

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HALIFAX CONSERVATION COMMISSION

January 14, 2020

A meeting of the Halifax Conservation Commission was held on Tuesday, January 14, 2020 in Meeting Room #1, Second Floor. Vice Chairperson Kathy Evans opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

In Attendance: Vice Chairperson- Kathy Evans; Chris Hadorn, Clerk; Ed Lane, member;
Absent: Gerry Fitzgerald, John Peck and Associate Member Colleen Fiumara

Appointments/Hearings:

7:00 p.m. Discussion – 49 Lake Street

Present: Matt & Bonnie Weathers

Mr. Weathers advised they replaced the septic system last summer. BOH signed off but then issued an order to correct as the neighbor 51 Lake St. was still having a problem. Need to excavate the soils from the old leaching field. Dug some out, but contractor will not go closer than 50' to water. Mr. Weather stated that Mr. Dias stated that it was "good enough" and didn't have to worry about it. Then came back (BOH) with the order to correct, and to excavate the rest of it. Filed a liability claim (they want us to pay to excavate everything around her yard) Some people with knowledge in that field (septic installers – did not give name) advised Mr. Weather's that - once pressure is taken away from system it remains dormant. Other person who was an "expert" told him odds of his sewage going thru ground and into her foundation and up through basement is "pretty slim". Therefore, want to do investigating/testing to find out where it is. Apply to get permission to finish excavating out contaminated soil "if it is" and find stopping point.

Mr. Hadorn thought that Mr. Page (the installer) maybe do test cores go across yard to find what is contaminated and stay on own yard. Does not have an issue to get the yard cleaned up. Mr. Lane also recommended putting down erosion controls again when doing testing.

Mr. Weathers: when excavating found leaching field didn't know was there. Neighbor has a tight tank. Their insurance company has made offers to her (@ 51 Lake St.) to clean it out. Adjuster stated if it is their system it will cost more. Mr. Weathers stated that "she" won't send documents and won't sign a release and the insurance company doesn't like that. Insurance wants an itemized bill for the cost, and they're refusing...

Mr. Hadorn asked if they had seen any cleaning companies (at her property, clean up inside) Mr. Weathers said no. Mrs. Weathers advised that she shut off her water and heat and moved out, and has done nothing to attempt to fix this, to put a claim on own homeowners. Mr. Weathers stated that people he's talked to said: if you excavate will find its nothing from yours getting over there. And won't set foot on (her) property. Then advised she had a sump pump going to the lake, now is going out the side (to other neighbors)

Mr. Weathers asked if they can put up a fence? Members said yes. He then stated "she" put a fence up and he didn't get a notice. He also believes it to be on his property. Said it was surveyed and on his side.

Members discussed test holes. Need to get information of the test holes, how many, how deep and where/location they will be doing them. Diagram of property. Send a letter to Conservation and will forward to Board of Health. Mr. Weathers asked if its determined it has to be done (excavate) it will need to have a filing to remove soils within the 50 -100 foot buffer.

Mr. Hadorn requested that anytime/every time they are going to do something, to advise the Commission and we will forward to the Board of Health so that they know it's being acted upon.

Secretary reiterated to have the engineer/contractor they hire, to provide letter with a plan, the action they will take, and bring to office for review.

General discussions:

24 Pine St. :

Mr. Hadorn went out to site to inspect erosion controls. They are in place and construction can begin.

Briefly discussed hiring an "on-call" agent to complete inspections and other general items for the commission. Brian Vassa was recommended, asked secretary to contact him.

Secretary to get new copies of the bylaw for cluster housing for next meeting.
Meeting minutes not to be approved as G. Fitzgerald not in attendance.

Motion to adjourn

Motion: Ed Lane

Seconded: Chris Hadorn

All in Favor

Documents:

Agenda: 1/14/2020; Sign in sheet 1/14/2020; General Notes of meeting

Draft for zoning amendment

Town Admin. Email: Mass.gov – Advisory 19-1: Gifts & Gratuities

General mail: MACC (classes, courses, conferences)

Emails: 241 Franklin St. / BOH mtg schedule

Respectfully submitted,

Date Approved: 2/25/2020

Signatures:



The image shows two handwritten signatures on a signature line. The first signature is 'Ed Lane' and the second is 'Chris Hadorn'. The signatures are written in black ink and are somewhat stylized.