

Minutes of the Conservation Commission
October 23, 2006

Present: LD: Lorraine DeSouza, Chairman
CP: Christopher Picone,
MH: Michael Horgan, Associate
LC: Lori Capone, Conservation Agent
AJ: Arthur Johanningsmeier
GH: Gary Howland, Associate

7:30 LD Opened the Meeting

7:31 **Town of Ashburnham – Fitchburg Road and Main Street – Notice of Intent:** Replacement of approximately 1,500 feet of water man and installation of approximately 4,700 feet of water main including replacement and installation of water services and curb boxes within the buffer zone and riverfront area. Laird Walsh of GCG Associates, Inc., representing the Town, updated the Commission on the status of the project. LD asked if there were any abutters present that would like to address the Commission. There were none. Silt sacks have been installed in the catch basin as requested, however, the Highway Department removed them from the catch basin on the bridge due to flooding problems during heavy rains. LD asked for comments from the Commissioners.

LD: Motion to close the Hearing

AJ: 2nd

Unanimous 3-0

LD: Motion to issue an Order of Conditions per plan and discussion.

CP: 2nd

Unanimous 3-0

LD: Motion to issue an Emergency Certification

CP: 2nd

Unanimous 3-0

7:45 **Jeremy Dower – 20 Fitchburg Road – Notice of Intent:** (Map 34, Parcel 46) Proposed introduction of fill and grading within the buffer zone and riverfront area. Mr. Dower had not notified his abutters. LD explained that we could not open the Hearing until all abutters were properly notified. The Commission told Mr. Dower to notify his abutters that the Hearing would be held on November 6th at 8:30.

8:00 **Scott Kelley – 221 Ashby Road – Notice of Intent:** (Map 65, Parcel 19) Proposed replacement of a septic system with a tight tank, within the buffer zone and floodplain. Terry Gensel of David E. Ross Associates represented the homeowner who were also present. Terry Gensel explained the proposed project and explained that there was no room on the lot to provide compensatory storage for the floodplain area that would be altered. AJ asked if the applicant receive Board of Health approval. Mr. Gensel stated they have received local approval but are still awaiting approval from the State. LD requested the applicant install plantings between the retaining wall and the lake. The applicant agreed to plant blueberry bushes. CP asked when the work would be performed. Mr. Kelley stated they

Minutes of 10/23/06 continued

would start in the Spring after it dries out. LD asked for abutters. There were none.

LD: Motion to close the Hearing and issue an Order of Conditions per plan and discussion.

AJ: 2nd
Unanimous 3-0

8:15 **Stodge Meadow Association, Inc. – Stodge Meadow Pond Outlet Request for Determination of Applicability:** Proposed repair of the deteriorated culverts at the outlet of Stodge Meadow Pond. Leland Ross, representing the Stodge Meadow Association, presented the project. The existing corrugated metal culvert, constructed 35-40 years ago, has eroded away. Replacement of the culverts is economically infeasible. Mr. Leland requested permission to dam up the outlet and place concrete in the existing culvert to prevent further erosion. LD asked when the work would be done. Mr. Leland said the next nice Saturday. LD asked for abutters. There were none.

LD: Motion to close the Hearing and issue a Negative Determination of Applicability.

AJ: 2nd
Unanimous 3-0

Other Business:

- ❖ The Commission signed the following DEP forms: Emergency Certification for the Town of Ashburnham, OOC for Town of Ashburnham, OOC for 221 Ashby Road, DOA for Stodge Meadow Association
- ❖ Skip Nolan of the Ashburnham Fire Department addressed the Commission regarding Mark Dymek's 40B project. Mr. Nolan would like to propose allowing Mr. Dymek access the site via the existing ball field and require him to install the field on the open space parcel for the project. MH expressed concern regarding the narrowness of Turnpike Road and the need to upgrade the access road. LD expressed concern about proximity of the field to wetlands and expressed the need for a significant natural vegetative buffer between the field and the wetland. MH asked if there were other properties better suited for ball fields. LD stated she would be more comfortable with the proposal if the Town would set aside land for habitat protection. The Commission agreed they were comfortable with Mr. Nolan moving forward with the proposal.
- ❖ Skip Nolan of the Ashburnham Fire Department addressed the Commission regarding the need to remove some of the trees along Oakmont Drive due to an icing problem. There was much discussion. LD suggested some shrubbery to mitigate for the trees proposed to be removed. AJ requested Mr. Nolan talk with Shirley Griffin before moving forward.

Minutes of 10/23/06 continued

8:45 **Ashburnham Conservation Commission:** The Ashburnham Conservation Commission conducted a Public Meeting to discuss its' Rules and Regulations. Those in attendance were: Paul Summers: 171 Fitchburg Road, Andy Montalvo: 192 Fitchburg Road, and Roger Henderson: 254 Ashby Road. LC had met with the Lake Associations this evening and reviewed their concerns. There was much discussion.

LD: Motion to continue the Meeting to November 13, 2006 at 9:00PM

AJ: 2nd
Unanimous 3-0

Other Business:

- ❖ **LD: Motion** to issue a Certificate of Compliance for 161 Ashby Road contingent on LC performing a site visit.
CP: 2nd
Unanimous 3-0
- ❖ **LD: Motion** to issue a Certificate of Compliance for 5 Log Cabin Road.
CP: 2nd
Unanimous 3-0
- ❖ LC updated the Members on the Public Safety Site. The back slope failed in the last storm. There is a plan in place to fix the infraction and stabilize the site immediately. LD requested Chris Gagnon, Whitman & Bingham, and the General Contractor attend our meeting of November 13, 2006 to update the Commission on the progress.

LD: Motion to adjourn.

PC: 2nd

Unanimous 3-0

Meeting was adjourned at 9:38PM

Respectfully submitted by Lori Capone, Conservation Agent