvard#1122-02

Standard Business:

- 1. Updates from Representatives & Liaison
- 2. Updates from the Conservation Agent

The listing of matters are those reasonably anticipated by the chair which may be discussed at the meeting. Not all items listed may in fact be discussed and other items not listed may also be brought up for discussion to the extent permitted by law.

- Recording Secretary
- The Community Conference Information
- Merrimack Restoration Partnership meeting
- MCA Land Protection Workshop
- 3. Approve Minutes
- 4. Approve Invoices

NEXT MEETING: MARCH 7, 2024

AS

RE: 02/15/2024 ConCom Legal Notices

bruceleicher@aol.com <bru>eleicher@aol.com>

Mon 02/05/24 8:33 PM

To:Liz Allard <lallard@harvard-ma.gov> Cc:Bruce A. Leicher <bruceleicher@aol.com>

Liz, We will not have a meeting of the Bare Hill Pond Committee prior to Feb 15, however, I do not believe the Committee would have any comments beyond asking the Conservation Commission to ensure that appropriate safeguards are in place to protect the Pond during the proposed work in the buffer zone. Each appears to be required by the BOH and would seme appropriate to me.

Bruce Leicher Chair, BHPWMC

From: Liz Allard < lallard@harvard-ma.gov> Sent: Monday, February 5, 2024 8:38 AM

Andrew Sammarco <asammarco@harvard-ma.gov>

Subject: 02/15/2024 ConCom Legal Notices

Good morning,

Attached please find 3 legal notices for the February 15th meeting of the Conservation Commission. Full application and site plans can be viewed <u>here</u>. Please provide any comments no later than noon on Tuesday February 13th. Thank you

PLEASE NOTE: The Land Use Office and the Building Department have moved to the Hildreth House located at the end of the access driveway behind Town Hall. In addition, my extension has changed to 421. Our mailing address remains the same, as indicated below. Thank you

Liz Allard
Conservation Agent
Town of Harvard
13 Ayer Road
Harvard, MA 01451
978-456-4100 ext. 421

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts Secretary of State has determined that e-mail is a public record. Privacy should not be expected.

R:\Proj Civil3D 2015\34424 CUSHING\DWG\34424-CUSHING-CONCEPTUAL-REV..dwg, 2/1/2024 9:24:12 AM, HP DesignJet T930ps V4

1 HARVARD CONSERVATION COMMISSION 2 MINUTES OF MEETING 3 **FEBRUARY 1, 2024** 4 5 Chair Eve Wittenberg called the meeting to order at 7:00pm, virtually, pursuant to Chapter 2 of the Acts 6 of 2023, An Act Relative to Extending Certain COVID-19 measures adopted during the State of Emergency, 7 and signed into law on March 29, 2023, under MGL Chapter 131 §40 Wetland Protection Act and Code of 8 the Town of Harvard Chapter 119 Wetland Protection Bylaw. 9 10 Members Present: Eve Wittenberg, Don Ritchie, Jaye Waldron, Joanne Ward (departed the meeting at 11 7:54pm), Mark Shaw, Jessie Panek, and John Lee (Associate Member) 12 13 Others Present: Liz Allard (Conservation Agent), Walter Eriksen (Juno Development), Bruce Ringwall (GPR, 14 Inc.), Alison Dery, Bruce Leicher (Bare Hill Pond Watershed Management Committee), Dan Wolfe (Ross 15 Associates, Inc.), Kery Shrives (Bare Hill Pond Watershed Management Committee), Jim Patierno, Robert 16 Marhefka and Mark O'Hagan (Craftsman Village Harvard) 17 18 Request to Amend the Order of Conditions Hearing - Bare Hill Pond Watershed Management 19 Committee, DEP#177-726, Harvard#0523-03. Opened at 7:04pm 20 21 Act on Bare Hill Pond Watershed Management Committee Community Preservation Committee 22 **Application - VFD Drive Capital Purchase** 23 This application has been withdrawn as the Select Board has obtained another funding source, therefore 24 there was no need to discuss this item. 25 26 Act on Harvard Conservation Trust Request for New Moon Walk at Barba's Point, February 9, 2024 27 Mark Shaw made a motion to approve the use of Barba's Point by the Harvard Conservation Trust on 28 February 9th for a new moon walk, including the use a small portable fire pit. Jessie Panek seconded the 29 motion. The vote was unanimously in favor of the motion by a roll call, Don Ritchie, aye; Jaye Waldron, 30 aye; Joanne Ward, aye; Mark Shaw, aye; and Jessie Panek, aye. 31 32 Notice of Intent Hearing - Shakers' Quarry Property Owner's Association, Inc., Stonecutters Path and 33 Quarry Lane, Harvard#0124-01. Opened at 7:10pm. 34 35 Allocation of Funding for the MACC Annual Environmental Conference, March 2, 2024 36 Don Ritchie made a motion to approve the allocation of up to \$700 for members to attend the 2024 37 MACC Annual Environmental Conference. Mark Shaw seconded the motion. The vote was unanimously in 38 favor of the motion by a roll call, Don Ritchie, aye; Jaye Waldron, aye; Joanne Ward, aye; Mark Shaw, aye; 39 and Jessie Panek, aye. 40 41 Request for Judges for the 2024 Science Fair, March 24, 2024 1:30pm - 3:30pm 42 John Lee and Joanne Ward volunteered to participate in the judging of this event. 43 44 Zoning Board of Appeal Peer Review of Craftsman Village Harvard – Review & Comment 45 After a review of the status of the site at Craftsman Village Harvard the members agreed a letter would be 46 sent to the Zoning Board of Appeals outlining the outstanding items associated with the Order of 47 Conditions, that would be addressed as weather permits, request funds be held in escrow to cover the 48 cost of those items should the applicant fail to be compliant and recommend the release of the final unit 49 on the property.

50 51

52

53

Continuation of a Request to Amend the Order of Conditions Hearing - Bare Hill Pond Watershed

Management Committee, DEP#177-726, Harvard#0523-03. Opened at 7:33pm

Continuation of a Notice of Intent Hearing – Travis Dery, 62 Old Littleton Road, DEP#177-729, Harvard#1023-01. Opened at 7:40pm

Approve Minutes

Jaye Waldron made a motion to approve the minutes of October 5, 2023 as amended. Jessie Panek seconded the motion. The vote was unanimously in favor of the motion by a roll call, Don Ritchie, aye; Jaye Waldron, aye; Joanne Ward, aye; Mark Shaw, aye; and Jessie Panek, aye.

Approve Invoice

There were no invoices for approval.

Review Craftsman Village Harvard Plan to Manage Invasive Plants

After concerns with the plan as shown and the activity to be conducted, Jessie Pank made a motion to accept the Invasive Control Plan for Craftsman Village Harvard LLC prepared by Oxbow Associate, Inc., dated October 13, 2023. Don Ritchie seconded the motion. The vote was unanimously in favor of the motion by a roll call, Don Ritchie, aye; Jaye Waldron, aye; Mark Shaw, aye; and Jessie Panek, aye.

Continuation of a Notice of Intent Hearing – Juno Construction LLC, Ayer & Old Mill Roads, (Map 4 Parcels 52, 52.1, 52.2 & 53), DEP#177-733, Harvard#0923-01. Opened at 8:00pm

Update on Wetland Violation at 351 Ayer Road

The Commission reviewed the following time line of events on the property:

- October 5, 2021 Enforcement Order issued for removal of natural vegetation and the addition of fill; file restoration plan by November 5, 2021
- November 9, 2021 Follow up letter on Enforcement Order violation for not complying by November 5, 2021
- December 20, 2021 Evaluation from Matt Marro
- January 6, 2022 Meet with Marr Marro who agreed to file an NOI
- January 27, 2022 Follow up letter sent to the property owner pertaining to the filing of an NOI no later than March 3, 2022

After a brief discussion, Don Ritchie made a motion requesting the Conservation Agent issue another Enforcement Order, post a Cease & Desist Order at the site on Monday and have a constable deliver the Enforcement Order to the property owner's address. Jaye Waldron seconded the motion. The vote was unanimously in favor of the motion by a roll call, Don Ritchie, aye; Jaye Waldron, aye; Mark Shaw, aye; and Jessie Panek, aye.

Status Report Pine Hill Village, DEP#177-586

Four of the six foundation have been installed with the three of the houses underway. Muddy water is accumulating at the toe of the slope, but not making its way past the siltation barrier. Snow storage was observed in the area between units 1 and 3 in the Pine Bank neighborhood, which is not allowed. Peter Cricones was notified and sent he apology to the Commission, citing a new contractor is being utilized this season. Mr. Cricones will follow up with the contractor.

Status Report 90 Warren Ave, DEP#177-719, Harvard#1122-02

The activity at this location continues to be mainly focused on the structure itself. Activity to install the bridge will begin once the weather warms.

Updates from Representatives & Liaison

Community Preservation Committee – The Committee is considering the re-opening the request for FY2025 funding as there are funds still available. However, the timing to meet all of the requirements to

105 106 107	do so may not work out. It is recommended that the Commission reapply for additional funding should the applications be re-opened.
108 109	Land Stewardship Subcommittee (LSS) – No update was available
110 111 112	<i>Open Space Committee</i> – Will be meeting on February 8 th with the intent of finalizing the Open Space & Recreation Plan
113 114 115	<i>Deer Management Subcommittee (DMS)</i> – The report for the 2023 season is being drafted with a tentative date of March 7 th to report out the Commission.
116 117 118 119 120	Harvard Climate Initiative Committee — A grant application from the Nashua River Wild & Scenic Stewardship Council is being drafted to obtain funding for invasive plant public outreach, which is an action item assigned to the Commission under the Climate Action Plan. The draft application will be acted on by the Commission at the March 7 th meeting.
120	Adjournment
122 123 124 125	Mark Shaw made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:00pm. Jessie Panek seconded the motion. The vote was unanimously in favor of the motion by a roll call, Don Ritchie, aye; Jaye Waldron, aye; Mark Shaw, aye; and Jessie Panek, aye.
123 126 127	Respectfully submitted,
128 129 130 131	Liz Allard, Conservation Agent
131	EXHIBITS & OTHER DOCUMENTS
133	Conservation Commission Agenda, dated February 1, 2024
134	As-built Review "Craftsman Village Harvard" 361 Ayer Road, Harvard, MA prepared for the
135 136 137	 Harvard Zoning Board of Appeals, prepared by Dillis & Roy Civil Design Group, January 12, 2024 2021 Orthophotograph Craftsman Village Invasive Control Ayer Road Harvard, MA, prepared by Oxbow Associates, Inc., December 28, 2023
138 139	Draft Order of Conditions The Village at Robin Lane Harvard, DEP#177-733, Harvard#0923-01
140 141	
142 143	
144	
145	
146	
147	
148	
149	
150	
151	
152	
153	
154	
155 156	

Harvard Conservation Commission Request to Amend the Order of Conditions Hearing Meeting Minutes Bare Hill Pond Watershed Management Committee, DEP#177-726, Harvard#0523-03 February 1, 2024 The public hearing was opened at 7:04pm by Chair Eve Wittenberg under MGL Chapter 131 §40 Wetland Protection Act and the Code of the Town of Harvard Chapter 119 Wetland Protection Bylaw virtually, pursuant to Chapter 2 of the Acts of 2023, An Act Relative to Extending Certain COVID-19 measures adopted during the State of Emergency, and signed into law on March 29, 2023. Members Present: Eve Wittenberg, Don Ritchie, Jaye Waldron, Joanne Ward, Mark Shaw, and John Lee (Associate Member) Others Present: Liz Allard (Conservation Agent) This hearing is a Request to Amend the Order of Conditions filed by Bare Hill Pond Watershed Management Committee, DEP#177-726, Harvard#0523-03 to limit the Order to three years and set the start date of the annual draw down of Bare Hill Pond as October 1st. At the request of the applicant, Bruce Leicher, Jaye Waldron made a motion continue this hearing to 7:35pm this evening. Don Ritchie seconded the motion. The vote was unanimously in favor of the motion by a roll call, Don Ritchie, aye; Jaye Waldron, aye; Joanne Ward, aye; Mark Shaw, aye; and Jessie Panek, Respectfully submitted, Liz Allard, **Conservation Agent**

Harvard Conservation Commission Notice of Intent Hearing Meeting Minutes Shakers' Quarry Property Owner's Association, Inc., Stonecutters Path and Quarry Lane, Harvard#0124-01 February 1, 2024 The public hearing was opened at 7:10pm by Chair Eve Wittenberg under MGL Chapter 131 §40 Wetland Protection Act and the Code of the Town of Harvard Chapter 119 Wetland Protection Bylaw virtually, pursuant to Chapter 2 of the Acts of 2023, An Act Relative to Extending Certain COVID-19 measures adopted during the State of Emergency, and signed into law on March 29, 2023. Members Present: Eve Wittenberg, Don Ritchie, Jaye Waldron, Joanne Ward, Mark Shaw, Jessie Panek and John Lee (Associate Member) Others Present: Liz Allard (Conservation Agent) and Dan Wolfe (Ross Associates, Inc.) This hearing is for a Notice of Intent filed on behalf of Shakers' Quarry Property Owner's Association, Inc., Harvard#0124-01, for the grinding and removal of existing asphalt, repairs to gravel base, and resurfacing the roadways, and the replacement of an 18" culvert and reforming portions of the existing open channel drainage system within the 100' wetland buffer zone on Stonecutters Path and Quarry Lane, Harvard. Dan Wolfe, of Ros Associates, representing the homeowner's association (HOA), stated the application encompasses work on both Quarry Lane and Stonecutters Path. The HOA is responsible for the maintenance and upkeep of the roadways as they are private roads in the Town of Harvard. Work associated with the grinding, removal of the existing roadway and repairs to base where appropriate, are within portions of the 100' wetland buffer zone. There are open drains along roadways that need touch up and reforming. In addition, the existing culvert across Stonecutter's Path is in need of replacement, which is a one-day job. The grinding and paving is a much bigger job and will be subject to the contractors schedule. As discussed on the site visit, Mr. Wolfe has added rip rap on the inlet of the culvert that crosses Quarry Lane. Without a Department of Environmental Protection File Number, Jessie Panek made a motion to continue this hearing to February 15, 2024 at 7:02pm. Joanne Ward seconded the motion. The vote was unanimously in favor of the motion by a roll call, Don Ritchie, aye; Jaye Waldron, aye; Joanne Ward, aye; Mark Shaw, aye; and Jessie Panek, aye. Respectfully submitted, Liz Allard, **Conservation Agent**

Harvard Conservation Commission Continuation of a Request to Amend the Order of Conditions Hearing Meeting Minutes Bare Hill Pond Watershed Management Committee, DEP#177-726, Harvard#0523-03 February 1, 2024 The public hearing was opened at 7:33pm by Chair Eve Wittenberg under MGL Chapter 131 §40 Wetland Protection Act and the Code of the Town of Harvard Chapter 119 Wetland Protection Bylaw virtually, pursuant to Chapter 2 of the Acts of 2023, An Act Relative to Extending Certain COVID-19 measures adopted during the State of Emergency, and signed into law on March 29, 2023. Members Present: Eve Wittenberg, Don Ritchie, Jaye Waldron, Joanne Ward, Mark Shaw, and John Lee (Associate Member) Others Present: Liz Allard (Conservation Agent), Bruce Leicher (Bare Hill Pond Watershed Management Committee), and Kerry Shrives (Bare Hill Pond Watershed Management Committee) This hearing was continued from 7:04pm this evening on a Request to Amend the Order of Conditions filed by Bare Hill Pond Watershed Management Committee, DEP#177-726, Harvard#0523-03 to limit the Order to three years and set the start date of the annual draw down of Bare Hill Pond as October 1st. Bruce Leicher, chair of the Bare Hill Pond Watershed Management Committee (BJPWMC), updated the Commission on a recent meeting with Judith Schmitz, from the Department of Environmental Protection, pertaining to her appeal of the Order of Conditions issued by the Commission last September. After reviewing extensive material provided by BHPWMC and visiting Bare Hill Pond, which included a tour of the pond with Wendy Gendron, of Aquatic Control Restoration, Inc., Ms. Schmitz has indicated she would withdraw her appeal if the Order of Conditions was amended to reflect an October 1st start date of the draw down and the Order itself was limited to three years only. The thought of limiting the Order to three years is that within that time the Division of Fish & Wildlife (DFW) will have an opportunity to provide better clarification to their position on drawdowns across the State and provide BHPWMC time to pursue different methods of conducting the drawdowns that would align with the goals of DFW. Don Ritchie made a motion approve the amendment to the Order of Conditions as requested. Jaye Waldron seconded the motion. The vote was unanimously in favor of the motion by a roll call, Don Ritchie, aye; Jaye Waldron, aye; Joanne Ward, aye; Mark Shaw, aye; and Jessie Panek, aye. Respectfully submitted, Liz Allard, **Conservation Agent**

Harvard Conservation Commission Continuation of a Notice of Intent Hearing Meeting Minutes Travis Dery, 62 Old Littleton Road, DEP#177-729, Harvard#1023-01 February 1, 2024 The public hearing was opened at 7:40pm by Chair Eve Wittenberg under MGL Chapter 131 §40 Wetland Protection Act and the Code of the Town of Harvard Chapter 119 Wetland Protection Bylaw virtually, pursuant to Chapter 2 of the Acts of 2023, An Act Relative to Extending Certain COVID-19 measures adopted during the State of Emergency, and signed into law on March 29, 2023. Members Present: Eve Wittenberg, Don Ritchie, Jaye Waldron, Joanne Ward, Mark Shaw, Jessie Panek, and John Lee (Associate Member) Others Present: Liz Allard (Conservation Agent), Bruce Ringwall (GPR, Inc.), and Alison Dery This hearing was continued from January 18, 2024 for a Notice of Intent filed by Travis Dery for the installation of a pool within the 100' wetland buffer zone at 62 Old Littleton Road, Harvard. Bruce Ringwall, of GPR, Inc., were able to work with applicant and pool designers to shift everything over to move everything outside the 75' wetland buffer zone. By doing so grading has shifted into the hillside and the downgradient slope has been adjusted slightly. With all other concerns with the plan addressed at the previous meeting, Eve Wittenberg called for a motion. Don Ritchie made a motion to close the hearing and issue an Order of Conditions with the standard special conditions. Jessie Panek seconded the motion. The vote was unanimously in favor of the motion by a roll call, Don Ritchie, aye; Jaye Waldron, aye; Joanne Ward, aye; Mark Shaw, aye; and Jessie Panek, aye. Respectfully submitted, Liz Allard, **Conservation Agent**

368 369 Harvard Conservation Commission 370 **Continuation of a Notice of Intent Hearing Meeting Minutes** 371 Juno Construction LLC, Ayer & Old Mill Roads, (Map 4 Parcels 52, 52.1, 52.2 & 53), 372 DEP#177-733, Harvard#0923-01 373 February 1, 2024 374 375 The public hearing was opened at 8:00pm by Chair Eve Wittenberg under MGL Chapter 131 §40 Wetland 376 Protection Act and the Code of the Town of Harvard Chapter 119 Wetland Protection Bylaw virtually, 377 pursuant to Chapter 2 of the Acts of 2023, An Act Relative to Extending Certain COVID-19 measures 378 adopted during the State of Emergency, and signed into law on March 29, 2023. 379 380 Members Present: Eve Wittenberg, Don Ritchie, Jaye Waldron, Mark Shaw, Jessie Panek and John Lee 381 (Associate Member) 382 383 Others Present: Liz Allard (Conservation Agent), Walter Eriksen (Juno Development), and Bruce Ringwall 384 (GPR, Inc.) 385 386 This hearing was continued from January 18, 2024 for a Notice of Intent filed on behalf of Juno 387 Construction LLC for the construction of one duplex unit, deck, drainage, public water supply wells, tree 388 clearing, grading, and associated utilities within the 100' wetland buffer zone and the 200' riverfront area 389 on Ayer & Old Mill Roads, (Map 4 Parcels 52, 52.1, 52.2 & 53), Harvard. 390 391 The Commission, Bruce Ringwall, of GPR, Inc., and Walter Ericksen, from Juno Development, reviewed the 392 final outstanding items within the special conditions for the Order of Conditions, including agreeing upon 393 the final number of plants to installed on the slope of the detention basin, that being 45 plants. 394 395 Don Ritchie made a motion to close the hearing and issue an Order of Conditions to include the Special 396 Conditions, page 8a -8i, as revised this evening. Mark Shaw seconded the motion. The vote was 397 unanimously in favor of the motion by a roll call, Don Ritchie, aye; Jaye Waldron, aye; Mark Shaw, aye; 398 and Jessie Panek, aye. 399 400 Respectfully submitted, 401 402 403 Liz Allard, 404 **Conservation Agent**