

**Minutes of the Ashburnham Conservation Commission  
February 25, 2014**

Present: MD: Marshall Dennis  
AH Andrew Henderson  
AA Alana Archangelo  
CP Christopher Picone

Absent:None

**6:30 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.

**6:33 PM**

**Other Business**

AH recused himself from the hearing scheduled for 6:45, but was able to sign some outstanding paperwork from prior meetings (OOC for 19 Island Rd, Conservation Restriction for Byfield Rd. property).

**6:45 PM**

**Notice of Intent, 257 Ashby Rd.(Camp Winnekeag), (Map 31, Parcel 29 & 29A) DEP File # 092-0892:** for the construction of a driveway and pedestrian bridge crossing a tributary to Winnekeag Lake. The project would result in 930 sq. ft. of disturbance to wetlands with 1,395 sq.ft. of replication. The Riverfront impacts would comprise of 24,000 sq. ft. or 2.6% of the Riverfront.

Mark Piermarini from Whitman & Bingham Assoc. was present and represented the applicant. Mr. Piermarini stated in response to a question that the bottom of the bridge elevation is above the 100 year floodplain and would not interrupt the flow.

MD felt it is difficult to see the site with the existing snow cover. The type of vegetation on the site, types of wetlands and the proposed replication area for example would be hard to observe. Additionally the application does not address stream crossing certification requirements for width of abutments. He would like to see a continuation.

Jeff Linthwaite, property manager for Camp Winnekeag and Mr. Piermarini stated they would like to finished by June 1.

MD also questioned the need for a Water Quality Certificate if the bridge isn't compliant with stream crossing standards.

Richard Hylant an abutter at 67 Winnecowett Dr. questioned the need for a new access road to the site. MD also questioned the need for a new access.

Mr. Linthwaite responded that currently people had to drive miles around the lake or hop, skip and jump over the stream which is sometimes impassable and it would allow fire/emergency vehicles access.

MD again questioned the need for a driveway when they could drive around.

Mr. Linthwaite replied, so they can access the newly purchased Ellis property.

MD responded that they needed a very compelling reason to create a bridge when they had an existing access.

CP moved to continue the hearing to March 11th, 2014.

MD seconded.

Approved 3-0, unanimously, AH recused.

#### **7:13 PM**

##### **Request For Determination (Continued), West Shore Drive (Map 45, Parcel 49 & 50)**

Kevin Horgan of Graz Engineering was representing the applicant Ronald Day.

The Request was in regards to a small isolated wetland located on an adjacent property and if it is a regulated wetland.

Under the Ashburnham Wetlands Protection Bylaw it would be, the Commission will look at it when conditions improve.

CP moved to issue a Positive Determination of Applicability under the local bylaw.

MD seconded the Motion.

Voted 3-0, unanimously, with AH not present.

#### **Other Business**

**Certificate Of Compliance for 128 Harris Road, DEP File # 092-530** the OOC was issued in 2002 and a letter from Foresite Engineering Assoc. was in the file certifying the project was built as proposed. The new property owner Karen Vine was present.

CP moved to issue a COC for 128 Harris Rd..

MD seconded the Motion.

Voted 3-0, unanimously, with AH not present.

Several concerned citizens were present to address the Commission with their concerns over a proposed gas pipeline and what role the Commission will play in reviewing the proposal. A major concern was the possible impacts on the Town Reservoir.

The Commission will review any work that falls within their jurisdiction under the Wetlands Protection Act and/or the Ashburnham Wetlands Protection Bylaw. It is also possible that the Board of Health will play a role in regulating any possible well or groundwater contamination.

It was also suggested that the Commission could send a letter to the Selectmen to have this put on the Agenda.

#### **8:20 PM**

CP moved to adjourn the meeting.

MD seconded.

Approved 3-0, unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by Richard Turcotte, Conservation Agent