

**Town of Becket
Conservation Commission
July 12, 2016**

Commissioners present: Alison Dixon, Rebecca Perry, Karen Karlberg, Richard Pryor, Cindy Delpapa and Agent Mallory Larcom. Not present Barbara Brand.

Public in attendance: Mark Stoughton, Steve Turner, George Humphrey, Cynthia Humphrey, Jim Weber, Shannon Boomsma, Simonne Natale, Randy Christensen, Mike Howard, Mark Stinson, Michael Lennon, Emily Stockman, Robert Ronzio, Elisabeth Goodman

Meeting called to order at 6:36 by Chair Dixon who read meeting guidelines and introduced Commissioners.

1. Approval of minutes:

Motion to approve the minutes of 10 May, 2016, (Perry/Karlberg). MSV.

Motion to approve the minutes of 18 May, 2016, (Perry/Karlberg). MSV.

Motion to approve the minutes of 14 June, 2016 with the following edits: correct spelling of Katherine's name and under #3 switch 'and' to 'an' , (Perry/Delpapa). MSV 3 for, 2 abstentions.

2. Request for a partial Certificate of Compliance for Two State YMCA (DEP #102-0390. Maps 211

and 212, Lots 1 and 43) for the access road into a new well site and decommissioning of a former landfill. Motion to issue a partial certificate of compliance to Two State YMCA (DEP #102-0390. Maps 211 and 212, Lots 1 and 43) for the access road into a new well site and decommissioning of two former landfills, (Perry/ Karlberg). MSV.

3. Request for a Certificate of Compliance for Camp Watitoh (DEP #102-0401, Map 210, Lots 2

and 34) for pipe infrastructure associated with an on-site wastewater system installation. Agent Larcom visited the site and reports all is satisfactory except for a small area to be revegetated. Motion to issue a Certificate of Compliance for Camp Watitoh (DEP #102-0401, Map 210, Lots 2 and 34) for the installation of pipe infrastructure associated with an on-site wastewater system, (Pryor/Karlberg). MSV.

4. Request for a Certificate of Compliance for Camp Greylock (DEP #102-0412, Map 210, Lot 17)

for a senior activities hall. Agent Larcom and Commissioner Pryor completed a site visit. They reported there was a modification to the project resulting in a shift in the location of the elevator. Motion to issue a Certificate of Compliance to Camp Greylock (DEP #102-0412, Map 210, Lot 17) for a senior activities hall, (Pryor/Perry). MSV.

5. Request for a Determination of Applicability from Denise and Michael Howard, represented by Berkshire Geo-Technologies, for the proposed installation of a subsurface disposal system within the Riverfront Area of Yokum Brook at 105 County Road.

Commission performed a site visit. The proposed on-site system is approximately 110 feet from Yokum Brook. This project meets the exemption for an on-site disposal system in a Riverfront Area. The Board of Health has approved the septic system as shown on the plan provided by the representative. At the request of the Commission, the plan was amended by the representative to show a new silt fence location to allow for equipment to access the work location from the rear of the house.

Motion to issue a negative Determination of Applicability #5, with Becket Standard Conditions, for the installation of a subsurface disposal system in the Riverfront Area of Yokum Brook at 105 County Road (Pryor/Perry). MSV unanimous.

6. **Request for Determination of Applicability from Debra Hoffman** for the proposed construction of a boulder-anchored deck and seasonal aluminum dock located on Yokum Pond at 56 Fredrick Court. Commission performed a site visit. James Weber of JW Construction, representing the proponent, reported the deck has been scaled back. The dock will have a cedar deck and posts with pressure treated wood (MicroPro) for the joists. MicroPro is approved by the EPA for emersion in water. The deck will be anchored to boulders. Chair Dixon reminded the proponent's representative of the requirement to obtain a Chapter 91 license before work begins. Motion to issue a negative #3 Determination of Applicability, with Becket Standard Conditions, for a boulder anchored deck and season aluminum dock on Yokum Pond at 56 Fredrick Court, (Karlberg/Perry). MSV.
7. **Request for Determination of Applicability from Mark and Denise Stoughton** for the proposed installation of an 8' by 46' addition, deck replacement and related activities at 21 Lady Lucille Lane (Map 215, Lot 182D). Proponent provided a plan of the proposed work with an addition placed on concrete piers (machine digging proposed) with the new deck cantilevered outward from the new addition. The proponent wishes to remove several dead or leaning trees and several additional actions not covered in the filed RDA including the removal of a tree stump adjacent to the stream running along the edge of the property, the removal of a shed, and the installation of a curtain drain which would discharge to the stream. This small stream was flowing when commissioners visited the site two weeks prior despite an extended dry spell raising the concern of the status of the waterway as intermittent or perennial. Proponent reported the stream ran dry late in the season last year. Commission discussed the necessity of discharging drain directly to the stream or into the adjacent wetlands, the lack of erosion controls in the plan and the benefit of a wetland delineation to help identify the best placement of erosion controls and the curtain drain discharge. Proponent will need to amend the RDA to cover the riverfront requirements and the missing work elements. Motion to continue the RDA to 9 August, 2016 for a proposed addition, deck, curtain drain, and the removals of trees, a stump and shed at 21 Lady Lucille Lane, (Karlberg/Pryor). MSV.

A related issue at 21 Lady Lucille Lane was the new dock observed during the site visit. The dock was constructed wood without filing with the Commission and Commissioners were particularly concerned about the use of pressure treated work. Motion made to issue an enforcement order to remove the unpermitted dock at 21 Lady Lucille Lane, (Karlberg/Perry). MSV.

8. **Request for a Determination of Applicability for proposed excavation and regrading in the buffer zone** of approximately 144 square feet of soil to a depth of approximately 1.5 feet for the protection of siding located at 85 Mystic Isle Way, (Map 216, Lot 426D). A site visit was held. Commissioner Pryor explained the parcel's topography was steep parcel and the area for the proposed excavation is 35 feet from the waterway. A small machine with be used to dig, the excavate removed from the site, and the current vegetation replanted and augmented with

additional plantings. Motion to issue a negative #3, with Becket Standard Conditions, to allow for the mechanical excavation of 144 square feet of soil, to a depth ~1.5 feet, with excavated soil removed from site, disposed of properly, and the disturbed area revegetated with existing and/or replacement plantings. Work will not begin before silt fencing and straw waddle erosion controls are in place, (Karlberg/Perry). MSV.

Chair Dixon repeated the need to report to the Chair if anyone is taping the meeting. Mr. R. Ronzio reported he is taping the meeting.

9. **Request for Determination of Applicability from Jacobs Pillow Dance Festival for the construction of a gravel access way to a proposed public water supply.** The project is located in both a wetland buffer zone and a Riverfront Resource area at 358 George Carter Road (Map 407, Lot 16). Commissioners completed a site visit. Proponent was represented by Berkshire Engineering. Electrical conduit and water line will be installed adjacent to the access road. Another filing will be submitted at a later date for the new water distribution infrastructure. Some discussion about the status of one of the streams listed as a perennial. The exemption cited in the RDA is not applicable in this situation. M Stinson (MA DEP) explained an NOI is required for this project because of the stream crossing/culvert. Motion to issue a positive Determination of Applicability for Jacobs Pillow Dance Festival well access road, (Pryor/Perry). MSV.
10. **Notice of Intent from Two State YMCA for Smith Pond dam maintenance at Chimney Corners, (map 212. Lot 44).** Commission visited the site. Proponent's representative, Randy Christensen (Stantec), explained the Phase I Order of Conditions, now expired, allowed for a drawdown of the lake to inspect conditions. An engineering report was completed in 2011 by Root Engineering. This NOI is for the second phase of work but also includes one outstanding phase I task. Phase II includes a 3 foot drawdown lake to be undertaken following MA Fish & Wildlife guidance, (November 1 start date and refill by spring). Phase II includes stabilizing the spillway's west training wall including removing soil, replacing with better draining materials and a perforated pipe to aid drainage. The major task is stabilizing the spillway and receiving channel in Hamilton Brook. To dissipate energy and reduce impacts to the stream, the constructed channel will slope toward a large boulder 54 feet downstream. Five saplings on the dam are slated to be removed to prevent weakening the dam structures. The shrubs will remain. The applicant also requested permission for the continued removal of vegetation from the dam structure as required by dam safety regulations. A dry road seed mix will be used to revegetate disturbed areas and erosion controls will be put in place before work begins. Some work may occur in October with most work occurring between mid- November and mid-December of this year. Chair Dixon opened the hearing for public comment. No public comment offered. Motion made to close the public hearing, (Karlberg.Pryor). MSV. Commission confirmed the dam will be operated as run of river and the phase II drawdown is a one-time event. Motion made to Issue an Order of Conditions for the Two State YMCA dam maintenance work as presented in the Notice of Intent with Becket Special Conditions, (Pryor/Karlberg). MSV.

Chair called a brief recess at 8:27 PM. Meeting called back in order at 8:33PM by Chair.

11. **Presentation of Annual Survey of Proposed Pond Weed Cuttings by Sherwood Forest Lakes District (DEP #102-0399).** Mike Lennon of Solitude Lake Management summarized the report explaining Solitude has been working on the five Sherwood Forest lakes since 2001 using a variety of control measures. Solitude assesses the ponds' vegetation annually. The 2014 Order of Conditions requires Commission approval before cutting. No harvesting was done last year but this year they recommend harvesting ribbon leaf pondweed and large leaf pondweed before the plants put up seed heads in Robinhood Lake. M Lennon provided a map showing primary harvest locations. Volunteers cut the plants and bring the plants to shore to a compost area. Hope to start harvesting in the coming week. Mr. Lennon mentioned DEP #102-358 for plant control is expiring in May of 2017. A new filing will likely be coming before the commission in the near future. Motion made to accept the proposed weed cutting for Robinhood Lake, (Pryor/ Perry). MSV. Agent Larcom asked for a copy of a dated harvesting map.
12. **Presentation of "Bordering Vegetated Wetland Replacement Area Plan" by Emily Stockman of Stockman Associates LLC representing Robert Ronzio under an Enforcement Order issued for violation occurring at 88 Nottingham Court (Map 216, Lot 752).** Ms. Stockman provided a proposed plan. The plan proposes pulling back toe of fill, from above, particularly in the area of flag A3, with a wetland scientist documenting conditions during excavation. The plan is to pull-back fill until upland soil is located but excavating no more than 20 feet back. If the wetland is larger than mapped than a discussion with the commission is in order to determine a suitable replication area. The toe drain in area of flag A5 may have led to an increase in wetland size. There is evidence some fill sloughed off in to the wetlands. Brush in the wetland will be removed by hand. The final slope for the fill is to be approximately 1.5:1 slope stabilized with an erosion control blanket. Concerns were expressed about the steep slope being unstable and if the fill material's shear strength and shear stress has been determined. Buffer zone will be seeded with a native mix as will wetland areas. Commissioners raised questions about the composition of the fill noting neighbors witnessing the fill arriving at the site had concerns about the quality. Ms. Stockman reported she did not see any evidence of contaminated fill and assured the Commission soils will be documented while fill being removed. Was requested on how the on-site wetland scientists will ascertain the quality of the soils while it is being excavated. E. Stockman explained the inspector will look for foreign materials, smells, and off colors. Mr. Ronzio did not have an objection to a Commissioner or representative being on site during the excavation. Question asked if the gravel driveway, installed in the buffer area, was to remain. No plan to remove the gravel. Motion made to allow the pulling back of 20 feet or less of fill to assess the site conditions. Commission will be notified when the work will occur. The underlying soil profile will be documented with notes and pictures and included in a report to be submitted within 7 days of the excavation work. The slope will be graded, stabilized with erosion control blanket and seeded. An engineer must report the shear strength and shear stress of the fill material by August 9th, (Pryor/ Perry). MSV, 4 in favor 1 opposed.

Motion made to adjourn at 9:57, (Pryor/Karlberg). MSV.