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TOWN OF BECKETT  
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Kathleen A. Vsetecka  
Becket Conservation Commission Agent  
413.623.8934 Ext. 29 Becket Conservation Commission  
August 20, 2009  
Minutes

The Meeting is called to order at 6:32.

Commissioners Present: Purr McEwen, Chair Scott Morley,  
Vice Chair; Kathy Vsetecka, Commissioner and  
Agent; Bud Moylan; Marty Winters

Members absent:

- 1) Approval of minutes of July 16, 2009 meeting. Marty, Bud Al in favor
- 2) Continued Notice of Intent SOLO (Sherwood Forest Lakes and Ponds) Map 216 DEP#102-353 Chemical treatments using herbicides, hand-harvesting, cutting Marc Bellaud, Aquatic Control Technology, representing. Working under 1 year extension permit which elapsed and tried to file NOI; ongoing 15 years; going through letter commission sent-they were surprised of the level of detail required for this type of project. Project was filed under limited project category; loss because what commission requested will cost an extraordinary amount of time and money and want to discuss specific concerns of commission. Review of letter that commission submitted to ACT - how will herbicide get reduced over time and hand pulling comes in. Mark said the milfoil infestations have been reasonably managed citing examples at Lancelot Pond, Robin Hood, ...with chemical which was eventually titrated down....As for hand pulling, ACT doesn't take direct responsibility.  
Point 1 - What is the difference between the lakes----spring/fall surveys, mapping, tx land under water body cannot be defined like a house. Commission wants more specificity as to what areas will be cordoned off and what the treatment will involve as opposed to a picture of the entire lake. They need a more comprehensive information and it can be changed from year to year to reflect current conditions. Have maps showing where each plant is and what kind of tx will it get. Point 2 Limited project status is how they filed-these types of projects didn't require wildlife habit studies because just invasives are targeted therefore all performance standards need not be met. He feels by managing these invasive species, the resource area is being improved. Commission wants distinctions on not only what is being treated, but how it will affect non-targeted species. Also concern over how this will affect the drinking water-there are wells that are close to the lake. Marc feels when chemicals are used as licensed and registered to be used, it is approved and studies are not necessary. There was a question on whether some of this will be out of the jurisdiction of the Sherwood Forest Association and onto individually owned properties. Again

mapping of the lakes, treatments applied along with timing, where hand-pulling to be done. Long-term management plan is also requested, showing past, current and future watershed management practices and the effect on water quality. A full wild-life habitat will not be required. Resource delineation mapping - what are resource areas, what is being treated needs to be provided. Opened to public, Lucy Farris, lives on Excalibur Lake, has been hand pulling spiny naiad. She thought weeds would be treated this summer but now gets the impression it won't. With the research she has done she saw where it needs to be treated twice in a season. She is concerned that without the chemical treatment, hand pulling is not sufficient and can fill the lake 100% creating a dead lake. While she is a conservationist, she is not normally pro chemicals but feels in this situation it is necessary. Purr motioned to Continue to Sept 18, Bud seconded, all in favor.

3) Continued Request for Determination Robert Galla 136 Alan-a-Dale Map 216 Lot 493 Leveling of lawn area by adding loam in buffer zone to Little Robin Site inspection was done by Purr and Kathy. Mr. Galla just wants to level/rake area, no work done within 15 feet of lake. No heavy equipment to be used. Purr motioned for Negative DOA with standard conditions, Bud seconded, all in favor.

4) Continued Request for Determination of Applicability Greenwater Pond Association Greenwater Pond Map 201/202 Pulling of Eurasian Milfoil Dave MacWilliams representing. They don't want chemical treatment; they have weed pulling parties, he has had extensive training and supervises. They keep a log of water and lake temperature to use in combination with drawdowns. Where they concentrate on pulling, the next year they like to see what kind of improvement was made. With phragmites, they cut the fans and the plant and this has significantly diminished the numbers. Kathy motioned for Negative DOA, seconded by Purr, all in favor.

5) Request for Determination of Applicability William Osborn 57 Lancelot Lane Map 217 Lot 81 Construction of an addition on piers within 100' of Lancelot Pond Kathy reviewed the map he submitted. The addition is 14 X 16 that will be on pier. The only digging they have to do will be for the piers and will be hand dug. Purr and Kathy did a site visit and didn't see any problems. Motion made by Purr for Negative DOA with standard conditions, seconded by Scott, all in favor.

6) Notice of Intent Joseph and Angela Gruber 48 Osceola Drive Map 211 lot 18 DEP#102-357 Landscaping and dock permit. Ann Bruzzi, Berkshire Engineering representing, Craig Okerstrom-Lang, architect. An reviewed site plan, property is narrow, long and steep. They access property through neighbor's driveway. Property was purchased in 2006 and applicant wants to develop the entire parcel in stages. They want to take down original house and construct new one. Questionable drainage channel. Under an RDA, there was no wetland vegetation.

Work will be done within the first 60 feet. Stairs to be put in. Purr favors the design, specifically the runoff giving visibility for the owners and improving erosion issues. Craig outlined the trees on the property; which will be removed and what will stay. (See file for list). Rain gardens to help with filtration ... Dock construction-specification listed on the plan, DEP Guidance. Ann recommends dock installer comes before the commission. Review of DEP comments was done. 2 fees. Shading of bank was covered: currently there is shading and when dock is installed, it will still be shaded. An alternative septic system is going in which should help the phosphorous levels. Hoping to start the project late fall, early winter and completed by May 31. Opened to public-no comments, closed. Motion made by Bud with standard conditions, Scott seconded, all in favor.

7) Notice of Intent Richard Polacek 390 Sherwood Drive Map 215 Lot 194 DEP #102-356 Construction of a boardwalk and a dock over Robin Hood Lake Richard also wants to put in a sundeck that would improve resource area by decreasing stress on bank. Site visit done by Purr and Kathy. Dead hemlock by the waterfront will be removed. He reviewed the narrative that he provided to the commission. The intention of the boardwalk is to sustain native vegetation and is aesthetically appealing. Bud is requesting  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch spacing. Open to public, no comments, closed. Motion made by Purr to approve NOI with conditions of  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch spacing over bank areas and minimum  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch spacing on boardwalk, Scott seconded, all in favor.

Request for Determination of Applicability Deborah Decker 45 Bruce Roy Lane Map 204 Lot 114 Septic System upgrade Ann Bruzzi, Berkshire Engineering representing. Ann reviewed the plans submitted. New septic tank will be put in, under the house perennial stream, large BVW which they are 50 feet away from. There will be a mound. Design still needs to be approved by Board of Health but shouldn't effect conservation. Purr motioned Negative DOA with standard conditions, seconded by Scott, all in favor.

9) Request for Certificate of Compliance Frederick Timme Leonhardt Road Map 203 lot 18.6 DEP#102-296 Matt Puntin had submitted paperwork previously. Timme put in dock with someone else and want COC on this dock. Purr did site visit. Motion made by Scott to approve COC, seconded by Purr, all in favor.

10) Administrative Business Jack Young wants the Fire Dept to put in dry hydrant by the school and showed pictures outlining the area they want to see it installed. White Wolf will do the digging. He wants to put big rocks down there to make area bigger. DEPs comments include defining whether this presents an emergency "imminent threat to public health or safety". Jack says in the summer, there are other places to get water though the time it would take could present a threat. As for winter, options are limited. No trees to be removed. It is the Westfield River, because it is a wild and scenic river, the federal government would get

involved. Commission requires a plan be submitted outlining what they intend do. Discussion about what river it is.

Marc Bellaud presented update on Sherwood Greens on what needs to be done to stay in compliance with the order. Last year's treatment worked well on Golden Fawn. The hydro raking was done but plants are returning. Kathy read the order that was issued in May 08. They have tried cutting phragmites but the plants returned. Further treatment cannot be done until more plans submitted. Kathy feels if they want to do chemical treatment on other lakes, they aren't covered under the OOC so they cannot do it without submitting plans. Kathy will check whether this can be done as amended but regardless, a plan needs to be submitted.

Motion to adjourn

Respectfully Submitted,

Martie Martin, Recorder

Purr McEwen, Chair



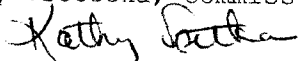
Date

Scott Morley, Vice Chair



Date

Kathy Vsetecka, Commissioner/Agent



Date

Bud Moylan, Commissioner



Date

Derrick Rodgers, Commissioner

Date

Marty Winters, Commissioner



Date

conservation@townofbecket.org