

Minutes of the Ashburnham Conservation Commission
August 12, 2013

Present:

MD: Marshall Dennis, Chairman
CP: Christopher Picone, Member

Absent

AA: Alana Archangelo, Member
AH: Andrew Henderson, Member

6:28 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 Wetlands Protection Bylaw and associated Rules and Regulations. He also noted that the Commission lacked a quorum.

Gary Howland was present representing the Ashburnham Conservation Trust (ACT). At 6:15 the Commission was scheduled to discuss the options and costs for forestry on Bush Hill with Chuck Caron, but Mr. Caron was not present. As such, it was decided to reschedule the meeting with Mr. Caron.

The ACT is interested in putting 3 yards of $\frac{3}{4}$ inch stone on the tip of Broadhurst Point to reduce erosion from foot traffic and waves. Options were discussed.

The Commission also discussed with Mr. Howland the fact that Mount Grace has not provided any more information about a potential footbridge over a stream. CP had discussed the bridge with them at a field event earlier this month and thought a DNI might be appropriate. But MD noted that even with a DNI there would be issues with the State WPA and Army Corps of Engineers that might need to be addressed.

MD next addressed 169 Lakeshore Drive. He has discussed with the owners their desire to construct a shed and gazebo ~60 feet from Lake Watatic, for which a Request for a Determination of Negligible Impact (DNI) has been filed. CP volunteered to conduct a site visit.

MD stated that at least six applications for the part-time agent position have been received. It was decided that candidate interviews would be conducted in the hour before the Commission meeting on Aug. 26, starting at 5:15.

6:47 PM

MD opened the scheduled hearing for 23 Spruce Drive. Mr. Cleo Caouette from CAW Maintenance was present to represent the applicant.

This was a Notice of Intent (NOI) to install pavers beneath a deck, enlarge a beach area, and replace an adjacent stone wall and steps. All work is within 100' of Sunset Lake, with some work to occur at the water's edge.

Mr. Caouette explained that permeable pavers will be used under the deck. Additionally, a stone wall will be removed to expand the beach area. The

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existing stones from that wall and along the shoreline will be used to construct a new wall.

Because Rick Thibeault of the Far Hills Association has confirmed that there will be a drawdown starting Nov 1st, MD recommended that the work be conducted in two stages. In Stage 1, a silt fence will be installed approximately 5' from the water's edge. He stated that, upon issuance of the Order of Conditions, work can commence on the landward side of the silt fence, such as the deck pavers, wall and stair removal, etc. No work, however, will be permitted between the fence and the water until the water has been drawn down.

After sufficient water has receded with the drawdown, a new silt fence will be installed within the exposed lake bottom to capture any eroded sediment from the remaining work, such as removal of the stone wall at the water's edge. A new plan will be submitted indicating the precise locations of all silt fencing.

Because a quorum was lacking, the hearing was continued to a special meeting on August 20th (Tuesday) at 6 PM.

7:13 PM

Mr. John Thomas of 44 Lakeshore Drive was present to discuss his Request for Certificate of Compliance. Again, due to the lack of a quorum, action on the Request also was continued to August 20th.

7:15 PM

MD summarized the DNI applications that had been approved since the last meeting. These included:

- 26 Tuckerman Rd. House addition and detached garage, the majority of which was greater than 85 feet from the nearest wetland resource; and
- 10 Christmas Tree Drive. Upgrade of sewage system. All work is encircled by existing pavement. Also, the renovation will result in a net decrease in impervious surface.

7:22 PM

MD- Motion to adjourn
CP- Seconded
Unanimously passed