

**Carlisle Conservation Commission**  
**February 10, 2011**

Pursuant to the notice filed with the Town Clerk, Chair Elect Burn called the meeting to order in the Clark Room at the Town Hall at 7:40 p.m. Also present were Commissioners Luke Ascolillo, Tom Brownrigg and Jen Bush, and Conservation Administrator Sylvia Willard. Chair Kelly Guarino and Member Debra Kimbrell Anderson were not present.

**Bills, General Agenda Items, Minutes and New Business:**

**FEMA Meeting:** Willard reported having attended the recent Risk Mapping, Assessment, and Planning Discovery meeting held by the Department of Homeland Security's Federal Management Agency for the Concord River Watershed Study. The meetings were conducted in order for Concord Watershed communities and interested agencies to learn about the Risk MAP program, review details of the Concord River Watershed Study, discuss mitigation planning, and identify flood risks within the watershed. They are requesting additional information from community representatives relative to areas of recent development, change or repetitive flooding by June 6, 2011.

**Mannis Land Updates:**

**Conservation Land Violations:** Willard reporting having received an office visit from one of the abutters to the Mannis Land. The resident acknowledged having received the Commission's letter that had been sent to all abutters informing them of the Commission's intention to discuss several potential conservation land violations. The abutter explained to Willard that she did not realize she had located ornamental plantings on town owned land and offered her cooperation and assistance as the process moves forward.

**Request for Quotes:** Willard reported having contacted two additional firms for estimates for the survey work on the Mannis Land as required under the Uniform Procurement Act for projects estimated to cost over \$5,000.

**Benfield Farms Update:** The Commission had recently been copied on a revised Plan submitted by Meridian Associates in response to the DEP's request that the wetland line delineation for the isolated wetland delineated by the WF AA series of flags located near South Street be re-verified using soils data. The DEP had requested the verification of the delineations in response to an appeal to the Commission's previous determination that the area in question is an isolated pocket wetland and therefore not subject to additional regulations. A culvert is planned for the driveway at this site, connecting the now isolated wetland with the Bordering Vegetated Wetland.

**8:00 p.m. Conservation Land Guidelines:** Land Stewardship Committee Chair Liz Carpenter and member Warren Lyman presented the recently completed document *Carlisle's Conservation Land: Guidelines for Use* for the Commission's review. Carpenter explained that the need for such a reference tool became apparent when the Commission began receiving an increasing number of requests for new uses of conservation lands during the summer of 2009. There had also been a steady increase in the number of individuals interested in obtaining the limited number of three-year agricultural licenses.

With the Commission's support, a subcommittee was formed. Members included Carpenter, along with fellow LSC members Warren Lyman, Dwight DeMay, Elizabeth Loutrel and ConsCom members Tom

Brownrigg and Tricia Smith. Carpenter noted that Willard had provided a tremendous amount of assistance to the group during the process, most of which was done on her own personal time.

The document is organized into three main sections, including “Purpose and Goals”; “Carlisle Conservation Parcels: Background and Existing Conditions”; “Guidance for Decisions on Future Proposed Uses”. The Commission expressed their deep appreciation for their efforts.

**8:15 p.m. (DOA-284) Request for Determination**

**Applicant: Brendon Nunan**

**Project Location: 854 Maple Street**

**Project Description: installation of a hiking trail from Church Street to a trail to Banta Davis Field with work within the 100-foot Buffer Zone of a Bordering Vegetated Wetland and the 200-foot Riverfront Area**

Burn opened the meeting under the provisions of the Wetlands Protection Act and the Carlisle Wetlands Protection Bylaw. Eagle Scout candidate Brendon Nunan was present to discuss his proposal to construct a hiking trail that runs parallel to Green Cemetery and connects from Church Street to the existing Banta Davis Trail. He is proposing the trail because the boardwalk at the beginning of the Banta Davis trail is often flooded and therefore inaccessible to runners and walkers. He has spoken with the Carlisle Public Schools (CPS) cross-country coach who said the team would be interested in using the trail for training purposes. The proposed 1,200-foot long by 6-foot wide trail has been flagged whereby it avoids trees and large rocks, is relatively flat, and has been located as far from wetlands as possible. Nunan will oversee the clearing and trail construction process to be undertaken by Scouts and volunteers. The project does not require the use of any heavy equipment or excavation activity. They would employ the “Leave No Trace” policy during the process in order to leave the project area as they found it. The proposal has received approval from the Trails Committee. Because the project is located on municipal land, the discussion was continued to February 24, 2011 at 7:45 p.m. pending BOS approval.

**8:30 p.m. (DOA- 283)**

**Applicant: Peter Burn**

**Project Location: 223 Partridge Lane**

**Project Description: Removal of four white pine trees from the 100-foot Buffer Zone**

Chair Elect Burn recused himself as he was the applicant for the project. Brownrigg opened the meeting under the provisions of the Wetlands Protection Act and the Carlisle Wetlands Protection Act. It was noted that a vote could not be taken until such time when a quorum could be reached.

Burn stated he had submitted the filing subsequent to receiving a letter from his neighbor expressing concern with the close proximity of several tall trees to his home, causing a safety hazard to his family and his home. The trees proposed for removal are located on or near the Burn’s property line. Burn stated that this would not have been his initiative and that he agreed to give the proposal consideration to help alleviate some of his neighbors’ concerns. The removal would be undertaken using a crane that will be staged in the abutter’s driveway. The meeting was continued to February 24, 2011 at 7:45 p.m.

**8:40 p.m. Spalding Field to Banta Davis Boardwalk:** Rick Amodei of the Carlisle Recreation Commission was present for an informal discussion relative to a proposal to replace the existing Banta Davis boardwalk. He said he had discussed the project with members of the Trails Committee, who have

admittedly wanted to replace the boardwalk for quite some time but have been unable to do so due to a lack of funding. Amodei said he had received positive feedback from Community Preservation Committee (CPC) relative to the possibility of funding, although removal of the existing boardwalk would not qualify, as it does not meet CPC requirements. They will likely submit a separate NOI filing for the removal once they determine an alternate source of funding, to be followed by a NOI for the construction of the boardwalk.

**9:10 p.m.** *Brownrigg moved to adjourn, Bush seconded and all voted in favor.*

Respectfully submitted,  
Mary Hopkins  
Administrative Assistant