

**MINUTES**  
**Becket Conservation Commission Meeting**  
**Becket Town Hall, 557 Main Street**  
**May 18, 2016**

**Commissioners Present:** Alison Dixon, Chair; Barbara Brand, Cindy Delpapa; Karen Karlberg, Richard Pryor. Also present Becket Conservation Agent Mallory Larcom

**Commissioners Absent:** Rebecca Perry

**Members of the Public:** Jeanne Pryor, Robert Ronzio, John Sayward

**Meeting opened at 6:34 PM** with Ms. Dixon presiding. Meeting statement made and members introduced.

**1. Enforcement Order for 88 Nottingham Court:**

Agent Larcom received additional guidance and information from MA Dept. of Environmental Protection. This special meeting was called to discuss the additional information prior to the issuance of the Enforcement Order voted at the 10 May meeting. The meeting was properly posted in town hall 48 hours prior to the meeting but because of technical difficulties the meeting did not appear on the town's web site. Posting on the web site is not a requirement of open meeting law. The town posts meeting on the web site for informational purposes.

MA DEP recommended the Commission consider requesting a restoration plan rather than a Notice of Intent in their Enforcement Order. While the restoration plan would be similar to an NOI in content it would be regarded differently under the Wetland Protection Act regulations. Agent Larcom was able to estimate the approximately amount of alteration at 5,000 square feet with approximately 3,000 square feet of filled place in the BVW. The type and extent of alteration remains the same but instead of using a wetland delineation to produce an NOI it would be the basis of a restoration plan with the goal of remediating the alteration listed above. Commissioner Pryor asked if anyone present was recording the meeting. Mr. Ronzio responded in the affirmative.

The advantage to this restoration plan approach is the ability to avoid any potential issues in the future for work that was never authorized through an NOI. Motion made to revise section C under the Enforcement Order voted on by the Commission on 10 May to change the requirement to file a Notice of Intent to a requirement to file a restoration plan by 17 June, (Pryor/Brand). MSV passed unanimously.

Mr. Ronzio stated his attorney did not receive notification of the meeting. He also reported the wetland delineation was completed earlier in the day by his consult..

2. **Duties of the Conservation Agent:**

Agent Larcom reported she is putting in extra hours to reduce the back-log generated by the several months without an agent and to keep current with the influx of new projects and requests in advance of the summer season. She suggested the Commissioners, if willing, might be able to assist with some of the routine inspections, (e.g. inspecting a site before work begins for the proper placement and installation of erosion control measures) or other duties. There are a large number of requests for tree cutting in buffer areas which can be time consuming for the agent to address. Some Commissions have dealt with tree cutting issues by having a minimum threshold for a filing. This may be something for the Becket Commission to consider. Commissioner Pryor noted the past two agents would screen tree work to determine which projects warranted the filing of an RDA.

Commissioners may wish to focus on an area of particular interest or expertise and take on more responsibility when a project involves their focus topic. Another alternative offered was to have associate commissioners. This route might be effective in introducing the duties and process of administering the WPA and serve as a way to bring on new, trained, full commissioners. The caution would be to make sure associate members did not add to the work load of the agent. Generally Commissioners felt the agent should ask for help and they would make every effort to fill the need. Chair Dixon mentioned she is working with MA DEP to arrange some additional training for commissioners. Note the Commission requested follow-up inspections in May for the work done at Camp Lenox and Werden Road.

Commissioners felt a Doodle Poll was an efficient method of scheduling site visits. The welcomed the Agent prioritizing projects and issues.

3. **Camp Lenox:**

Agent Larcom visited Camp Lenox with the town's Building Inspector. The entire deck had to be removed, not just a small section as noted in the original plans, and the erosion control measures were not in place. Agent Larcom spoke to the Camp officials about this deficiency and it will be corrected.

4. **Becket General Store;**

Agent Larcom reported a change in the amount of riverfront area at the proposed new location of the General Store. She had looked at the wrong parcel, the site is not entirely within the riverfront area with approximately 500 square feet outside of the resource area near the road. Agent Larcom adjusted her memo to the Planning Board to note this change. The owner wishes to avoid working in the riverfront area.

Motion to adjourn, (Brand/Karlberg). MSV. Meeting adjourned at 7:29 pm/