

Minutes of the Ashburnham Conservation Commission
May 9, 2011

Present: MD: Marshall Dennis, Chairman
AA: Alana Archangelo

CP: Christopher Picone

6:40 PM MD opened the meeting of the Ashburnham Conservation Commission under the MA Wetland Protection Act, M.G.L. Chapter 131, Section 40, and in accordance with the Ashburnham Protection Bylaw and associated Rules and Regulations

6:41 PM Susan Thibault was in attendance representing the seller of **15 Spruce Drive** to pick up two **Certificates of Compliance** for **Lot 318**, one for the completion of work on the septic system (DEP# 92-643) and the other for work done on the house (DEP# 92-759). MD inspected the property and the Commission signed off on them.

Other Business:

MD wants to put in a request to Nancy Haines, the Town Accountant, to transfer money from the Wetland Protection Act Fund to contribute to the salary for the Conservation Agent.

MD- Motion made to transfer \$3000 from the Wetland Protection Act Fund
CP- Seconded
Unanimously passed 3-0

MD informed the Commission that a paralegal contacted him regarding **81 Old Ashby Road**. A Certificate of Compliance was granted but never filed with the Registry of Deeds by the homeowner in 2004 for the septic and 2007 for a renovation. The original certificates must be filed but cannot be located. AA will inspect the property and MD will issue two new **Certificates of Compliance**- one each for the renovation and new septic system.

7:00 PM MD opened the hearing for the **Notice of Intent for William and Karen Lorden, of 60 Winding Cove Road** for the reconstruction and expansion of an existing 3 bedroom single family residence, as well as a sewage disposal system upgrade, portions of which will occur within the 100 foot buffer zone of Sunset Lake. Both Lordens were in attendance as well as Jack Visniewski, a Civil Engineer and Owner of Cornerstone Land Consultants. All plans looked to be in order.

MD- Motion to close the Public Hearing
CP- Seconded
Unanimously passed 3-0

MD- Motion to issue the Order of Conditions as per plan and discussion
CP- Seconded
Unanimously passed 3-0

7:15 PM MD opened the Public Hearing for the Continuation of the **Notice of Intent** for the **Lower Naukeag Lake Association** aquatic management program involving the application of herbicides for the control of nuisance aquatic vegetation. Steven Slocum,

as well as several other abutters were in attendance to represent the Association. Jerry Smith and Dominic Meringolo were in attendance to represent Aquatic Control Technology. Mr. Smith is the President and Mr. Meringolo is a Senior Environmental Engineer. This company has worked for the Lake Association for 15 years and they described what they were proposing to do. The Lake is comprised of 295 acres and has nonnative and invasive species of milfoil and bladderwort in it. Their protocol is to perform a pretreatment survey in late May to June, then apply the treatment, then do a post treatment inspection about one month later. The NOI indicates that the entire lake is “fair game” but generally less than 30% of the lake actually requires treatment- approximately 90 acres or less. The type of herbicide used is Reward Diquot Herbicide. Bladderwort is only treated at residential areas (about 40-50 acres). The company possesses both Pesticide Applicator and Aquatic Plant Licenses. The Drawdown provides control of plants as well. Treatment increases when the drawdown doesn’t work well- a problem the Association has brought up to the Commission on several occasions previous. MD inquired if there has been a fishery study done recently. Mr. Slocum indicated that none have been funded but he always includes tips in the monthly newsletter about how to be a responsible lake home owner. He stated that fishery areas on the lake were still vegetated though no quantitative studies have been performed. Part of the lake has water lilies in it and Aquatic Round Up is topically applied in those areas. MD requested that water quality data be included in the end of the year report. He inquired as to whether or not there was beaver activity on the lake. SS affirmed that there was an active lodge in the inlet from Watatic in the cove by the dam and by Sherbert Road. MD stated that the areas near the lodges should not be treated. CP requested a map be included of where treatment is being done. CP reminded SS the permit was for three years, not five. MD requested that a survey species list be included in the watershed area.

MD- Motion made to close the Hearing.

CP- seconded

Unanimously passed 3-0

MD – Motion to issue Order of Conditions per plan and discussion

AA- Seconded

Unanimously passed 3-0

After the Hearing, Lower Naukeag members Alice Stahl, Frederick Lee, and Gary Labell discussed the potential replacement of two culverts on Saari Camp Road with the Commission.

8:03 PM MD- Motion to adjourn

AA- Seconded

Motion carried unanimously 3-0

Respectfully submitted by Alana Archangelo, Conservation Commission Member