

Town of Becket Conservation Commission 28 August, 2018 Meeting Minutes

Commissioners in Attendance: Alison Dixon (Chair), Barbara Brand, Cindy Delpapa and Conservation Agent Stacy Parsons

Commissioner not in Attendance: Karen Karlberg

Members of the public: Ben Anderson, Doug Bessone, and Shannon Boomsma.

Chair Dixon called the 28 August, 2018 Becket Conservation Commission to order at 6:37 PM, read the meeting guidelines, introduced the Commissioners and Conservation Agent, requested members of the audience to sign in and asked if anyone present was recording the meeting. No one was recording the meeting.

Public input and comment for items not on the Agenda. None offered.

New Business:

A **Request for Determination of Applicability** submitted by Ben Anderson for a wetland boundary determination and work to construct a driveway and single family home on George Carter Road, Map 403, Lot 40. Agent Parsons visited the site. B. Anderson summarized the project to build a house, install a septic system, drill a well and extend a driveway. The owner wishes to confirm the accuracy of the wetland delineation. The recently completed delineation places the proposed septic system 110 feet from the wetland line and the house approximately 180 feet away. The proposed 12 foot wide gravel driveway will be 40 feet from the delineated wetlands at its closest point with the extension moving away from the resource area. Agent Parsons' concerns were erosion control and managing construction vehicles on the site. Motion made to issue a negative determination #3 for the construction of a 12 foot wide gravel driveway on George Carter Road, (Map 403, Lot 40) with the following additional requirement: erosion control barriers are to be installed before work begins as located on the amended, and initialed, site sketch and as discussed at the meeting, (Brand/Delpapa). MSV.

A **Request for a Determination of Applicability** submitted by D. Bessone and J. Markham for reconstruction of an existing home at 211 Carter Road, Map 206, Lot 111. Commissioners visited the site. D. Bessone explained the project involves rebuilding a 1,100 square foot cottage to create a house with a 1,900 square foot foot print with an 800 square foot second story. The work will not involve any tree cutting, disturbance will only occur on existing lawn area and the foundation will not be expanded. Commissioners discussed the installation of supports for the proposed deck and the demolition of the existing house. Commissioners asked to have the excavate stockpiled in the staging area and covered if rain is predicted. The demolition should pull materials away from the resource area. All work should follow the scope and sequence of work found in the filing. Motion made to issue a negative determination #3 for the demolition of an existing house and the construction of a new house at 211 Carter Road (Map 206, Lot 111). The contractors are to follow the scope and sequence of work provided in the submitted RDA filing, any excavate must be moved to the staging area and kept covered, and the Commission must be updated on the method of pier installation as soon as the preferred method is ascertained, (Brand/Delpapa). MSV.

A **Request for Certificate of Compliance** submitted by S. Turner for Two State YMCA, DEP file number 102-0387, for work to repair the dam on Smith Pond. Agent Parsons visited the site and

reported the dam work is complete and all components are functioning as designed. Agent Parsons recommends a full Certificate of Compliance be issued while maintaining condition 21 prohibiting the use of fertilizers and a condition to maintain the structure as described in the dam operation and maintenance plan. Motion made to issue a complete Certificate of Compliance for DEP file number 102-0387, for the repairs to Smith Pond dam, with condition 21, no use of fertilizer, and maintenance continuing as described in the dam's operation and maintenance plan, (Brand/Delpapa). MSV.

Request for Certificate of Compliance submitted by S. Turner for Two State YMCA, DEP file number 102-0415, for work to rebuild Hamilton Road including crossing and replication area. Agent Parson visited the site and noted the plants in the replication area were doing well and boulders were in place to delineate the replication area. Previously the Commission issued a partial Certificate of Compliance. Motion made to issue a complete Certificate of Compliance for DEP number 102-0415 for the Hamilton Road rebuild, crossing and replication area with condition 21, no use of fertilizers, maintenance will continue as detailed in the maintenance plan on record; and the replication area will remain a protected resource area in perpetuity, (Brand/Delpapa). MSV.

The YMCA may come before the Commission regarding the need to lower water levels in a beaver pond and the expansion of wastewater collection infrastructure.

Review of **Enforcement Order** issued to S. Prum, 80 Beaver Brook Road, Map 204, Lot 43, for the clearing of vegetation within areas regulated under the Wetlands Protection Act and Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program. Agent Parsons visited the site and noted the cutting of vegetation and the creation of an approximately 2 foot by 4 foot pond. The vegetation was cut by hand and the plants may regrow on their own. Natural Heritage recommended the Commission consider asking for shrubs in this area to support the listed species. Agent Parsons explained the Enforcement Order sent to the house was returned. She also hand delivered a copy to the house with an additional copies sent to addresses on file in Florida and Lowell. Motion made to ratify the Enforcement Order issued to S. Prum for the clearing of vegetation within a regulated resource area under the MA Wetlands Protection Act and the Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Act at 80 Beaver Brook Road, (Map 204, Lot 43), (Brand/Delpapa). MSV. Agent Parson will resend the Enforcement Order, marked second notice, to all three addresses on file.

Review of **Enforcement Order** issued to A. and V. Bleier regarding unpermitted work at 819 Bonny Rigg Hill Road involving Bordering Vegetated Wetland, intermittent stream, and floodplain impacts. A complaint was filed with MA DEP about the rerouting of a seasonal brook on the property. The owner explained the work was part of the installation of a farm road before the house on the property burned down. The Enforcement Order issued requires a restoration plan be filed with the Commission by 21 September, 2018. Agent Parsons recommends DEP visit the site since the complaint was filed with DEP directly. A 20 September site visit was recommended with the possibility of visiting the Yokum Pond Road site also with an Enforcement Order issued to the Bleiers. Motion made to ratify the Enforcement Order to Andrew and Victoria Bleier regarding unpermitted work at 819 Bonny Rigg Hill Road involving Bordering Vegetated Wetland, intermittent stream, and floodplain impacts, (Brand/Delpapa). MSV.

Continuing Business

A **Request for Determination of Applicability** submitted by Kenneth Courage Jr. for a septic system upgrade at 274 High Street, Map 206, Lot 63. S Boomsma, representing the applicant, provided revised plans for the septic system where the leech field was pulled back to 50 feet from the resource. The system's down slope edge will be anchored with boulders. The septic tank was moved

to be out of the buffer zone. Motion made to issue a negative determination #3 for the septic system upgrade at 274 High Street (Map 206, Lot 63) with erosion controls to be installed before work begins as shown on the site plan of record and the controls shall remain in place and be maintained until vegetation is well established, (Brand/Delpapa). MSV.

A **Notice of Intent** submitted by Michael Tosch for a stream crossing replacement on Beaver Brook Road, Map 204, Lot 42. S Boomsma, representing the applicant, requested a continuance. Motion made to continue the Notice of Intent for DEP #102-0439, stream crossing replacement on Beaver Brook Road, to the 25 September, 2018 Becket Conservation Commission meeting, (Brand/Delpapa). MSV.

A **Bundled Notice of Intent** submitted by the Town of Becket Highway Department: The project proposes the anticipated yearly maintenance projects typically performed by the Highway Department within areas subject to the Wetlands Protection Act. A letter was received from the MA Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program relative to this NOI but the requested updated map showing the locations of beaver deceivers and anticipated culvert replacement locations has not been received. Motion made to continue the public hearing, pending receipt of additional information, for MA DEP #102-0438 - Bundled Notice of Intent for yearly road maintenance work submitted by the Town of Becket Highway Department to the 25 September, 2018 Becket Conservation Commission meeting (Brand/Delpapa). MSV.

Additional Items

Minutes: Motion made to approve the 26 June, 2018 and the 24 July, 2018 Becket Conservation Commission meeting minutes, (Brand/Dixon). MSV.

Solitude Lake Management: There was no response from Solitude regarding a request to have a representative attend and participate in an informational session about aquatic invasives control. The scheduled 7 August treatment did not occur in Sherwood Greens. Agent Parsons discussed aquatic plant management issues with three residents of Sherwood Greens.

Review of site inspection to 88 Nottingham Court: Agent Parsons visited the site and reported everything was vegetated and the construction materials have been removed. Agent Parsons visited two other sites within Sherwood Forest including 94 Sir Galahad, the building is in disrepair, and the culverts under Maid Marion Lane.

Agent Parsons reported MA DEP completed a site visit relative to the Lancelot Dam repair project. The applicant has dropped the part of the project under appeal. The Commission should anticipate a letter from DEP to formally request the Commission cede all matters regarding this project filing to the DEP.

S Parsons provided an update to the Commissioner regarding 211 Captain Whitney Road, Map 4127, Lot 12, regarding construction of a non-jurisdictional pond. A complaint was filed concerning work at 211 Captain Whitney Road. The owner was contacted and explained the work was associated with the installation of a pond. He further reported this project was discussed with former Becket Conservation Agent Shep Evans who advised the owner to not exceed a pond size of 10,000 square feet. There are no jurisdictional areas present.

Conservation Commission vacancies: Agent Parsons reached out to a potential Commissioner but has not heard back.

In response to a request, the Becket Athenaeum is happy to make room for Conservation Commission materials. It was suggested the Commission also send information about the Wetland Protection Act in the tax bills. Agent Parsons will circulate a possible informational brochure for Commission review.

Rosner Lane: An updated plan and planting list was provided. The applicant reported having trouble acquiring the plants on the original planting plan and ~~is~~ now wishes to use more indigenous plants. The amount of pathway has been scaled back. Recommend the Commission approve the changes as clerical changes to a plan.

Chair Dixon reported M Stucklen interviewed for the position of Conservation Agent last week. She would also like the Commission to consider hosting an informational session about lake management.

Motion made to adjourn the 28 August, 2018 Becket Conservation Commission, (Brand/Delpapa). MSV. Chair Dixon adjourned the meeting at 9:12 PM.

Action Items:

- 1.** Agent Parson will resend the Enforcement Order for 80 Beaver Brook Road to all three addresses marked second notice.
- 2.** Arrange a site visit, inviting DEP, for 819 Bonny Rigg Hill Road and Yokum Pond Road- Bleier Enforcement Orders.
- 3.** CD convert pdf informational brochure to a text document. Commissioners review and comment/edit brochure before it is printed to be sent with tax bills.
- 4.** Investigate the feasibility of a lake management information workshop.