

Conservation Commission Minutes
March 27, 2014

Present: Paul Sokoloski, Mouis Misiun, Jr., Ben Bryne Absent: Brian Dejnack

The meeting was Called to order at 7:00 pm.

Minutes of the last meeting, December 2013 were approved.

Mail was reviewed. The Commission noted a request submitted to the Board of Selectmen for removal of a small strip of property from Chapter 61A.

Old Business:

Solar Project: location - Old Deerfield Treatment Plant – 55 Little Meadow Road

Present: Kirstin Bakker (Energy Resources Committee)

Louis explained that Kristin had attended the February meeting, at which there was no quorum, to discuss the proposed installation of solar arrays to produce electricity. Previously, a representative from DEP had reviewed the project and made some suggestions for additional information that should be provided. Kristin reported that Peter Talmedge had been consulted. He has recommended a different style solar panel that would require less mechanical equipment than the dual mounted solar arrays. There would be 18 poles which would disturb 54 cubic feet of ground. The project will still be within the fenced area surrounding the treatment plant. Flood plain height is 142.5 feet above sea level; storm Irene levels were 145 feet. Kristin said the recommendation was made that a group of trees be removed. However this would change the scope of the project requiring the filing of a Notice of Intent. The Commission agreed to a negative 2 determination with two conditions: 1) planting of indigenous bushes, such as blueberry bushes be planted in the mowed area between the fence and the river bank, and 2) that no trees be removed.

New Business:

Herbicide spraying of I-91

Present: Tim Meyer (MassDOT)

Mr. Meyer explained the intent to spray along the guardrails of I-91 from the Whately Town Line through Deerfield to the Greenfield Town Line. Louis Misiun stated that he works for MassDOT. The Commission agreed to a negative #2a decision.

Next meeting: The next meeting of the Commission will be April 17, 2014.

The meeting adjourned at 8:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Priscilla Phelps