

**TOWN OF GREAT BARRINGTON
CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEETING
MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 26, 2014
7:00 P.M. – GREAT BARRINGTON TOWN HALL**

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

SHEP EVANS – CONSERVATION AGENT

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Mankin called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

7:00 pm – SMA NOI 0012 for Eagleton School, 446 Monterey Rd., Great Barrington; for the construction of a water treatment building and holding tank to serve the campus.

Shannon Boomsma submitted a plant proposal.

Jessica Dezieck expressed her concern about the invasive control around the cut area.

Shep Evans suggested that the Conservation Commission reserve the right to check in on invasives management.

MOTION: Jessica Dezieck to close the public hearing

SECOND: Lisa Bozzuto

VOTE: 5-0

MOTION: Jessica Dezieck to approve SMA NOI 0012 with the presented conditions.

SECOND: Lisa Bozzuto

VOTE: 4-0-1 David Shanahan abstains

Shep Evans stated that the OOC will be sent to White Engineering, who will record it.

7:10 pm – 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.

MOTION: Jessica Dezieck to continue the public hearing until 4/23 at 7:10 PM.

SECOND: Lisa Bozzuto

VOTE: 5-0

7:20 pm – WPA RDA for Fair Ground Community Redevelopment Corp., Inc., 659 South Main Street Great Barrington; to set grade stakes 20 feet from the wetlands and tie cord or rope and flagging along the stakes from end to end effectively roping off the wetland from public access. There will be the construction of a 40'x80' tent, 112' diameter tent, and 30'x60' tent.

Bart Elsbach announced that the circus will be held at the Fairgrounds in July. The tents and all related items will be kept out of the wetland area. A setback will be created, as requested.

Jeff Cohen said that he would like to see how the area will be protected by more than just rope given all of the cars and walkers on the property. He suggested a temporary snow-type fence, plastic fence or the like.

Andrew Mankin stated that demarcation should be clear.

Jessica Dezieck suggested a greater distance be put between the people and the wetlands; 50 feet. She also suggested staking off the wetland drainage area which is very muddy.

Andrew Mankin agreed.

Bart Elsbach stated that the entrance and exit will be farther to the east.

MOTION: Jessica Dezieck to close the public hearing.

SECOND: Jeff Cohen

VOTE: 4-0-1 Lisa Bozzuto recused herself

MOTION: Jessica Dezieck to issue a Negative #2 for the circus performances and wetland demarcation with some sort of temporary fencing for the dates of July 14 through July 28.

SECOND: Jeff Cohen

VOTE: 4-0-1 Lisa Bozzuto recused herself

A site visit was proposed with 24 hours notice.

7:30 pm - WPA RDA for Fair Ground Community Redevelopment Corp., Inc., 659 South Main Street Great Barrington; to construct a fenced area of about 250' x 50' near the entrance of the Fairgrounds.

Bart Elsbach proposed a dog park in order to control and contain the location that the dogs go into.

Andrew Mankin said that there needs to be proof that this area is not a wetland, hydrologic connection or other condition

Jessica Dezieck suggested a site visit. She is concerned with the parking area.

Bart explained that no one can park or drive in this area.

Andrew Mankin asked that the wetland area be flagged and the dog park staked for a site visit.

He also suggested having a specialist re-delineate the wetlands.

MOTION: Jessica Dezieck to continue the public hearing until 4/23 at 7:20 PM.

SECOND: Jeff Cohen

VOTE: 4-0-1 Lisa Bozzuto recused herself

7:35 pm - WPA RDA for Fair Ground Community Redevelopment Corp., Inc., 659 South Main Street Great Barrington; to repair and replace the existing cowshed structure at the site entrance on the same footprint.

Bart Elsbach stated that the cowshed has been deemed not useable. It needs to be taken down and replaced with a structure of similar purpose.

Andrew Mankin said that the Board of Selectmen are required to issue a special permit for work in the flood plane.

David Shanahan said that there would be no negative impact to the area.

Bart said that he is not filing for compensatory credits at this point. He is not changing the use or impacting the area.

MOTION: Jessica Dezieck to close the public hearing

SECOND: Jeff Cohen

VOTE: 5-0

MOTION: Jeff Cohen to issue Negative #2 conditioned upon the issuance of a building permit and/or a Special Permit by Board of Selectmen.

SECOND: David Shanahan

VOTE: 3-1-1 Liza Bozzuto recused herself. Jessica Dezieck against.

7:45 pm – WPA NOI 167-0382 from Deidre Corcoran, 56 River Street, Great Barrington for the reconstruction of a single family residence on the existing foundation at 56 River Street on the same footprint.

Al Thorpe represented Deidre Corcoran. There was a silt fence in place while construction was under way. There are no grading or elevation changes.

MOTION: Jessica Dezieck to close the public hearing
SECOND: Lisa Bozzuto
VOTE: 5-0

MOTION: Jessica Dezieck to approve NOI 167-0382 as presented with the following conditions:
Signed and stamped plan from the architect, a site visit after planting and a site visit before erosion controls are removed.
SECOND: Lisa Bozzuto
VOTE: 5-0

Miscellaneous:

- Approval of Minutes from the February 26, 2014 meeting

MOTION: Jessica Dezieck to approve the February 26, 2014 minutes
SECOND: Lisa Bozzuto
VOTE: 5-0

- Town Planner, Chris Rembold - Lake Mansfield watershed/stormwater project @Castle Hill Ave.

Chris Rembold gave a detailed presentation about this project. He showed a map of the area before and after the work. Thanks to this project, the water entering the lake will now be 90% cleaner than before. There were many volunteer hours that were donated to help complete this project.

- SMA Cutting violation – 166 Castle Hill Avenue, McDonald property –
Shep Evans said that he has spoken to the owner. A restoration plan will be created.

- BRPC & MACC education opportunity at BRPC, 1 Fenn St., Pittsfield – Shep Evans handed out information about this to the Commission. This is a free event.

- Beaver Permit at 54 Hurlburt Road.

Shep Evans showed a map of this area. The dam needs to be removed in order to keep the property from becoming wetlands.

MOTION: Jessica Dezieck to approve the beaver permit with the condition that Shep Evans and David Shanahan meet to discuss.

SECOND: Lisa Bozzuto

VOTE: 5-0

- Other last minute items

Diego Gutierrez spoke about a plan from 1999 in which there was an extension made to a building in White House Square. (Currently where the gym is)

The construction will take place within the original footprint.

Andrew Mankin would like specifics around compensatory storage and a NOI for the project since the original is so old.

Jessica Dezieck said that there may be a certificate of compliance not complete from the original work. There will be follow up to this matter.

Shep Evans reported that the DPW has been storing snow at 'Old Maids.' As the snow melts, it runs down the river bank.

Shep spoke with Joe Sokul who said this is common practice. Shep asked him to move it 200ft away next year. Shep will review the plan before snow season next year.

Shep reported about the Getty Station. Observation wells are being put in and earth samples have been taken. Ground water samples will be taken in the near future.

Jeff Cohen would like to know if this is Phase 1 or 2.

A storm water drainage storm- sceptor has been put it. They would like to stop maintaining it. Shep does not agree that this should be left in without maintenance as originally proposed by Getty and would like a plan brought before the Commission.

David Shanahan spoke about street sweepers in parking lots. He would like to bring this up to the Board of Health because they aren't using water in the process.

ADJOURNMENT:

On a motion by Jessica Dezieck, seconded by Lisa Bozzuto, the Commission adjourned its meeting at 9:52 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,



Cara Becker
Secretary