

**TOWN OF GREAT BARRINGTON
CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEETING
MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27, 2013
7:00 P.M. – GREAT BARRINGTON FIRE HOUSE**

PRESENT: ANDREW MANKIN – Chairman
LISA BOZZUTO
JENNIFER CONNELL
JESSICA DEZIECK
BRUCE GORE
DAVID SHANAHAN

AMANDA SEWALL – CONSERVATION AGENT

1. CALL TO ORDER

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

7pm – 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 Natural Heritage Endangered Species Habitat and a 100 year flood plain. Representative Tom Coote

MOTION: Jessica Dezieck to continue the public hearing until the 4/24/13 meeting at 7:00 PM

SECOND: Bruce Gore

VOTE: 6-0

7:05pm – WPA NOI – 167-03 from Lindsey Tuller of Riverbend Café at 405 Stockbridge Rd for the installation of a 10x20 cooler at the back of the building

MOTION: Jessica Dezieck to continue NOI 167-03 until the 4/24/13 meeting at 7:05 PM

SECOND: Bruce Gore

VOTE: 6-0

7:10pm – WPA RDA – Pfeiffer Arboretum 249 Long Pond Road for replacement and repairs to bog bridge and nature trails using existing footprint
Andrew Mankin said that this area is all in the water quality overlay district. A variance is needed from DEP to fix Bog Bridge.

Amanda Sewall said Ed May suggested putting up a sign saying "now stepping into water quality overlay district."

MOTION: Jessica Dezieck to continue until the 4/24/13 meeting at 7:10 PM

SECOND: Bruce Gore

VOTE: 6-0

7:15pm - WPA/SMA RDA – 8 Butternut Lane for the removal of 11 trees in buffer zone of an intermittent stream and SMA area. Representative: John Field

MOTION: Jessica Dezieck to continue the public hearing until the 4/24/13 meeting at 7:15 PM

SECOND: Bruce Gore

VOTE: 6-0

7:20pm – WPA RDA – 73 Round Hill Road for proposed building of a 3 bay garage in the resource area of a perennial stream

Andrew Mankin said this is an RDA as per Mark Stinson due to 'protection over-process.'
Jack Polizzi stated that he would like a 3 car garage in back of his house because his shed was demolished in the last storm. The garage is not far enough from the stream so it requires a public hearing. He said that he could create a 25 foot buffer to protect animals. Straw waddles could also be utilized. Mr. Polizzi said the water never rises.

Andrew Mankin responded that it is important to bring back an area of growth on the stream. He suggested a 25 ft 'no mow' zone along the stream and the removal invasives as they come up.

Mr. Polizzi said that he is not able to identify invasives.

Jessica Dezieck and David Shanahan offered help and information if invasives crop up.

MOTION: Jessica Dezieck to close the public hearing

SECOND: Bruce Gore

VOTE: 6-0

MOTION: Jessica Dezieck to approve the RDA negative 2 with the following conditions:

25 ft. 'no mow' zone along the northern section of the stream that is located within his property boundary

Steel fencing and straw waddles in a pre-construction meeting

SECOND: Bruce Gore

VOTE: 6-0

7:30pm – WPA 167-0372 – 55 Hurlburt Road from Beth Sackler and Jeffery Cohen for driveway construction and stream crossing, demolition of in-ground pool, garage addition to carriage house, and invasive management plan all within the jurisdiction of an intermittent stream. Representative: SK Design and Craig Okerstrom-Lang

Sarah Schultz gave a summary of the revised information and reviewed the plans.

Craig Okerstrom-Lang reviewed the invasive species plan.

Jessica Dezieck asked if he was going to cut the native vegetation around the cedar tree.

Craig replied that he was planning to.

Andrew Mankin said to leave the native vegetation around the tree.

Andrew said that, ultimately, a buffer zone is needed around the stream to make a better situation.

Craig went over the invasives removal process and said that he will add in his narrative a description of how he will remove them; specifying the use of an excavator.

Jeffrey Cohen said that he conditioned his purchase contract with the previous owners on their compliance with the orders of the Conservation Commission. He said that he has spent a lot of money on the trees which are now healthier. Mr. Cohen stated that this is a well-thought out, detailed plan that will also have a long term positive result.

Andrew Mankin said this is the time to get it right. A good, clear plan is needed going forward. Changes to the plan were made during the meeting.

Mr. Cohen asked if the environmental monitoring requirement can be loosened.

Amanda Sewall responded that bi-yearly reports by memo would be great.

MOTION: Jessica Dezieck to close the public hearing

SECOND: Jennifer Connell

VOTE: 6-0

MOTION: Jessica Dezieck to approve the NOI 167-0372 with 37 special conditions and the line narrative on page 3 of Okerstorm-Lang; D and H.

SECOND: Bruce Gore

VOTE: 6-0

Sarah Schultz presented the amendment to the OOC, showing the foot bridge sketch plan.

MOTION: Jessica Dezieck to approve the amendment as presented in the March 27, 2013 drawing reference # 130014.

SECOND: Jennifer Connell

VOTE: 6-0

7:45pm - WPA NOI 167-0373 – 100 Bridge Street for remediation of onsite contamination and restoration of wetlands

Tim Snay reported that dioxin is not a volatile chemical and poses no risk. There will be no contact or exposure to lower soil. Remediation will be in place and have caps to prevent exposure.

Tim Geller said the NOI only speaks to the farming technique.

Rob Hoghues gave a presentation saying that the entire site needs to be remediated. Many trees need to be cut down. There will be silt fencing along the bank lines. Moisture needs to be maintained for the 'bugs' to work.

Andrew Mankin asked at what point the wetland restoration will begin.

Rob Hoghues responded that it will begin after clean-up is complete.

The goal is to have a clean site, vegetated with grasses and restored wetlands.

Amanda asked if the truck tires will be sprayed off when they leave the site.

Hank Hemword responded that they would. He added that the stumps will also be washed off before moving off of the site.

Andrew Mankin said that he didn't hear from Natural Heritage and would be willing to have a special meeting to get things moving.

Tim Geller said that the April meeting should be sufficient.

Rob Hoghues said that a draft of special conditions would be helpful for the next meeting.

MOTION: Jessica Dezieck to continue the public hearing until the 4/24/13 meeting at 7:20 PM

SECOND: Bruce Gore

VOTE: 6-0

Miscellaneous:

- Approval of January minutes

MOTION: Jessica Dezieck to approve the minutes from January 23, 2013

SECOND: Bruce Gore

VOTE: 6-0

- Special Permit #807-13 Construct, Inc for two-family use of a single lot at 314 State Road
Cara Davis spoke about the property that is the old Kolburn School building. She stated that there will be no change to the footprint. There is an existing apartment that was used as a guest quarters. She would like to use it as an apartment.

MOTION: Bruce Gore that the Water Protection Act does not apply to Special Permit #807-13 Construct, Inc.

SECOND: Jessica Dezieck

VOTE: 6-0

- Amendment to WPA NOI 167-359 - 55 Hurlburt Rd. for changes to intermittent stream crossing, invasive management plan and no disturb zone
- Chesloff plan review from Craig Okerstrom-Lang for SMA NOI 006
This item will be continued at the 4/24/13 meeting.
- Lake Mansfield end of year report review and phragmites control plan update

Jessica Dezieck said the funds would come from the wetlands protection fund.

MOTION: Jessica Dezieck to approve the proposal to put out a bid for phragmites control for Lake Mansfield.

SECOND: Bruce Gore

VOTE: 6-0

- New WPA proposed regulation changes
- Keystone Project Acceptance – Amanda Sewall said that she will be participating in a weekend long program of forestry and ecology in Harvard Forest. The program is the 2nd weekend in April.
- Other business

1) Amanda Sewall spoke about the Shoval property. She said that the piles of mulch are post Certificate of Compliance. There are no invasives within the area of this pile and the mulch will be used for paths. Amanda repeated that a Certificate of Compliance was issued and the mulch was delivered after.

Andrew Mankin requested that a response letter be sent saying at the site visit, the mulch piles were not there and not a result of the original invasive species removal.

2) Amanda said that Nathan and Mike Parsons will survey the McAllister property. Nathan will tag items to be pruned and determine 'target locations' to pay attention to. Amanda said that there is a lot of bittersweet damage and if nothing was done, the forest would be gone in 50 years.

Amanda said that she would like to invite the abutters to a meeting to see what trails to maintain. She would like to get a clear map of the trails, as well as, come up with a maintenance plan. Craig Okerstrom-Lang asked about the multiflora rose.

Amanda replied that a farmer has left certain areas that he can't get to, this way. She said that the focus is on saving the trees first.

11. ADJOURNMENT:

On a motion by Jessica Dezieck, seconded by Bruce Gore, the Commission adjourned its meeting at 9:09 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,



Cara Becker

Secretary