

**TOWN OF GREAT BARRINGTON
CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEETING
MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 24, 2013
7:00 P.M. – GREAT BARRINGTON TOWN HALL**

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 5/22/13 meeting at 7:20 PM

SECOND: Jennifer Connell

VOTE: 5-0 David Shanahan not present for vote

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 5/22/13 meeting at 7:25 PM

SECOND: Jennifer Connell

VOTE: 5-0 David Shanahan not present for vote

Amanda Sewall said that she will give this item one more month on the agenda.

7:10pm – WPA RDA – Pfeiffer Arboretum 249 Long Pond Road for replacement and repairs to bog bridge and nature trails using existing footprint

MOTION: Jessica Dezieck to continue the public hearing until the 5/22/13 meeting at 7:30 PM

SECOND: David Shanahan

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 5/22/13 meeting at 7:40 PM

SECOND: David Shanahan

VOTE: 6-0

All agree to do a site visit this month

7:20pm – WPA RDA – 659 Main Street/Fairgrounds for community clean-up day

MOTION: Jessica Dezieck to close the public hearing

SECOND: David Shanahan

VOTE: 5-0-1 Lisa Bozzuto recused herself since she is an abutter.

Janet Elsbach said that she has invited volunteers to come on Saturday to help clean-up the property. She said that they will be very careful.

MOTION: Jessica Dezieck to issue a negative #2 for 659 Main St.

SECOND: Jennifer Connell

VOTE: 5-0-1 Lisa Bozzuto recused herself since she is an abutter.

7:30pm – WPA RDA 100 Lake Mansfield Rd – removal of two trees near an intermittent stream
Andrew Mankin stated that the site visit is complete. There are wetlands and the 2 trees are in this wetland area. He stated that there is no danger of the trees falling on the house. This is a good habitat for animals between the trees. Andrew said that he does not see the need for the trees to be removed.

MOTION: Jessica Dezieck to close the public hearing

SECOND: Jennifer Connell

VOTE: 6-0

MOTION: Jessica Dezieck to issue a positive determination #3 for 100 Lake Mansfield Rd.

SECOND: David Shanahan

VOTE: 6-0

7:35pm – 100 Bridge Street for remediation of onsite contamination and restoration of wetlands
Hank Hemword stated that he received a letter from Natural Heritage. There are now Special Conditions which he commented on.

Rob Hoogs explained the NOI.

MOTION: Jessica Dezieck to close the public hearing

SECOND: David Shanahan

VOTE: 6-0

MOTION: Jessica Dezieck to approve NOI 167-0373 with 35 Special Conditions as listed in the draft.

SECOND: David Shanahan

VOTE: 6-0

Miscellaneous:

- Approval of January minutes

MOTION: Jessica Dezieck to approve the minutes from February 27, 2013

SECOND: Bruce Gore

VOTE: 6-0

MOTION: Jessica Dezieck to approve the minutes from March 27, 2013

SECOND: Bruce Gore

VOTE: 6-0

- McAllister over view

- Draft letter to abutters

- Scheduling meeting for abutters to attend

- Kiosk Placement

- Report Outline

- Update from Nathan the Intern -

Nathan said that he is working on mapping all paths. He will mark the invasive species on the map, as well.

Amanda Sewall said that mapping has proven to be more important than a written report. This project will be completed by June 1st. Amanda stated that Nathan has a current abutter list. She would like to draft a letter inviting them to a meeting to discuss the property.

David Shanahan said that he would like to take a look to see who the 'culprits' are: 4-wheelers, horses, etc.

Amanda Sewall suggested that the Commission create a mission statement around the McAllister property. Amanda said that the kiosk placement may be a good place to start communication with postings. She suggested that the kiosk be put through the red gates to the left. (On Hailey Rd.) Jessica Dezieck suggested explaining the rules and regulations of the property to the abutters. She also suggested reading the letter that was written by the person who deeded the property in order to explain their intent.

It was decided that there would be a meeting on June 12 at 7:00 regarding the McAllister property.

- Chesloff Res/Birchridge: Per OofC, updated construction plan reflecting built conditions and how site will be finished off.

Craig Okerstrom-Lange presented an updated map. He stated that the buildings are up, the septic system was installed and erosion controls are up. The driveway still needs to be shifted and landscaping will be done at the end of the project.

Andrew Mankin suggested scheduling a site visit.

Amanda Sewall said that she will try to schedule it for May 2nd.

- Perkin Res/Birchridge: Per OofC, swimming pool more detailed and adding hot tub at existing terrace just north of house deck. Have Plan by Chris Blair and description. Low profile, 18" above ground at seat height. To be installed amongst landscaping.

Craig Okerstrom-Lange presented the plan. He stated that the pool excavation begins next week and erosion control will go in on Monday. He said that the crushed stone will be removed and they will use the terrace that exists. Craig said that he hopes to finish by mid-summer.

Andrew Mankin requested that a site visit be scheduled.

- ZBA Application – 1 Cypress Street

Amanda Sewall said that the Conservation Commission has no jurisdiction in this matter. The owner wants to build a shed dormer to expand the existing attic space.

MOTION: Jessica Dezieck that the WPA does not apply.

SECOND: Jennifer Connell

VOTE: 6-0

Andrew Mankin spoke about the site visit on Seekonk Rd. where there is town work going on. He said that they had not restabilized the bank. Andrew said the application was for restoring the road, not the bank. However, in the application process, they are responsible for keeping silt and run-off from going into the river; hence they need to stabilize the bank. They did increase the erosion controls and since the site visit, Joe Sokul said that he would hydro-seed the bank. Jessica Dezieck stated that there is no vegetation; therefore, it will keep happening.

Andrew Mankin said that there will be more projects now that they are entering the Spring/Summer. He suggested assigning certain projects to each member.

Jessica Dezieck said that Lake Mansfield clean-up day is Sunday 4/28 from 10:30 – 3:00. She said there are lots of projects that need attention.

Amanda Sewall said that Chris Rembold sent the final draft of the open space and recreation plan and wants comments by May 20th. She asked that the Commission members send their comments to her by May 15th.

11. ADJOURNMENT:

On a motion by Andrew Mankin, seconded by Jessica Dezieck, the Commission adjourned its meeting at 8:05 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,



Cara Becker
Secretary