

Natick Conservation Commission
January 2, 2020

The Meeting was called to order at 7:00 by Chairman, Matt Gardner. Members present: Doug Shepard, George Bain, Mike Downey, Jeff Richards, MK Schneeweis

Natick Organic Farm

Continued to January 16th meeting.

SuAsCo Cisma

Marianne Iarossi described the SuASCO Cisma small grant opportunity. Sapphire berry was recently discovered in the Town Forest which is an invasive species that is not relatively known in the area and should be controlled as soon as possible. The \$3,000 grant would allow the Conservation Commission to (working with the Native Plant Trust) create an invasive species management plan for the Town Forest with a focus on sapphire berry, cork tree, and others. In order to be eligible, the Conservation Commission needs to be a Cisma partner and sign an MOU.

The town can be eligible yearly for grant money to implement the plan. Conservation Commission could consider contributing funds to these efforts also.

Mr. Gardner asked for a motion to be authorized to sign the Cisma MOU, George Bain moved, Doug Shepard seconded, all in favor 6-0.

Town Forest – update

Marianne stated residents complained of illegal ATV activity in the Town Forest. Further investigation demonstrated a pick-up truck was stolen from Sherborn and lit on fire in the Town Forest. A slope is really damaged and some trees destroyed. A lot of debris left that needs clearing. Marianne emailed the Fire Department for more information; has not heard back yet.

Matt Gardner suggested to get police involved as it's a criminal act on town property. Marianne will keep Commission posted.

Notice of intent continuation – DEP 233-825 – 45 Mill Street

Mr. Gardner asked for a motion to continue to January 16th, Doug Shepard moved, Jeff Richards seconded, all in favor 6-0.

Notice of Intent continuation – 233-830 – DPW General Maintenance

Marianne provided a DEP number that had not been issued previously.

Mr. Gardner asked for a motion to close, George Bain moved, Mike Downey seconded, all in favor 6-0.

Mr. Gardner asked for a motion to issue the standard Order of Conditions (as issued previously), Doug Shepard moved, Jeff Richards seconded, all in favor 6-0.

Minutes

November 6th

November 20th

Matt Gardner asked for a motion to accept the above minutes, Mike Downey moved, George Bain seconded, all in favor 4-2-0.

Discussion – Dog Park

George Bain was at dog park site. 2-3 large logs were lying there and he was wondering if someone is planning to build benches similar to the ones built for the Town Forest. Matt Gardner agreed and suggested it as an Eagle Scout project; as two scouts from Troop 7 were looking for projects.

Another project is a kiosk at the Marion Street exit.

Meeting adjourned 8:15.