

07-23-24 Savoy Con Com Meeting Minutes

IN ATTENDANCE:

Savoy Con Com Members: Dan Harris, April LeSage, Cosmo LaViola

Others: Richard Luczynski, Kathleen Luczynski, Emily Stockman, Joseph Burke, Melanie Glynn, Jazzmyn Tulloch, Julie Pavia, Brenda Smith, Andre-anne Chenaille, Gerry Bergeron

Dan Harris made a motion to start the meeting.

- Seconded by April LeSage.
- All in Favor. Motion passed.
- Meeting commenced at 6:32pm.

April LeSage made a motion to table the meeting minutes approval until the end of the meeting.

- Seconded by April LeSage.
- All in favor. Motion passed.

410 MAIN RD. – LUCZYNSKI PROPERTY:

Emily Stockman (Wetland Scientist from Stockman & Associates, LLC) – Worked with NHESP to get approval. Emily and Rich got out to the site last month. Rich performed some of the work by hand in the resource area and also performed the excavation work that was required. Emily was on site while the work was being performed. Seven birch and fir species were planted. Some died due to the extended heat wave. The trees that died were replaced and the replacements are doing well. They are requesting that the commission submits a letter for the work having been completed to specifications so that the money that was held in escrow can be released. The wet meadow will be under a "no mow" condition moving forward, thereby allowing the natural vegetation to reestablish.

Dan Harris made a motion to file a formal approval letter.

April seconded.

All in favor. Motion passed.

598 MAIN RD. – LINCOLN PROPERTY:

Andre-anne Chenaille (Wetland Scientist from Guntlow & Associates, Inc.) – Presenting regarding the RDA for the septic system. The septic system is outside of the 50' buffer zone with the leach field boundary being ~60' from the wetland border. All of the disturbance that will take place is within the existing lawn area. NHESP provided a "no take" letter. Some trees will need to be removed, but other than that there will be fairly minimal disturbance. Note that this RDA is just for the septic system. It does not include the new pipeline for the drinking well.

Dan Harris made a motion to rule a Negative 3 determination and to have the engineer follow up with the Savoy Con Com when the work has been completed.

Seconded by April.

All in favor.

The motion passed.

579 MAIN ROAD – TULLOCH REVIEW:

Dan Harris – We agreed to do a file review of the agricultural activities taking place within the riverfront area.

At the time of 2017 the RDA was regarding producing a commodity crops. Crop production on site has significantly slowed due to an overgrazing situation and Jazzmyn and her husband having three kids in the past year. In addition, the hay storage building (hoop house) collapsed in a snowstorm, so they have been waiting on the insurance company to provide the money to replace it. The hoop house has now been repaired.

Dan Harris – What current crops are being produced on site?

Jazzmyn Tulloch – The manure is being used to fertilize hayfields offset and the hay that is produced offset is then stored and sold from the site. In addition some vegetables are still being produced on site, mainly tomatoes and peppers. The goal is to reestablish the full suite of crops outlined in the 2017 RDA.

Cosmo LaViola – What animals are still on site and what is your long-term intention regarding having animals on site again?

Jazzmyn Tulloch – The Pigs, sheep, chickens, rabbits and other fowl are no longer on site. The two horses are still on site. We're hoping to let the fields rest for a little while and for them to reestablish vegetation. The same suite of animals will likely be back on site but in lower densities because what we were doing was not sustainable.

Cosmo LaViola – I would recommend contacting UMass extension regarding a site visit in order to devise a farm plan. Their services are free and they can tell you how to optimize your site according to what animals and plants you would like to grow. They'll likely be able to provide a few options for you that ensure the site is ecologically sustainable.

Dan Harris – What's going on with the manure management situation?

Jazzmyn Tulloch – The manure hasn't really been moved in about two years. Older manure is being composted.

April LeSage – The accepted agricultural plan from 2017 requires that it be moved off site once a month.

Jazzmyn Tulloch – The manure is being removed as the hay farmer needs it.

Cosmo LaViola – Who is the hay farmer that is utilizing the manure?

Jazzmyn – Andy Schmidt is the hay farmer.

Dan Harris – We are concerned about the overgrazing issue.

Cosmo LaViola – UMass can also provide a rotational grazing plan according to the acreage you are farming and the animals you intend to raise.

Jazzmyn Tulloch – the hope is to keep producing vegetables on site as well as to keep the horses on site due to the flat aspect of the land. Our other property has a lot of uneven terrain and rocks.

Dan Harris – So there's also the situation with all the vehicles on the property that are in close proximity to the wetland resource area and the creosote railroad ties. Those vehicles are going to be leaking antifreeze, oil, etc.

Jazzmyn Tulloch – Yeah, there's also the mattress that someone dropped off. I didn't even ask for those railroad ties. One day they were just there. Someone from Windsor dropped them off. I've talked to my day about the vehicles. I'll have to talk to him again.

Dan Harris – So you didn't ask someone to drop the railroad ties off and you don't know who did it?

Jazzmyn Tulloch – No. They just showed up there one day. And now I don't know what to do with them. How can I get rid of them?

Cosmo LaViola – I don't think there are any regulations regarding listing them for sale or for free. There are many pole barns out there that are still standing with creosote posts. People might be interested in them for sills for a building, etc. You could advertise them and see what the level of interest is. You could also bring them to an incineration plant and pay a relatively small fee to have them incinerated where they have the chemical capture systems to deal with them. There used to be one in Pittsfield but that no longer exists. I think the nearest one now is in Chicopee off of the Mass Pike. There may also be one in the Albany area. You'll have to look into it.

Jazzmyn Tulloch – Is there a timeframe for when the vehicles need to be addressed or when I need to have a plan for the farm in place?

Cosmo LaViola – I think it's unrealistic to expect either of those to be in place by the next meeting. I think the big thing is to come back to the next meeting with some progress on the farm plan and the plan for the vehicles. Reach out to UMass and get something on the schedule with them and have a conversation with your father. It's pretty easy to make a few phone calls regarding the cars to scrap yards, Kars for Kids, etc. You can probably get some money for each one and then use some of that money to pay for properly disposing of the mattress and the railroad ties if need be. So just plan on coming back to the next meeting with an update on the progress that has been made on all of these things and we can go from there.

Dan Harris and April LeSage agreed to the above statement.

Jazzmyn Tulloch – Okay.

598 MAIN RD. – LINCOLN PROPERTY:

*Gerry Bergeron showed up after the presentation by Guntlow & Associates so we revisited this topic briefly.

Dan Harris – Gerry, Guntlow presented earlier. We're all set to proceed with work as noted in the plan from them.

Gerry Bergeron – Okay. I'll let Guntlow & Associates know when the work is completed and they can update the Con Com.

THE TOWN PARK:

Blue Sky has been paid in full.

A couple of trees are not fenced in. One fence is tipped over due to not being staked or pinned. Dan will reach out to Blue Sky regarding the fencing and stakes.

Mowing Schedule – John Glynn (Town Parks Commission), in conjunction with the Con Com will be making the recommendations for the mowing schedule. Mowing the entire field will likely be done once annually. The sport field and helicopter landing will be mowed regularly.

SCHEDULING NEXT MEETING:

Next meeting will be Monday, August 19, 2024 at 5:30pm.

Dan Harris made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

April seconded.

All in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 8:40pm.