

Minutes of the Ashburnham Conservation Commission
September 22, 2008

Present: CP: Christopher Picone, Chairman MH: Michael Horgan, Vice Chairman
MD: Marshall Dennis LC: Lori Capone, Conservation Agent

Absent: LD: Lorraine DeSouza

7:30 PM CP opened the Meeting of the Ashburnham Conservation Commission under the Wetlands Protection Act, M.G.L. Ch. 131 Sect. 40, and in accordance with the Ashburnham Wetlands Protection Bylaw.

7:31 PM CP opened the Notice of Intent Hearing for the Ashburnham Conservation Trust for Cheshire Pond for the proposed construction of an 8' x 12' wildlife observation deck, 32-foot boardwalk and construction of a new connector trail. Paul Somers of the Ashburnham Land Trust presented the project to the Commission. CP noted that he is a member of the Ashburnham Conservation Trust (ACT) but that would not influence his decision. There was no objection of him serving on the Commission for this Hearing. CP asked if there were any abutters present to speak for or against the application: none were present. Mr. Somers explained that the boardwalk would lead from an existing trail from the uplands to the observation deck to provide handicap accessibility. There was much discussion regarding what kind of footings would be used for the boardwalk and observation deck. Mr. Somers will do more research and provide that information to the Commission at a future meeting. LC informed the Commission that we have not received a determination from the Natural Heritage Program regarding potential impacts to endangered species. MD requested the Commission perform a site visit. A site visit was scheduled for Thursday, September 25, 2008 at 4:00PM. The Applicant stated that the ACT would like to install a post and rail fence 70 feet from the wetlands at the closest point. The Commission determined this could be accomplished through a Determination of Negligible Impact.

CP: Motion to issue a Determination of Negligible Impact for a post and rail fence

MD: Seconded the Motion

Motion carried unanimously 3-0

CP: Motion to continue the Hearing to October 27, 2008 at 7:45PM

MD: Seconded the Motion

Motion carried unanimously 3-0

7:45(8:04) PMCP opened the Notice of Intent Hearing for Charles and Helen Collins of 40 Ashby Road for a proposed sewage disposal system upgrade for a single family house located within the buffer zone and riverfront area continued from August 25, 2008. LC informed the Commission that the Applicant's representative submitted a letter requesting a continuance for the Applicant to work out the lot line dispute with his neighbor. CP asked if there were any abutters present to speak for or against the application: none were present.

CP: Motion to continue to October 27, 2008 at 8:00PM

MH: Seconded the Motion

Motion carried unanimously 3-0

8:00(8:05) PM CP opened the Notice of Intent Hearing for Robert & Joan Goodall of 63 Stodge Meadow Road for a proposed upgrade/repair of a septic system for an existing single family house continued from September 8, 2008. John Deline of Deline Engineering and John Goodall were present. CP asked if there were any abutters to speak for or against the application: none were present. LC informed the Commission they were still waiting for a DEP number and a letter from the abutter to perform work on his property. Mr. Deline stated he spoke with Joseph Bellino at DEP and received a project number with no further comments but has not obtained a letter from the affected abutter yet. CP discussed the site visit performed on September 19th. It was determined that the drainage from Stodge Meadow Road would not be affected by the proposed grade changes.

CP: Motion to issue an Order of Conditions per plan and discussion contingent on the Applicant receiving approval from the Board of Health and written permission from the property owner on whose property some work will be performed.

MH: Seconded the Motion

Motion carried unanimously 3-0

Other Business:

- LC read a letter from Lorraine White of Lake Haven Road fully detailing the shed she would like to construct on her property and how the site would be accessed.

CP: Motion to issue a Determination of Negligible Impact pending MD's inspection

MD: Seconded the Motion

Motion carried unanimously 3-0

- LC informed the Commission that she is in receipt of a Request for Certificate of Compliance for 80 Westshore Drive for a project that never commenced.

MH: Motion to issue a Certificate of Compliance for 80 Westshore Drive

CP: Seconded the Motion

Motion carried unanimously 3-0

- DEP forms signed by the Commission: Order of Conditions for 24 Blueberry Road, Certificate of Compliance for 80 Westshore Drive

CP: Motion to adjourn

MD: Seconded the Motion

Motion carried unanimously 3-0

Meeting adjourned at 8:34 PM

Respectfully submitted by Lori Capone, Conservation Agent