



## TOWN OF BOXBOROUGH NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING Meeting Minutes

Conservation Commission  
August 18, 2021  
7:30 PM  
Grange Hall, Boxborough Town Hall, 29 Middle Road

Approved: Sept. 1, 2021

Members Present: Dennis Reip (Chair), Dave Follett, Norm Hanover, David Koonce, Liz Markiewicz, Steve Schmitt, and Hoff Stuart

At 7:36 PM, Dennis called the meeting to order.

Motion was made by Dennis, seconded by Norm and voted unanimously to approve the minutes of Aug, 4, 2021 as amended.

### Correspondence

By email, Anastasia Bruner, Cadette Girl Scout, proposed her community service Silver Award project. Anastasia developed a series of trail guides for use by the Town of Boxborough. The Commission reviewed several of these and was extremely impressed with both their content and professional presentation. Anastasia's vision is to include these on the town website. Integration into the website will be challenging as similar content already exists. A number of ideas were discussed including laminated versions at the trail head, blogs, etc. Liz Markiewicz agreed to follow up with Anastasia to develop a plan that best utilizes her effort.

Motion was made by Dennis, seconded by David Follett and voted unanimously to delegate the authority of the Commission to Liz Markiewicz to engage with Anastasia to implement her project.

By email the Animal Control Officer informed the Commission of a complaint at Steele Farm. The Commission reviewed this as information. No Commission action is required. The Commission noted this is an enforcement issue to be handled by the Police Department and Animal Control Officer. Any interest in leash laws should be brought to the attention of the Boxborough Select Board.

### Land Stewardship Committee (LanSCom)

Rita Grossman of the Boxborough Conservation Trust (BCT) requested the Commission's help in repairing the esker access trail on the property they own containing the esker. The following key points were made.

1. The current trail is located on land owned by the State of Massachusetts and the town has no specific easement or right-of-way.
2. The walkways, built in the 1980s, are extensive and rotting. Repairing these is considerable effort and cost.
3. The access trail is extremely overgrown with both natural vegetation and invasives.

The Commission decided the following:

The trail is not within their jurisdiction as the town does not own the land or easement  
The resources required to maintain this trail are better used on other LanSCom projects.

Norm and Liz will draft a letter to the BCT stating the Commission's position.

#### Consideration of Parcel Donation 595 Depot Road

The Commission discussed the donation. They will assume the cost of legal fees related to the typical due diligence and transaction documentation needed. The costs will be paid from the Commission's Conservation trust Fund (CTF). The Commission agreed with the need for typical title search/review, but do not think there is any need for an environmental report given our local knowledge of the site.

Motion was made by Dennis, seconded by Norm and voted unanimously to accept the donation of 595 Depot Road made by property owner Roger Kanniard and to assume the cost of the associated legal fees.

#### Enforcement Orders and possible Violations

313 Mass Avenue: "as-built" being revised

650/674 Mass Avenue: awaiting filing from property owner

199 Middle Road: awaiting property access

Norm expressed concern that the Harvard Sportsman Club is altering land under jurisdiction in Boxborough. Committee members agreed to review image history of the property and will revisit this topic at the next meeting.

At 8:50 PM, motion was made by Hoff, seconded by Dennis, and voted unanimously to adjourn.

#### Documents used during this meeting:

Agenda

Draft Minutes Aug. 4, 2021

Correspondence