

**TOWN OF GREAT BARRINGTON
CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEETING
MINUTES
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2016
6:30 P.M. – GREAT BARRINGTON FIRE STATION
37 STATE ROAD**

PRESENT: GAETAN LACHANCE – Absent
BILL BOYER
LISA BOZZUTO
JEFF COHEN
JESSICA DEZIECK
ANDREW MANKIN
DAVID SHANAHAN –Absent

SHEP EVANS – CONSERVATION AGENT

1. CALL TO ORDER

Jessica Dezieck called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M.

WPA NOI 167-0369 from Dave Inglis of Mahaiwe Harvest located on South Main Street, Map 37 Lot 93 for new agriculture in the resource area of the Green River, a NHESP habitat and a 100 year flood plain. **Continued from August 28, 2013.** Update on progress.

Dave Inglis sent a letter stating that he is waiting for financial partnership in order to move forward.

MOTION: Andrew Mankin moves to continue **WPA NOI 167-0369** until the next meeting, **November 16, 2016**

SECOND: Lisa Bozzuto

VOTE: 4-0

Request for Determination of Applicability from the Great Barrington Land Conservancy for repairs and/ or replacement of boardwalks, viewing deck, and bog bridging in the existing nature trail at the Pfeiffer Arboretum. Property is at 249 Long Pond Road, Map 33 Lot 5A. All work will be confined to the original footprint of the existing structures, no motorized equipment will be used, only hand tools, and only locally sourced rot resistant lumber (locust, tamarack, cedar, or hemlock) will be used. Greenagers and local volunteers will provide the labor with oversight by Christine Ward.

Christine Ward presented on behalf of the RDA. Ward asked the Commission to continue the RDA until November so she can speak with the trail builders to discuss overall cost. The bridge over the bog will be slightly longer, helical piers will be utilized in new addition, and rot resistant boards will be placed over existing piers. Andrew Mankin, if you are okay with removing the old piers, we are okay with you removing and replacing

the piers. Ward, "I will present figures as well as a proposal at the next meeting in November."

MOTION: Andrew Mankin moves to continue the public hearing until the next meeting, **November 16, 2016**

SECOND: Lisa Bozzuto

VOTE: 4-0

Request for Determination of Applicability from the Housatonic Valley Association for periodic cleanup of the Housatonic River in the town stretch from north of Bridge Street down to Brookside Road bridge. Trash will consist mostly of tires found on the bottom of the river and miscellaneous items from the bottom and up the bank. Some volunteers will wade the river. Canoes will transport trash to the Riverwalk access point(s) where it will be sorted and bagged for collection and transport to appropriate disposal sites. The Access sites are at 195 Main Street, Map 14 Lot 225, and canoe launch sites off Riverwalk near the Bridge Street bridge and off Brookside Road near the Brookside Road bridge.

Allison Dickson of HVA, informs the board that the Town is going to take care of the removed trash.

MOTION: Andrew Mankin motions to issue a negative number 2.

SECOND: Lisa Bozzuto

VOTE: 4-0

Request for Determination of Applicability from Shep Evans. Property is at 219 Monument Valley Road, Map 36 Lot 4. Proposed work includes demolition and removal of an old deteriorated garage and construction of a new pole barn garage in its place. All work will be in the buffer zone of an intermittent stream. Erosion controls will be installed prior to the start of work and will be monitored and maintained until all disturbed areas have been seeded and stabilized.

Shep Evans, the footprint is going to be different but similar and there will be no disturbance to the intermittent stream.

MOTION: Andrew Mankin motions to issue a negative number 3.

SECOND: Lisa Bozzuto

VOTE: 4-0

Notice of Intent (DEP # 167-0406) from Foresight Land Services on behalf of Michele Waldman. Property is located at 42 monument Valley Road, Map 41 Lot 15. The proposed work consists of demolishing an existing single family house; installing a new 16 ft. wide common driveway crossing Muddy Brook via a new concrete deck bridge and continuing uphill to two proposed house sites.

MOTION: Andrew Mankin motions to continue the public hearing until November 16, 2016

SECOND: Lisa Bozzuto

VOTE: 4-0

Review of Restoration Planting achievements and replacement planting proposed by Windy Hill Farm to achieve mandated 75% survival of restoration plantings under the terms of the Revised Enforcement Order of 12/18/2013. Properties are located at 263 Long Pond Road and 249 Long Pond Road, Map 33 Lots 3, 4, and 5A.

Dustin Bartlett spoke on behalf of Windy Hill Farm and applicant Lynn Hutchinson. There has been a 64% survivability rate among the original plantings. Lisa Bozzuto, "Sometimes nature does a better job at restoration and that doesn't always happen as fast as we want it too. I think we should focus on creating a healthy habitat." Christine Ward, "I'm concerned about the tree to shrub ratio. I would like to see more taller trees, the impact of the shade from taller trees will decrease the probability of invasive species."

MOTION: Andrew Mankin motions approve the replanting plan with the addition that Windy Hill will submit a revised plan.

SECOND: Jeff Cohen

VOTE: 4-0

MOTION: Andrew Mankin motions to amend.

SECOND: Lisa Bozzuto

VOTE: 4-0

MOTION: Andrew M motions to instruct Windy Hill to submit a revised replanting plan that has been approved by the Great Barrington Land Conservancy, the new plan should include a greater number of trees.

SECOND: Lisa Bozzuto

VOTE: 4-0

Miscellaneous matters:

- **Larkin enforcement matter.** +/- 15.6 Ac. Violation adjacent to Housatonic and Green Rivers.

The Commission had a discussion surrounding the next phase of action. They agreed upon having a meeting with the Town Planner, Town Manager, and Town Attorney. Jess D suggests that the final goal would be to have a restoration plan and as a Commission they need to outline the steps to take in order to achieve this goal.

MOTION: Andrew Mankin motions the Agent schedule a meeting with Chris Rembold and Jennifer Tabakin.

SECOND: Lisa Bozzuto

VOTE: 4-0

- **Citizen speak time** – None
- **Approval of Minutes** of the September 22, 2016 Conservation Commission Meeting.

MOTION: Andrew M moves to approve the September 22, 2016 Meeting Minutes.

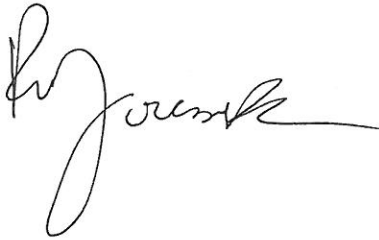
SECOND: Jess D

VOTE: 4-0

ADJOURNMENT:

On a motion by Jessica Dezieck, Seconded by Andrew Mankin, the Conservation Commission adjourned at 8:05 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Rebecca Jurczyk
Recording Secretary

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rebecca Jurczyk', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.