

**Minutes of the Ashburnham Conservation Commission**  
**April 13, 2015**

Present: CP Christopher Picone  
AA Alana Archangelo  
AH Andrew Henderson

Absent: MD: Marshall Dennis

**6:30 PM:**

CP 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.

**6:30 PM**

Jamie Rheault from Whitman & Bingham met with the Commission on behalf of Cushing Academy concerning their storage of excavated soils from the construction of the Athletic Facility. The material is being stored in a field on Central St. adjacent to some areas with wetlands. He stated that Chuck Caron flagged the wetlands in the field in 2008 and that this area had been used for the same purpose (stockpiling soils) in a previous job. They had decided to use the same area again for the new construction project and had Matt Mauro reflag the area and that the Buffer Zone ends near the end of the guard rail.

CP read an E-Mail from MD asking that Cushing have the area re-delineated and that a RFD be filed if the erosion controls are in the Buffer Zone. He didn't feel that an NOI was needed.

Mr. Rheault said he would let the Commissions Agent know when Matt went out and he could re-walk the site.

**6:55 PM Request For Determination, 222 Ashby Rd. (Map 66, Parcel 27)** Chuck Caron represented the property owner Robert Greene who was also present. They are proposing the construction of a replacement sewage disposal system including a retaining wall which will be built prior to the stockpiling of soils. The BOH has already approved the design. They will also put hay-bales around the storm drain inlets to prevent soil sediments from entering the lake. This was not in the plan of design but the owner said he has already discussed this with the contactor.

CP - Moved to close the hearing for 222 Ashby Rd.

AH – Seconded the motion.

Voted unanimously 3 – 0.

CP - Moved to issue a Negative Determination, that the work will not impact an area subject to protection, for 222 Ashby Rd.

AH – Seconded the motion.

Voted unanimously 3 – 0.

**6:57 PM Lots 1 & 2 Wilker Rd. (to be continued pending a site visit by the Commission and the submission of additional information requested below).**

**Notice Of Intent, Lot 1 Wilker Rd (Map 39, part of Lot 15)** For the construction of a single family home within the Buffer Zone of a Bordering Vegetated Wetland.

Discussion of ANR lot application, which will be sent as part of the application.

We will need the following:

- A site visit after thaw.
- A consolidated map of the whole site (Lot 1, Lot 2 and the driveway crossing.) with wetlands and replication area in context.
- wetland delineation data sheets from Matt.
- Confirmation that the site does not meet criteria for isolated land subject to flooding. That can be done by topographic analysis (CM preferred), or by measuring flood levels this spring. What is the lowest point of the vernal pool
- A professional analysis of the potential vernal pool on the wetland on the property (between Lots 1-2). Is this a certifiable vernal pool, and are there any endangered species in it? We may need to protect a larger track of forest for upland habitat.

**Notice Of Intent, Lot 2 Wilker Rd (Map 39, part of Lot 15)** For the construction of a single family home within the Buffer Zone of a Bordering Vegetated Wetland as well as a driveway crossing of a wetland. The proposed driveway follows a current cart path that was used to access test pits. Questions on the possible Vernal Pool and impacts to it were asked.

CP - Moved to continue the hearing for Lots 1 & 2 Wilker Rd. to April 27.

AH – Seconded the motion.

Voted unanimously 3 – 0.

AH mentioned that the Commission needed to do the site walk (MD asked that the Commission do the walk together) and if it is not done by April 27 it may be necessary to continue the hearings again.

**7:10 PM Other Business**

**Minutes for March 23, 2015.**

CP – Moved to accept the Minutes for March 23, 2015.

AH – Seconded the motion.

Voted unanimously 3 – 0.

**Salamander Rescue Project**

The Commission discussed a potential Salamander Rescue Project. AH said if he sees some movement of salamanders, he can call AA who will alert local teens interested in helping the amphibians cross Route 101 safely. Discussion was held on accessing orange

safety vests and using social media to alert students. It would also be good to minimize the amount of drivers to the site as they could add to the damage.

7:15 PM

CP Motioned to adjourn the meeting.

AH seconded the Motion.

Approved 3-0, unanimously.