

**TOWN OF GREAT BARRINGTON
CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEETING
MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2013
7:00 P.M. – GREAT BARRINGTON TOWN HALL**

PRESENT: ANDREW MANKIN – Chairman
 LISA BOZZUTO
 JESSICA DEZIECK
 DAVID SHANAHAN

SHEP EVANS – CONSERVATION AGENT

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Mankin called the meeting to order at 7:10 P.M.

7:00 pm – WPA Notice of Intent 167-0374 from 53 Brookside Rd., Great Barrington; URJ Camp Eisner to install a new water line from Grove St. through a portion of land owned by John Dewey Academy and directed southerly onto and through the land of Camp Eisner.

MOTION: Jessica Dezieck to continue the public hearing until the 11/20/13 meeting at 7:00 PM

SECOND: Lisa Bozzuto

VOTE: 4-0

7:15 pm – WPA Notice of Intent 167-0376 for 518 Egremont Rd. for house addition, slope stabilization, retaining wall and new septic system. Continued from August 28, 2013 pending outcome of wetland restoration and replacement plan per Enforcement Order of 8/19/13.

The restoration and replacement place was presented with 14 conditions.

Stabilization fabric will be used on the road, if needed. There will also be invasive monitoring and removal, if needed.

Jess Dezieck asked how long the area will be monitored.

Shannon Boomsma responded that there would be 3 year monitoring and annual reports by November of each year.

Lisa Bozzuto asked if the invasive management would include the whole property.

Shannon Boomsma replied that it would.

Shep Evans said that he would like something in writing as to who is doing the work before it begins, as well as, a pre-work meeting.

MOTION: Jessica Dezieck to approve the restoration plan as presented with the 14 conditions as listed and a pre-construction meeting.

SECOND: Lisa Bozzuto

VOTE: 4-0

Shannon Boomsma presented the plan for the NOI.

Jess Dezieck said that she would like to see trees and more diverse plantings.

David Shanahan said that it would be helpful to have the trees and/or plantings at the bottom of the slope. He also expressed his concern about the stone wall. He would like enough distance between the wall and the footings.

Andrew Mankin asked for a plan showing more trees. Andrew will do a site visit and stake where the wall will be placed.

The site visit was planned for Wednesday, October 30th at 3:00.

MOTION: Jessica Dezieck to continue the public hearing until the 11/20/13 meeting at 7:15 PM

SECOND: Lisa Bozzuto

VOTE: 4-0

7:25 pm – RDA – from DOT for area located east of 280 State Rd. (Rte 23 & 183), the patching of the upper section of the inside of a concrete culvert pipe.

MOTION: Jessica Dezieck to close the public hearing

SECOND: Lisa Bozzuto

VOTE: 4-0

MOTION: Jessica Dezieck to approve the RDA with a Negative #2

SECOND: Lisa Bozzuto

VOTE: 4-0

7:35 pm - WPA RDA - Rte 7 from the town line, north to the end of the state highway layout; for cold planning and resurfacing of existing asphalt, repairs to drainage structures, replacement of existing pavement markings and installation of slotted pavement markers and rumble strips.

Jess Dezieck asked how long the project will take.

The response given was one year total with 3 months of serious work and 3 months of accessory items.

MOTION: Jessica Dezieck to close the public hearing

SECOND: Lisa Bozzuto

VOTE: 4-0

MOTION: Jessica Dezieck to approve the RDA with a Negative #2

SECOND: Lisa Bozzuto

VOTE: 4-0

7:40 pm - WPA NOI 167-0369 from Dave Inglis of Mahaiwe Harvest new agriculture on South Main Street, in a resource area, a priority habitat and a 100 year flood plain. Note: NHESP has found a “take”. We have written to Mr. Inglis. Continued from August 28, 2013

Shep Evans sent the letter and had no response.

MOTION: Jessica Dezieck to close the public hearing

SECOND: Lisa Bozzuto

VOTE: 4-0

MOTION: Jessica Dezieck to deny the NOI

SECOND: Lisa Bozzuto

VOTE: 4-0

7:45 pm – WPA SMA NOI; 320 Long Pond Rd., Great Barrington; for the construction of a main house, pool, installation of underground utilities, removal of trees, and movement of boulders.

Craig Okerstrom-Lange presented the plan for tree removal. There will be 35 trees removed and 6 transplants.

Jess Dezieck said that she does not want dead trees cut down because they make good habitats.

Craig also presented the landscape design and suggested putting in evergreens.

Jess Dezieck said that she would like understory on the ‘slope going up.’

Andrew Mankin agreed that there should be more understory.

Jess Dezieck said that she would like a replacement plan for the 35 trees being taken down.

Craig replied that 13 of the large trees will be replaced by evergreens.

Andrew Mankin expressed his concern about removing the oak trees that are part of the ridgeline. He said that he would like these trees to be maintained.

Craig said that this would be very difficult. He argued that the ridge is further up and that there are other trees in this area.

Andrew replied that none are as big as an Oak.

Shep spoke about the view management plan and said that this needs to be focused on as well.

Craig said that he will see how he can introduce more trees on the property.

Andrew Mankin asked for a statement about outdoor lighting.

Craig requested another site visit.

MOTION: Jessica Dezieck to continue the public hearing until the 11/20/13 meeting at 7:35 PM

SECOND: Lisa Bozzuto

VOTE: 4-0

7:55 pm – SMA RDA – 318 Long Pond Rd.; for the construction of a septic field and pipe connection to a future septic tank. Continued from October 23, 2013

Craig Okerstrom-Lnage presented the plan for the septic field and an addendum to the plan.

He stated that erosion controls will be in place; straw waddles and a silt fence.

MOTION: Jessica Dezieck to continue the public hearing until the 11/20/13 meeting at 7:30 PM or a date sooner

SECOND: Lisa Bozzuto

VOTE: 4-0

Miscellaneous:

- Approval of minutes from the September 25, 2013 meeting

MOTION: Jessica Dezieck to approve the September 25, 2013 minutes as amended

SECOND: Lisa Bozzuto

VOTE: 4-0

- Re-issued Enforcement Order for cutting at 263 Long Pond Road

MOTION: Jessica Dezieck to ratify the new enforcement order dated 10/11/13.

SECOND: Lisa Bozzuto

VOTE: 4-0

- Pfeiffer Arboretum – replace/repair bog bridging and trails-Special Permit/Selectboard

The Building Inspector has been consulted and this is now a Selectboard issue.

- Enforcement Order, 263 Long Pond Road, clear cutting this and Pfeiffer Arboretum.

The representative for Lynne Hutchinson presented the new plan and explained the changes.

Ira Kaplan spoke about issues regarding the new plan.

There was discussion about cutting garlic mustard and Christine Ward stated that this can only be pulled by hand.

Brejia McCracken suggested small trees that will survive among invasives and grow into a forest.

She also asked that it be noted that 'all invasives be removed; those that are listed as such by the Massachusetts Invasive Plant Advisory Group.'

Andrew Mankin said this needs to be 75 % successful and as quickly as possible.

Andrew agreed that there should be at least 3 gallon trees.

All disagree with putting the planting off until Spring.

Brejia said that the best time to plant trees is in the fall.

The Commission agrees that:

Hand-picking the garlic mustard.

Staking trees that are planting using wooden stakes.

A formal report once a year documented by three visits. An e-mailed report will be provided after each visit. All concerned parties will be notified of the visits and they will be monitored by a professional approved by the Commission.

No Machinery will be used.

All invasives listed by the Massachusetts Invasive Plant Advisory Group be removed.

Ira Kaplan said that he feels that time is an issue. He spoke about legal matters that are hindering this project.

- West Sheffield Road/ SMA cutting violation

Shep Evans has issued an enforcement order. He gave copies to the Commission.

- 46 Seekonk Rd., 167-328 OOC recorded, work began 2009 & stopped.

Shep Evans will continue to pursue this matter.

- 174 Front St. – Monument Mills – buttress, temporary road, original OOC amended.

Temporary cribbing was put in; no future work was done. Shep Evans will make a recommendation as to how to terminate this.

- Chesloff House at 316 Long Pond Rd. – Certificate of Compliance

MOTION: Jessica Dezieck to issue a certificate of compliance with finalized plan and Declaration of Covenant

SECOND: Lisa Bozzuto

VOTE: 4-0

ADJOURNMENT:

On a motion by Jessica Dezieck, seconded by Lisa Bozzuto, the Commission adjourned its meeting at 10:25 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,



Cara Becker
Secretary