



**MEETING MINUTES OF THE CONSERVATION COMMISSION**  
**Monday, July 10th, 2017**  
**6:30 P.M.**

**Town Hall – Lower Level Meeting Room**

Present: MD: Marshall Dennis (MD)                      Absent: AH: Andrew Henderson  
          CP: Christopher Picone (CP)  
          LC: Linda Couture (LC)

**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.

**Public Meetings/Hearings:**

None scheduled.

**Guest & Visitors**

Brian Milisci from Whitman & Bingham requested a meeting with the Commission to provide an update on the moving of the Stone House @Cushing Academy and ask some questions relative to that project. Also present: Sean Donnelly (CSL Consulting) and Scott Martin (Windover Construction).

The Cushing representatives asked to set two temporary trailers/storage boxes on the temporary fill adjacent to School Street, across from the driveway to the ice arena. They will be placed on the level fill that has been established for moving the Stone House. No gasoline, etc. would be stored in the storage buildings. When the project is completed (anticipated to be in the fall of 2018), the pre-existing slope will be restored.

The Commission agreed that the proposed temporary storage trailers will not be an issue.

As for the Stone House, Mr. Donnelly noted that it either will be moved from its new location, or be demolished. In the meantime, the House will be fenced off for safety purposes.

Mr. Milisci also raised an issue regarding the generator as shown on the plans. It has been determined that larger propane tanks that will not all fit outside the riverfront. So, it presently is proposed to install a diesel generator in the same location as the originally proposed propane tanks. Mr. Milisci wanted to clarify that it would be a diesel

generator, in the same location, but aboveground, and that a propane generator was no longer proposed. The Commission agreed to this clarification.

MD asked for the drainage information that still has not yet been submitted by Wayne's Drains.

MD reminded the applicants to check the OoC periodically as there were Special Conditions requiring updates to be provided to the Commission as the project progressed.

**Other Commission Business/Administration:**

- Richie Wright of Timberlost Farm asked about repairing a stone culvert under an abandoned road (now grass covered). The culvert has collapsed so in a major storm, his pasture is being flooded. The road also is flooding and eroding. MD has visited the site and reviewed the regulations relative to farming operations. Based on a discussion of these issues, it was agreed that the work is subject to an agricultural exemption. Erosion controls, however, must be placed downstream from the work: either silt fence or temporary check dams with rocks will be fine. A letter from MD will be forwarded to Mr. Wright that clarifies the Commission's decision. This letter also will state that no application/filing with the Commission would be needed due to the agricultural exemption.

MD Motioned to accept the Agricultural Exemption for the proposed culvert repair.  
LC seconded.  
Approved 3 – 0.

- John Fairbanks of Stodge Meadow Association had come to the previous meeting for an informal discussion about extending the existing pond drawdown OoC for 1 year. The original Order was issued in August 2008 for a 5-year period. The Order then was extended for an additional four (4) years via the Permit Extension Acts to August 2017.

MD motioned to extend the Order for 1 year until August 26, 2018.  
LC seconded  
Approved 3 – 0.

- CP requested that the Commission review the Bylaw fees for lake drawdowns and weed treatments. MD agreed that the fees might be returned to the amounts in the original Bylaw but that further review is in order.
- MD motioned to accept the two lots (Parcel Nos. 20-96A and 20-48G) that were being transferred to the Town of Ashburnham Conservation Commission from Steepleview Realty Trust I in conjunction with the implementation of the Cashman Hill Estates Subdivision Plans.  
LC Seconded.  
Approved 3 – 0.

- Request for a Certificate of Compliance for 442 Ashby Road. Based on the Agent's site visit, the requisite plantings have been done.

MD motioned to approve the CoC for 442 Ashby Road.

LC Seconded.

Approved 3 – 0.

- Also reviewed:
  - Determination of Negligible Impact for 4 West Shore Drive.
  - Notice of Aquatic Vegetation Treatment for Sunset Lake.

The Commission did not address the following two requests due to insufficient information:

- Request for an Extension to an Order of Conditions for 73 West Shore Dr.
- Request for a Certificate of Compliance for 147 Ashby Rd.

- CP noted that he will not be available for the July 24 meeting.

MD motioned to adjourn.

LC seconded.

Approved 3 – 0.

Adjourned 8:30 PM.