

**MINUTES OF THE CONSERVATION COMMISSION**  
**Monday, March 28th, 2016**  
**6:30 P.M.**

**Town Hall – Lower Level Meeting Room**

**Agenda Review/General Discussion**

Present: MD: Marshall Dennis  
CP Christopher Picone  
LC Linda Couture

Absent: AH Andrew Henderson

**6:30 PM: Agenda Review/General Discussion**

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.

**Public Meetings/Hearings:**

**6:35 PM – Notice of Intent – 64 Stowell Rd. (Map 64, Parcel 18).** The applicant Adam Perry is requesting work on an addition to an existing home as well as new foundation work, the work is within the Buffer Zone for Lake Winnekeag. Attended by the two homeowners and their representative (A. Perry).

There is a steep slope to the water. 8” waddles are proposed, site inspection will make sure they are secured to the soil. Homeowner will set them “with a shovel. Inspect to make sure if they are on rock, they are secured or reinforced somehow”.

MD motioned to close the hearing for 64 Stowell Rd..  
CP Seconded the Motion.  
Approved 3-0, unanimously.

MD motioned to issue an Order Of Conditions for 64 Stowell Rd..  
CP Seconded the Motion.  
Approved 3-0, unanimously.

**6:45 PM – Request for Determination – Pan Am Railways.** The applicant is requesting that the Commission verify sensitive areas mapped on the railway right of way for purposes of vegetation management.

The map from Jan 2016 seems to show applications in the same locations as previous. Curiously, some wetland areas are designated as “no spray” and others are not, but we assume such designations are based on proximity to the wetland from the rail bed. MD motioned to close the hearing and issue a Positive Determination #2A, that the delineation for the purpose of weed spraying is accurate. CP Seconded the Motion. Approved 3-0, unanimously.

**6:58 PM – Notice of Intent – 100 Main St. (Map 21, Parcel 126).** The applicants Walt & Rosemarie Meissner & Town of Ashburnham are proposing the re-routing of an intermittent stream.

Attended by Wesley Flis, from Whitman and Bingham (W&B). Walt and Rosemarie Meissner (owners). CP acknowledged that he is on the Rail Trail Committee with both Walt and Rosemarie Meissner, but there is no conflict of interest with this Hearing.

The plan proposes wetland replication via new drainage basins. Drainage was designed for a “25 year storm” and would flow out the current stream. Storms more severe would overflow to the drainage basin to the southwest, and on towards the culvert connection to the manhole on Rt. 12. Drainage basins would need to be inspected and cleaned biannually (shovel and bucket). W&B expects no more than 2 inches of sediment building up.

MD. The new NOAA rainfall data predict higher amounts of rainfall in the future, with more severe rainfall events (NOAA Atlas 14). DEP is considering changing the regulations, but in the meantime they suggest applicants use the higher rainfall predictions. MD notes that it cannot be mandated, but he noted “the applicant is potentially at risk.” What is being planned as a basin to contain a 25-year storm will really become a basin to contain only a 10-year storm as extreme weather becomes more common.

The applicants do not want to take away more of the backyard to create larger areas for drainage.

MD indicated that W&B should consult the DEP water quality regulations and Army Corps regulations. The Con-Com would need to see their response to assure us that no further applications are needed.

MD motioned to close the hearing for 100 Main St.. CP Seconded the Motion. Approved 3-0, unanimously.

MD motioned to issue an Order Of Conditions for 100 Main St.. CP Seconded the Motion. Approved 3-0, unanimously.

**7:00 PM – Notice of Intent – 81 South Main St. (Map 59, Parcel 49).** The applicant Brian Morse is requesting work on a driveway and parking area, the work is within the Buffer Zone of a Bordering Vegetated Wetland and the Riverfront for the Whitman River. The NOI was to address an enforcement order imposed on the actions at the site in late 2015.

Present: The applicant Brian Morse and Chris Mossman of Trowbridge Engineering. A detention basin was designed for a 10 and 100 year storms. There is not much impervious surface draining to that basin, right next to a large mill pond. The revised plan submitted includes one minor change: removal of a large ash tree (see plan).

An abutter present (Michele Maynard , 87 South Main) wanted assurance that water would not flow from the site to the east onto her property. Mr. Mossman assured her water would not flow towards the east abutter. Also, the cut of the new driveway will create a berm that prevents flow off to abutters. Finally, reclaimed asphalt grindings will be laid down to stabilize the new dirt slope driveway on the east side of the building. A future application will address more permanent paving and TSS.

Erosion controls have been extended up the hill a little more than planned earlier. They include waddles with silt fence.

DEP comments have not yet come in, unfortunately.

MD motioned to close the hearing for 87 S. Main St..  
CP Seconded the Motion.  
Approved 3-0, unanimously.

MD motioned to issue an Order Of Conditions for 87 S. Main St..  
CP Seconded the Motion.  
Approved 3-0, unanimously.

**7:47 PM – Request for Determination – 88 Sherbert Rd. (Map 52, Parcel 1).** The applicant is proposing an addition to an existing home and replacement of an existing septic system. Attended by Chris Mossman and the applicant Paul Maguire.

The only work in the buffer zone are a few sono tubes for a small addition. No tree work needed. Minimal excavating for sono tubes only.

MD motioned to close the hearing and issue a Negative Determination of Applicability #3.  
CP Seconded the Motion.  
Approved 3-0, unanimously.

#### **Other Commission Business/Administration:**

Request for a Certificate of Compliance for 49 Willard Rd. DEP File # 092-0638  
MD motioned to issue a COC for 49 Willard Rd..

LC Seconded the Motion.

Approved 2-0.

CP abstained as he is an owner of this property.

Whitman Bingham requested a new original copy of the Certificate of Compliance for the solar complex on Murray Rd.

Rich: Andrew needs to come sign the CoC form from 2014 for tenK Solar, and for 49 Willard Rd.

CP has been attending biannual meetings of the Watatic Management Committee. There is interest from that committee in abandoning the access road up the north side of Watatic, as it will be expensive for DCR to maintain. The consensus from this Commission is that the majority opinion of the Watatic committee will be fine.

MD motioned to adjourn.

CP Seconded the Motion.

Approved 3-0, unanimously.

Meeting Adjourned 8:01 PM