

Town of Becket
Conservation Commission Minutes
Tuesday, May 15, 2018

Commissioners in attendance: Barbara Brand, Cindy Delpapa, Karen Karlberg (Vice Chair), Mary Stucklen and Becket Conservation Agent Laura Robbins

Commissioners not in attendance: Alison Dixon (Chair).

Members of the public: None Present

Vice -Chair Karlberg called the 15 May, 2018 meeting to order at 6:36 PM, read meeting guidelines, and introduced the Commissioners and Agent.

Public input and comment for items not on the Agenda. No members of the public present.

Minutes: Motion made to accept the revised minutes of the 20 March, 2018 Conservation Commission meeting, (Brand/Stucklen). MSV with one abstention. Motion made to accept the minutes of the 17 April, 2018 Conservation Commission with minor typographic edits, (Stucklen/Brand), MSV with one abstention.

A Request for Determination of Applicability submitted by Becket Building Department: The project proposes to demolish a house adjacent to an intermittent stream (unnamed tributary to Robin Lake) at 388 Black Arrow Way (Map 216 Lot 375). Agent Robbins visited the site. The town owned parcel has a seriously dilapidated house the Building Department would like to take down before it collapses. The Building Inspector will oversee the demolition work. All debris will be removed, erosion controls will be in place during the project, and disturbed areas will be reseeded. Commissioner asked if the work could wait until the intermittent stream was not flowing but was informed the structure may collapse into the stream if not removed soon. Motion made to issue a negative determination #3 for the demolition of the structure at 388 Black Arrow Way (Map 216 Lot 375) with the following conditions: no refuse or demolition materials remain at the site after activity is completed; erosion control straw waddles will be installed before any activities begin at the site; erosion controls will be removed once site is fully revegetated; and the work be done under dry weather conditions if practicable, (Brand/Stucklen). MSV.

A Request for a Determination of Applicability submitted by Becket Building Department: The project proposes to demolish a house located approximately 92 feet from a Bordering Vegetated Wetland at 458 Brooker Hill Road (Map 410 Lot 21). Commissioners visited the site. This project is proposed by the Becket Building Department to demolish an abandoned house taken by the town for back taxes. This project, in addition to taking down the house and removing trash & debris, will require soil excavation to level the area. The wetland resource area is 92 feet from the structure and erosion control is proposed to be placed at the toe of the slope, downhill of the work area. There is a large amount of 'household debris' scattered around the structure with some on the slope at the rear of the building which will be removed as a part of this project. Motion made to issue a negative #3 for the demolition of a structure at 458 Brooker Hill Road (Map 410 Lot 21) with the following conditions: all debris, including the debris outside of the structure, will be removed from the site; erosion controls will be installed before any activity begins; all disturbed areas will be reseeded; and erosion controls will be removed once area is fully revegetated, (Stucklen/Brand). MSV.

CONTINUING BUSINESS

Updates relating to ongoing Site Inspections for the Borrego Solar project, as submitted by Tighe & Bond on behalf of Borrego Solar Systems in the Tanglewood Circle subdevelopment (Map 406, Lots 14-20 and 37-47). Agent Robbins visited the site and reported the site appears stable. The applicant informed Agent Robbins the reseeded of the site scheduled for May will be delayed to June, though Agent Robbins was not informed if the reseeded was to be early, mid or late June. The Tighe and Bond contract to monitor stormwater controls at the site ends in May and will not be on contract to inspect the final stages of work in June. . Consensus was to not ask for an extension of the Tighe & Bond oversight

contract. The Commission will inspect the site as the work winds down. The latest Tighe and Bond report was provided to Commissioners. Agent Robbins noted the slope erosion controls detailed in the original plan have not been installed. Instead the applicant spread woody chips per an agreement with the prior conservation agent. The straw waddles at the culvert inlets are being circumvented by runoff - water flows around the waddles during rain events. Agent Robbins will email the applicant about this problem with the waddles at the culvert inlets and require them to address this deficiency by 18 May, 2018. She will also inform the applicant the reseeding of the site must be done before 30 June, 2018. Agent Robbins noted the DEP number was not visible from the road and will request the number be posted to make it visible from the road.

Updates relating to Center Pond's Invasive Vegetation Management Project Report, as submitted by Solitude Lake Management, which contains the spring Plant Survey and 2018 Treatment Plan (Maps 210 and 211). Initial treatment application was done 30 April, 2018. Commissioners noted the second application is currently scheduled for just before the July Fourth holiday and this timing matches a similar application on Buckley Dutton years ago which caused some consternation with a segment of the public. The Commission may be receiving some calls.

Updates related to Lancelot Dam Improvement Project, as submitted by Tighe & Bond in response to DEP comments, with updated engineering plans under review by MA DEP reviewing (Map 217, Lots 66 and 255). Agent Robbins provided a summation of the MA DEP review of the updated plans. The MA DEP found the new plans inadequate. At this time DEP does not plan a field visit; one will be scheduled when MA DEP receives a plan they deem adequate.

Updates related to an Order regarding a parking area located at 3235 Main Street (Map 207, Lot 66). Commissioners visited the site and measured the driveway adjacent to the building as discussed at the January 2018 Commission meeting. The applicant's husband expressed dissatisfaction with the accuracy of the measurement taken using a hand held tape measure. Two Commissioners volunteered to re-measure – triangulating as the owner's husband mentioned, on Sunday. Commissioners discussed the status of the lawn area relative to the definition of 'alteration' in the Act. Consensus was to contact the owner and require the reseeding of all of the formerly lawn area (the 'altered' area) and to have this revegetated area be maintained as agreed to by the owner and Commission at the January 2018 meeting and as contained in the revised Enforcement Order. Commissioners felt it was reasonable to have the reseeding done by 23 May, 2018 as the weather is conducive to establishing grass and the lawn needs to be maintained. Immediate removal of the parking signs on the lawn area is needed.

Updates related to an Enforcement Order issued in 2017 requiring riverfront restoration at 0 Yokum Pond Road (Map 409, Lot 30). The owner has a planting plan but no work has been started as of the site visit on 11 May, 2018. A letter was sent to the owner on 14 May, 2018 noting the lack of progress and stating the work must be completed within 30 days. Note to Commission to follow- up with a site visit on 14 June, 2018.

ADDITIONAL ITEMS

Updates related to any other ongoing projects unforeseen at the time of posting.

- *Mile Marker 21 on the Mass Pike*. Agent Robbins visited the site and found that no excavation was done in the wetland. The work done under the emergency order to MA DOT was removal of debris at the toe of a slope to restore free flow of runoff. MA DOT provided additional information and said they will likely need to pave in the area in the future.
- Robert Ronzio requested a *Certificate of Compliance* relative to an enforcement order issued by the Commission. Agent Robbins inspected the site and provided a field inspection form to the Commissioners. MA DEP confirmed a Certificate of Compliance is not issued in the case of an Enforcement Order. Commissioners recommended the owner remove all of the erosion controls and construction material from toe of slope and floodplain area.

Issuance or Ratification of any Emergency Certifications or Enforcement Orders. None issued.

Agent Robbins reviewed tree cutting regulations. There is an exemption allowing landowners to cut trees on their property for their own use (e.g. use for fire wood) but if removing from the property than the Commission has jurisdiction.

Agent Robbins reported she has received several inquiries about culverts. These projects will need to be reviewed on a case- by- case basis as perennial stream crossings have different requirements, (meeting MA Stream Crossing Standards) then intermittent stream crossings.

Crowe property on Werden Road. Emily Stockman said the site was visited after the restoration was completed by the former agent. Agent Robbins found a COC in the files but the document had not been sent to the owner. (A COC is needed when there is an open OOC in relation to an EO). Commission asked Agent Robbins to send the COC to the owner.

Agent Robbins received a call from a Jacobs Hollow Road resident about runoff issues. The Commission has visited this site in the past. Issues related to resource area alteration were addressed under and Enforcement Order.

An inquiry was made to the Commission about logging on Quarry Road. Agent Robbins has not had time to follow-up.

M Stucklen's appointment to the Commission expires in June, 2018. She will submit her application to the Board of Selectmen asking to be reappointed. Commissioners are grateful for her dedication to the Commission and willingness to continue to serve as a Commissioner.

Motion made to adjourn the meeting, (Stucklen/Brand). MSV. Vice Chair Karlberg adjourned the meeting at 8:53 PM.

Next meeting date is Tuesday, June 12, 2018 (Submissions due Friday, May 25, 2018).

Action Items:

- Inspect the Borrego site for stormwater controls and reseeded.
- Follow-up to 3235 Main Street owner relative requirements in January 2018 EO.
- Commission to follow- up with a site visit on 14 June, 2018 to 0 Yokum Pond Road.
- Werden Road COC sent to owner.