

BLACKSTONE CONSERVATION COMMISSION  
MINUTES OF MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 15, 2008

Jesse Bousquet, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Senior Center of the Town Hall.

Present Were:

Jesse Bousquet	James Pitler
Lisa Brita	James Plasse
Maggie Plasse	John Castagnaro

Short Line Realty, 12 Tanglewood Road, North Smithfield, RI. – Notice of Intent to remove railroad tracks in the Mill River Street area. Marc Nyberg of Marc Nyberg Assoc. was present as the representative for Short Line Realty. Joseph McCue of Natural Resource Services was present as the wetlands consultant for the Commission. Mr. Nyberg said that there was 1,100 feet of track left, which they will be removing. He is proposing using a silt fence along the edge of the pond, because it has more flexibility. Mr. Bousquet said that he will monitor the installation of the silt fence and the completion of the project. Mr. Nyberg said that they will be using a backhoe, but they will not digging. They will not be dragging the tracks, just lifting them. Mr. Nyberg said that they had not received a DEP file number yet.

Michael Paul, an abutter, wants to know what will be done with the rest of the property. He would like to see a comprehensive plan. Mrs. Brita explained that the Commission only has a Notice of Intent to remove the rails on a certain portion of the track. Mr. Nyberg informed the abutters that were present that he would be staking out the rest of the right-of-way line.

Mr. Paul said that he doesn't believe that Mr. Irza owns all the railroad line. Mr. Pitler said that the Commission has the documented proof that Mr. Irza does own the property. Mr. Paul also asked if the Commission is still going to hire an agent. Mr. Bousquet replied that the Commission is still looking into hiring a Conservation Agent.

Donald Corriveau, the owner of Charlotte's Foundry and an abutter, asked if they were supposed to clear the trees out like they did. Mr. Bousquet said that they did it before the Cease & Desist Order was in place. Mr. Paul said that he is concerned about what's going on there, because they have had violation after violation. Ms. Plasse said that Mr. Irza can only work where the Notice of Intent allows him to work.

Mr. Pitler said that he would like the e-mail from DEP placed in the file. He asked if the dirt would be disturbed. Mr. McCue said that the disturbance should only be from the tires. There should be minimal disturbance to the soil. Mr. Pitler asked if there was enough room for the backhoe to get through. Mr. Nyberg said that there was plenty of

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room. He said that they may need to do some small brush cutting. Mr. McCue said that they should only do minimal brush cutting.

Christine Corriveau, an abutter, said that trees were cut down and the railroad tracks had been dragged out. Mr. Bousquet said that they didn't actually excavate. Mr. Irza said that no ties were taken out of Blackstone. Mr. Nyberg said that they will drive over the ties to remove the tracks. Mrs. Corriveau said that it looks like ties were removed before the Cease and Desist Order was issued. Mr. Pitler and Mr. Bousquet informed abutters present that they could appeal the Commission's decision to the Department of Environmental Protection.

Mr. Pitler made a motion to close the hearing. Mrs. Brita seconded the motion. The motion was passed by Unanimous Vote.

Mr. Pitler made a motion to approve the project for Short Line Realty with the following special conditions:

- Silt fence to be used during construction
- Conservation Commission to be notified when the silt fence is installed, when the work begins, and when the work is finished
- No excavation and no storage of materials
- Limited brush removal

Mrs. Brita seconded the motion. The motion was passed by Unanimous Vote.

Keith Gagne, 24 Orchard Street, Blackstone, MA – Notice of Intent for a proposed addition. Paul Gadoury, engineer, was present as Mr. Gagne's representative. Mr. Gadoury said that the home is 42' x 28' with a paved driveway running down the side of it. They are proposing to build a 27' x 27' garage with a living area above it. They have also proposed a new paved driveway and will abandon the old driveway. Mr. Gadoury said that there is a small drainage area that is dry. He said that there is an intermittent stream on the property. The septic is in the back of the property. Mr. Bousquet said that he would like a site visit of the property. All the members agreed that a site visit is needed.

Mrs. Brita made a motion to continue the hearing until October 6<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Plasse seconded the motion. The motion was passed by Unanimous Vote.

Ms. Plasse made a motion to approve the Minutes of the August 25<sup>th</sup> meeting with a few corrections. Mrs. Brita seconded the motion. The motion was passed by Unanimous Vote.

All members present signed the secretary's payroll sheet and an invoice for Natural Resource Services, Inc.

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Lucien Collins was present to request a three year extension for the Order of Conditions for Warfield Lane, DEP #110-303.

Mr. Pitler made a motion to grant the three year extension for Mr. Collins. Mr. Plasse seconded the motion. The motion was passed by Unanimous Vote.

Conservation Agent – Mr. Bousquet said that the Commission presently uses Natural Resource Services as our wetlands consultant. The members agreed that we need to have an agent that we can give more power to. The members reviewed the funds that we have in our fees account. Mr. Bousquet asked the other members to compile information on hiring an agent, and we will discuss it at the next meeting.

The subject of updating our bylaws to match the states requirements will also be discussed at the next meeting.

Mrs. Brita made a motion to close the meeting. Mr. Plasse seconded the motion. The motion was passed by Unanimous Vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa A. Larue  
Secretary