

**TOWN OF GREAT BARRINGTON
CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEETING
MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2016
6:30 P.M. – TOWN HALL
334 MAIN STREET**

PRESENT:

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

SHEP EVANS – CONSERVATION AGENT

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman LaChance called the meeting to order at 6:35 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.

Ira Kaplan and Dave Inglis are meeting on November 29, 2016. David Inglis will follow up with the Conservation Commission with the outcome of the meeting.

MOTION: Jess D moves to continue **WPA NOI 167-0369** until the next meeting, **December 14, 2016**

SECOND: Lisa B

VOTE: 6-0

Request for Determination of Applicability from the Great Barrington Land Conservancy for repairs and/or replacement of boardwalk, 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. **Continued from October 27, 2016.**

Christine Ward, GBLC. The proposed plan involves removing the existing boardwalk and replacing it with locust base logs and hemlock planks. GBLC would like to raise the boardwalk 12 inches and increase the width from two to three boards. Each Board will be spaced 1 inch apart to allow light penetration, this will total 26 inches across.

Lisa Bozzuto, "Can GBLC include language about achieving a 75% survivability after 3-5 years? We would like to see species added to the disturbed area, particularly ones that are already thriving in the area." Christine Ward assures the Commission that GBLC will maintain the site until 75-100% survivability is achieved.

Gaetan LaChance, "I would like to see a comprehensive plan dealing with the invasives at this location so we are dealing with them piecemeal." Christine Ward explained that the shade from larger trees is doing a great job at discouraging invasives. The Commission did not require GBLC to embark on a comprehensive invasive plan in the final decision.

MOTION: Jess D moves to approve the RDA with a negative number 2 with the following; replication area will be monitored for 5 years in late Spring and the end of the growing seasons to achieve a success rate of 75% or greater survivability. The invasive work in the designated area will be done by hand and under the supervision of Great Barrington Land Conservancy.

SECOND: Lisa B

VOTE: 6-0

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.

Continued from October 27, 2016.

The applicant requested that this matter be tabled until the next meeting.

MOTION: Jess D moves to continue the public hearing until the next meeting, **December 14, 2016.**

SECOND: Lisa B.

VOTE: 6-0

Review of Restoration Planting proposed by Windy Hill Farm and approved by GBLC to achieve mandated 75% survival of restoration plantings under the terms of the Revised Enforcement Order of 12/18/2013. Discussion of the need for invasive plant management until 75% survival is achieved. Properties are located at 263 Long Pond Road and 249 Long Pond Road, Map 33 Lots 3, 4 and 5A.

New England Environmental had been the entity monitoring the restoration plan. They are seeking a certificate of completion from the Commission. The commission deemed it necessary to schedule a site visit in order to determine the completion of the invasive control at Windy Hill Farm.

MOTION: Jeff C moves to extend the goal of achieving survivability of at least 75% for three consecutive years with a concurrent invasive management plan for the same

amount of time and to continue monitoring requirements of invasives and plantings as originally set forth in the enforcement order.

SECOND: Lisa B.

VOTE: 5-1 David Shanahan opposed.

Notice of Intent (DEP # 167-0407) from James J. Mercer of Housatonic Water Works Company. Property is located at 162 Division Street, Map 33 Lot 13. The proposed work consists of furnishing and installing 8" ductile iron water line parallel to an existing 8" ductile line connecting the clearwell basin to the 1.0 MG tank as indicated on the revised plans dated October 2016.

Jeff Cohen wanted it on the record that a company he owns is a tenant of Mr. Mercer's Water Works Company. The Conservation Commission agreed that this is not a significant enough conflict for Jeff to recuse himself from the vote.

MOTION: Jess D moves to issue a negative number 5.

SECOND: Lisa B.

VOTE: 6-0

Abbreviated Notice of Intent from Diego Gutierrez of Housatonic Architectural Services on behalf of Berkshire Real Estate Connections, LLC. The property is the unnumbered Main Street lot lying between #165 and #179, Map 14 Lot 219. Proposed work consists of redeveloping a previously developed riverfront area through the construction of a 1000 sq. ft. footprint commercial building.

The Conservation Commission requests that Berkshire Real Estate Connections, LLC present to them how they are improving the site from a conservation standpoint, plantings added, water management, erosion control etc.

MOTION: Jess D moves to continue the public hearing until the next meeting December 14, 2016

SECOND: Lisa B.

VOTE: 6-0

Miscellaneous matters:

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

The Conservation Commission Agent has met with Town Planner, Chris Rembold. The next step will be to hold a meeting with Town Council, the Conservation Commission Agent, Chair, Vice Chair and the Town Planner. The Conservation

Commission discussed bringing in outside lawyers to consult on this issue and if Town Council is the correct entity to involve in this matter.

David Shanahan left the meeting.

Citizen speak time – None

Approval of Minutes of the October 27, 2016 Conservation Commission Meeting.

MOTION: Jess D moves to approve the October 27, 2016 Meeting Minutes with the corrections

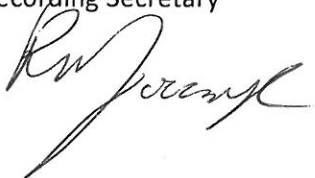
SECOND: Lisa B

VOTE: 5-0

ADJOURNMENT:

On a motion by Jessica Dezieck, Seconded by Lisa Bozzuto, the Commission adjourned its meeting at 8:30 P.M. **Vote 5-0**

Respectfully submitted,
Rebecca Jurczyk
Recording Secretary

 12/14/16