

# PROVINCETOWN CONSERVATION COMMISSION

June 24, 2008

6:30 P.M.

**Members Present:** Dennis Minsky, Lynne Martin, Jack McMahon and Richard Silver.

**Members Absent:** David Hale (excused).

**Others Present:** Brian Carlson (Conservation Agent), Ellen C. Battaglini (Recording Secretary) and Celine Gandolfo.

## PUBLIC MEETING

Chair Dennis Minsky called the Public Meeting to order at 6:32 P.M.

**PUBLIC STATEMENTS:** None.

### **DISCUSSION: Richard Davis property on Browne Street**

Richard Davis and Nancy and Dana Richardson appeared before the Commission to discuss donating Mr. Davis' property to the Town. Under discussion was 1 of 3 parcels that Mr. Davis owns on Browne Street. Parcel 1 is being probated. Parcel 2 is the piece that he is proposing to give to the Town. He is requesting that he be paid the assessed value of the parcel. The Commission discussed the issue with Mr. Davis, Mr. and Ms. Richardson. The Commission informed Mr. Davis that they were interested and decided that they would like to do a site visit. The Commission will contact Mr. Davis when a decision has been made about the property.

### **PRESENTATION: Safe Harbor**

Gordon Peabody, a former Conservation Commission member, and Diana Fleischman made a presentation to the Commission. Safe Harbor is an inter-disciplinary collaboration of environmental professionals who are trying to develop innovative techniques that are low-impact, low-profile and low cost, but effective, in order to upgrade Conservation Commission performance standards.

The techniques and protocols included in the presentation were related to erosion control, specifically the installation of silt and bio-log fencing, sand fencing and straw bales along the limit of work, as well as how to best control stormwater discharge, concrete over-pour, damage caused by heavy machinery and excavation and equipment storage at the work site. Site management is the most important educational aspect for the protection of the site. Mr. Peabody suggested that an emphasis on building 'green' needs to be conveyed to a contractor in charge of a project that is located near a sensitive environment and pre-construction site conferences are vital.

Vegetation and habitat preservation on site is also a critical issue and Safe Harbor has many techniques on how to deal with re-planting disturbed vegetation. Mr. Peabody recommended that DEP file numbers and Orders of Conditions be posted at each job site and explained to the Commission Safe Harbor's attempt to institute colored flagging and staking at work sites in order to identify where boundaries, buffer zones and where access corridors are located, where equipment should be stored, the location of structures, etc.

He reminded the Commission that all of Safe Harbor's information is freely available to the public. Safe Harbor also publishes an e- newsletter called "Ocean", which updates all of their innovative performance standard protocols nearly every month.

**MINUTES: May 13, 2008 – Joint Session – Dennis Minsky moved to approve the language as written, Jack McMahon seconded and it was so voted, 3-0.**

**June 10, 2008** – There was not a quorum of members to approve these minutes. They will be approved at the July 22, 2008 hearing.

**DISCUSSION: Conservation Property Sign Project**

Shank Painter Pond – The Commission discussed how many interpretive signs should be placed at the property, what the signs should look like and what they should say. The Commission discussed getting aerial photos of the property. They decided that they would like pictures of the actual animals and plants living there and not just generic pictures.

Fox Run and Whistle Path Woods - The Commission discussed the language for the Fox Run and Whistle Path Woods signs.

Nicky’s Park – The sign that Ray Wells has requested to be placed at the property will be paid for by other funds and will not be made of a laminate.

The Commission briefly discussed the language that Dennis had come up with. Lynne and Beau Jackett will be designing the signs. Lynne will do mock-ups of the signs, with the language and send them around for comments.

Property signs – The Commission discussed materials for the property signs.

**ANY OTHER BUSINESS:**

Celine brought up the issue of the potential pollution from abandoned vehicles at the Coastal Acres campground.

Dennis mentioned that there are many Conservation issues that needed attention in Town. He encouraged Commissioners to get out and try and take a look at some of these issues as Brian’ position is only part time and he doesn’t have the time to keep an eye on all projects or issues.

2 Commercial Street – The Commission briefly discussed the NOI and whether the Orders of Conditions had been complied with. The applicant has 3 years before they need to obtain a Certificate of Compliance. They also discussed the proposed subdivision of the property.

609-611 Commercial Street - Elia Sinaiko has filed for an Amended Order of Conditions for his sea wall.

599 Commercial Street – A beach access permit, which the Commission initially declined to grant, was given for this property. Brian had obtained more information about the request and after briefing Commissioners, the permit was granted. The Commission briefly discussed the Notice of Intent for the property.

The Commission discussed Brian’s update of Conservation accounting and several accounting issues in preparation for closing accounts of FY08. Brian has several requests for expenditures to discuss with the Commission.

The Commission’s MACC membership needs to be renewed.

***Lynne Martin moved to approve the expenditure of \$139.00 for renewing the MACC membership, Dennis Minsky seconded and it was so voted, 4-0.***

Irene Seipt requested a payment of \$500.00 for her additional work at the Shank Painter Pond Sanctuary.

***Dennis Minsky moved to approve the expenditure of \$500.00 to Irene Seipt, Lynne Martin seconded and it was so voted, 4-0.***

The Commission discussed the need for expenditure for Elaine's plaque. It will be an 8" by 10" plaque composed of recycled material and will cost \$88.00.

***Lynne Martin moved to approve an expenditure of \$88.00 for Elaine's plaque, Dennis Minsky seconded and it was so voted, 4-0.***

A botany survey needs to be done for Nicky's Park as a requirement for the State filing to alter the area. Donald Schall is on Natural Heritage's list of approved botanists. He has quoted a price of \$700.00 - \$1,000.00. The Commission discussed the issue. Brian will request a more specific, written proposal from him to bring to the Commission.

The Board of Selectmen have approved the Turtle-crossing signs. They will cost \$60.00 a piece and will be placed on both sides of Route 6 by Snail Road. The Commission decided that they would like 4 placed at two different spots on both sides of Route 6.

***Dennis Minsky moved to approve the expenditure of \$240.00 for the purchase of 4 Turtle-crossing signs, Jack McMahan seconded and it was so voted, 4-0.***

The Airport has lost their original, signed Order of Conditions that needs to be recorded at the Registry. Brian needs another original signature page.

Shank Painter Pond Sanctuary – Some split-rail fencing is missing, along with some end posts, totaling \$169.00. 2 pieces of ACQ lumber are also missing. The end posts were being stored behind the security fence at the Sewage Treatment plant.

***Dennis Minsky moved to have Brian Carlson contact the Sewage Treatment plant and ask them to make good on the Shank Painter Pond Wildlife Sanctuary materials stolen from their property, Jack McMahan seconded and it was so voted, 3-0-1 (Lynne Martin abstaining).***

The Nicky's Park grant is being extended to October 18, 2008.

***ADJOURNMENT: Dennis Minsky moved to adjourn at 9:45 P.M. and it was so voted unanimously.***

These minutes were approved by a vote of the Conservation Commission at their meeting on \_\_\_\_\_, 2008.

Respectfully submitted,  
Ellen C. Battaglini

Approved by \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_, 2008  
Dennis Minsky, Chair