

Becket Conservation Commission

Minutes

10/20/2011

The meeting opened at 6:50 PM due to a lack of a quorum until that time.

Present: Richard Pryor, Vice Chair; Kathy Vsetecka, agent and commissioner; Marty Winters, commissioner; Purr McEwen, commissioner

Absent: Scott Morley; Bud Moylan

Public present: Graham Gurry; Paul Merrir; Nick Andersen, Berkshire Engineering

Minutes of September 15, 2011. Motion by Purr to approve; second by Marty. Unanimous approval.

Continued Notice of Intent Conservation Group, Inc. Barry Fogel, Esq. Center Pond Dam Map 210 lots 28, 30, 34 DEP #102-0372 Maintenance, repair, and improvement of Center Pond Dam. Applicant has the Chapter 91 approval; needs the Water Quality Certification; requested a continuance until the November 17, 2011 meeting.

Motion by Kathy to continue until November 17, 2011 with the applicant's consent. Second by Purr. Unanimous approval.

Continued Certificate of Compliance Graham and Holly Gurry 225 East Shore Rd. Map 211 lot 109 DEP #102-339 Kathy and Bud did a site visit. There are 44 sandbags placed as discussed last meeting. All looks good.

Motion by Purr to issue the Certificate of Compliance Second by Marty. Unanimous approval.

Abbreviated Notice of Intent Judith Baranowski 302 Sherwood Dr. Map 407 lot 28 DEP #102-0376 Pump, crush and fill in existing septic tank; install new tank and new leach field. Richard, Marty and Kathy visited the site. It is a buffer zone project. The new leach field will be near the wetlands; the old one appears to be where the driveway is. The new tanks will be located next to the old ones. Richard asked about the erosion controls. Kathy stated that the plan called for a silt fence and hay bales.

Motion by Purr to approve the ANOI with Becket Standard Conditions and the caveat that what the plan stated was hay bales be changed to straw bales or straw wattles. Second by Marty Unanimous approval

(Skipped to item number 7-9 on the agenda) **Certificate of Compliance Two-State YMCA (Steve Turner) 748 Hamilton Road Map 211 lot 1 DEP #102-0342** There is a partial Certificate of Compliance on this; this request is for a complete one.

All seems to be good. Motion by Purr to issue a complete Certificate of Compliance. Second by Kathy. Unanimous approval.

Follow-up to Enforcement Order Berkshire Highlands LLC (Alan Wallach) Tyringham Rd. Map 404 lot 49 Kathy did a site visit to follow up on Scott's report of last meeting. She found four of the five trees planted (stakes by them)—all were dead. Plants in the area include native invasive coltsfoot, golden

rod, couple of wild asters and one other plant. She stated that the applicant was supposed to come before the Commission this meeting to show the progress of the plants. Kathy had told him that he didn't need to come and that the Commission would make a decision as to what he should do. Mr. Wallach has said the plowing in the winter caused the plants/trees to die. There was supposed to be 5 hemlock trees 2-3 ft high, some ferns and some erosion control seed mix, native only, planted per the Enforcement Order. Discussion as to size of trees to be replanted, when to replant, etc. Motion by Purr that the Commission expects him to follow the original Enforcement Order plant list. He is to remove the invasive coltsfoot in the spring before planting; the Commission will re-inspect the following spring (2013) to ensure the plantings make it through the next season. Second by Marty Unanimous approval.

Administrative business:

A recorder is needed for the meeting minutes. Kathy asked if anyone knew of a person in Becket who would like the job. No one did. She then stated that Martie Martin had a person who would like to do it. Kathy will send her a copy of the last minutes to see if she wants the job. Kathy stated that the Commission hires the recorder. It was the consensus of the Commission to offer her the job on a trial basis.

Kathy reported that Greenwater Pond reports on their drawdown and weed pulling were received and on file. Consensus that David Mac Williams does a great job with these.

Kathy stated that there is a meeting with DEP and PARE at 10 AM on Manning Road Friday re the Center Pond Dam repair, etc. She will be going to it. Any other Commission member is welcome to attend—no one will be able to go.

Kathy went to Sherwood Forest at the intersection of Fireside and Maid Marion. Someone dug a trench into the lake to help the runoff from the road. Gil Beaudoin called and reported. Trying to get a resolution without an EO. Kathy called Howard Lerner of the Sherwood Forest Lake District as it is a lake issue now. He will be getting back to us the first week in November. The main thing is to come up with a plan that deals with the road drainage so that this will not happen again. Kathy explained that the area in the lake is now full of cattails. This area was discussed with the Road District a number of years ago. Discussion as to what they can do to divert the water so that it goes across the road into a dry well or something else. Kathy stated that Mr. Lerner asked if they should hire an engineer; the consensus of the Commission was they should. Richard stated that Sherwood Greens is having Foresight Land Services evaluate all the roads in their community. Richard would like to go out and look at the site in Sherwood Forest. (Went back to number 5 on agenda)

Notice of Intent Jonathan Wilson 155 Access Road Map 407 lot 28 DEP #102-0374 Construction of a single family house. Plan was shown to all. Purr asked some questions about the site as she was not on the site visit. Kathy stated that in the back there would be some cutting for septic but it was not trees—Richard stated that there were a few pines. Richard pointed out one area where they would be within the 50' buffer. Purr asked if it could be farther away; Richard pointed out that it couldn't because of the lot size and shape. Purr asked about a slope. Kathy pointed out the contour on the plan; not much of a slope involved. (At this point Nick Andersen from Berkshire Engineering came into the meeting—Berkshire Engineering did the plan.) Purr reiterated her concerns re the closeness of the septic to the wetlands. Mr. Andersen explained that there was an abutting well; with this plan no variance would be needed from the Board of Health. Also, if closer than 10' to the property line a variance would be needed. It is the best place to put the septic. The percs were done in 2009. The existing slope is

gradual but the new one with the septic will not be so gradual. It will have erosion control fabric, three inches of topsoil and coconut fabric on it. Also, the keeping of the gravity at this level will not require a pump. Motion by Purr to approve the Notice of Intent with the Becket Standard Conditions and that the erosion controls include silt fence and straw wattles. Second by Marty Unanimous approval.

Notice of Intent Holly Vannucci-Chaffee Surriner Road Map 412 lot 29.1 DEP #102-0375 Construction of a driveway to a single family house and associated appurtenances. Nick Andersen, Berkshire Engineering presenting. Mr. Andersen passed out responses to DEP comments and presented a new plan made as a result of the Commission's site visit. The comments are on file. They still have an open bottom culvert but switched manufacturer and it has been extended 4'. The same height has been maintained and it is still on the same foothold of the bank. It has been pulled away from the corner by the wetlands by 5' from the corner and silt fence. Mr. Andersen went over the reply to the DEP comments. The first issue was how the installers were going to get across the stream. Mr. Andersen stated that a 1" steel plate 4' across would be placed over the stream and a mini excavator would go over this and install the footing the other side. Then it would track back and take the plate out. The rest of the work would be on the road side. Rich asked about the footings. Mr. Andersen stated that they sit on crushed stone and fabric. They basically get locked in by the road above. They don't get below frost level. Discussion on the footings, etc. Mr. Andersen stated that they had 3-4 of these structures which were fine during Irene. DEP commented on bank full width. Mr. Andersen referred to a topographic page of the comments. They looked at 5 locations both up and down stream. The average bank full was 9.7; with the 120% it came to 11.7. They bumped it up to 13 % and now have a bank flow of 11.7. This was because they realized there was no other way out than over the span. The next comment addressed was the wetland delineation. Mr. Andersen stated that they have pulled the work out from the A-1 flag 7 feet with the addition of the 4' of the span. Thus, if there is a difference of 2 feet or so of the wetland flag it is all right. The delineation was a visual one. Kathy asked about the temporary crossing and the work on the other side of the stream time-wise. Mr. Andersen stated that it should be done in less than a day. Also, Mr. Andersen stated there was a question about the stream—intermittent versus perennial. The stream stats, etc. were presented and it showed to be an intermittent stream. Richard asked about storage. The cul de sac will be the staging area. The limit of work area is 18-20'; silt fence on both sides of the proposed driveway. Any storage is outside buffer. Kathy asked if Berkshire Engineering will be sending the revised plan and letter to DEP. Mr. Andersen stated that it should be mailed out tomorrow. Public input. None, closed. Motion by Purr to approve the Notice of Intent with Becket Standard Conditions and straw wattles be placed within 50' of the resource area (intermittent stream). Second by Marty Unanimous approval.

Motion to adjourn by Purr at 7:47 PM. Second by Marty Unanimous approval.