

**TOWN OF GREAT BARRINGTON
CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEETING
MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, MAY 22, 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 167-03** from Myrin Institute for the harvesting of invasive curly leaf pondweed at Barbieri Pond

Christopher Nye spoke about the project. He said there have been complaints about the curly leaf pondweed. Myrin Institue has decided to do minimal work as a start. They would like to use a machine, which is minimally invasive. The roots will still be present, so this will not be an answer to the problem. The long term plan is to do this process yearly for 3 years and then assess the results. There may then be the possibility of draining the pond, scraping the bottom, etc..

As the weeds are cut, they will be pulled onto a barge and composted by Greenagers.

Andrew Mankin said that the site visit has been completed. The biggest concern is the wetland area downstream of the pond.

Christopher Nye said that they would like to do this project by the end of June.

Amanda Sewall said that the approval would be for 3 years once it is voted on.

Jessica Dezieck said she is concerned about the culvert where the pond goes downstream.

Amanda Sewall suggested using erosion control fabric around the spill site in order to protect it.

Andrew Mankin suggested that Christopher Nye consider having Simons Rock students do test wells to see what is coming into the pond.

Amanda Sewall will E-mail Christopher Nye with questions from the committee.

A formal decision cannot be made since the DEP has not issued a number yet.

MOTION: Jessica Dezieck to continue the public hearing until the 6/26/13 meeting at 7:00 PM

SECOND: Bruce Gore

VOTE: 6-0

7:10pm – WPA RDA – 444 Stockbridge Rd.; Community Health Programs for placement of natural gas CAT Generator on an existing cement pad.

Andrew Mankin said that a site visit was done and the generator will fit on the existing pad.

MOTION: Jessica Dezieck to issue Negative #2

SECOND: Jennifer Connell

VOTE: 6-0

7:15pm – WPA RDA – 36 Fairview Terrace; to enclose and modify an existing deck and for a small additional deck in the buffer zone of an intermittent stream.

Mark Reynolds said that there is an intermittent stream on the easterly side, which puts the property in the buffer zone. There is a deck in the back which will be expanded, a roof added and the area screened in. A new deck will be put on the side of this space.

Andrew Mankin said that the area is very flat and he feels 'ok' with not having a silt fence put up.

MOTION: Jessica Dezieck to issue a Negative # 2; citing the new plans and with no silt fence.

SECOND: David Shanahan

VOTE: 6-0

7:20pm - WPA/NOI 167-0369 – from Dave Inglis of Mahaiwe Harvest located on South main St. 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.

MOTION: Jessica Dezieck to continue the public hearing until the 6/26/13 meeting at 7:20 PM

SECOND: Bruce Gore

VOTE: 6-0

7:25pm – WPA NOI 167-03 from Lindsey Tuller of Riverbank Café at 405 Stockbridge Rd for the installation of a 10x20 cooler at the back of the building

MOTION: Jessica Dezieck to close the public hearing

SECOND: Bruce Gore

VOTE: 6-0

MOTION: Jessica Dezieck to close NOI 167-03

SECOND: Bruce Gore

VOTE: 6-0

7:30pm – 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 6/26/13 meeting at 7:25 PM

SECOND: Bruce Gore

VOTE: 6-0

7:40pm – WPA/SMA RDA – 8 Butternut Lane for the removal of 11 trees in buffer zone of an intermittent stream and SMA area.

Jennifer Connell said that the trees are in the buffer zone. She feels that the Hemlocks that are healthy should not be removed. Jennifer said that they filter the water that goes to the stream and provide a great habitat.

David Shanahan said that the property owners' rights should be considered and this matter should be thought about with an open mind.

Andrew Mankin said that he does not feel that these trees will have a great effect on the wetlands if taken down.

MOTION: Jessica Dezieck to close the public hearing

SECOND: Bruce Gore

VOTE: 6-0

MOTION: Bruce Gore to allow 6 trees to be removed.

SECOND: Jessica Dezieck

VOTE: 4-2 Jennifer Connell and Lisa Bozzuto against

Miscellaneous:

- Approval of April minutes

MOTION: Jessica Dezieck to approve the minutes from April 24, 2013 as amended.

SECOND: Bruce Gore

VOTE: 6-0

- New Signature page Stephen Bennett NOI 167- 0364 for lost signature page – commission signed
- New Signature page Agawam Lake NHESP 167-0371 – commission signed

- Chesloff site plan and view management area review with Craig Okerstrom-Lang
Craig Okerstrom-Lange requested another site visit. Craig reported that they want to keep 4 key clumps of trees. He suggested planting a hardwood tree such as a red oak which will eliminate the 7 river birch that were originally proposed.

Jessica Dezieck said that she is concerned that a hardwood forest would shade out an evergreen forest.

Sara, from Creative Builders, said that they will put a tag on the trees to measure them.

Andrew Mankin said that this information needs to be kept as a record.

There will be more discussion about how to measure the trees at the site visit.

- McAllister update – Amanda reported that the intern is done for the year. He made the map of the property, which was given to the Commission.

Mike Parsons gave a map with delineated wetlands and showed an aerial view.

Amanda suggested that a land management plan be created, along with a mission statement regarding this property. Amanda also said that she has spoken to Greenagers and will be able to get on their list of projects.

Lisa Bozzuto said that Great Barrington now has tree city status giving the ability to get grants.

Jessica Dezieck suggested trying to get CPA funds, as well.

- Special Permit #809-13 for conversion of 210 Main St. to a branch office of Salisbury Bank and Trust Co.

This location is 200 feet from the river. It is within the water protection overlay district.

The work will be an enhancement to the property.

MOTION: Jessica Dezieck that this location is not in the WPA or SMA district.

SECOND: Bruce Gore

VOTE: 6-0

- Driveway permit reviews – 143 Taconic Ave. is decommissioning a driveway and putting a new one in. A letter was sent to the owner about water drainage.

- Other business

Renaissance Art School has relocated to Jennifer Commons after outgrowing their space. The center will be open for adults and children.

Bruce Gore asked about the project.

Nick Navarino replied that the work has been contained to the inside of the building.

Amanda Sewall said that this project is not in their jurisdiction.

MOTION: Jessica Dezieck that the WPA does not apply

SECOND: Lisa Bozzuto

VOTE: 4-0-2 Andrew Mankin and Jennifer Connell abstain

11. ADJOURNMENT:

On a motion by Jessica Dezieck, seconded by Bruce Gore, the Commission adjourned its meeting at 8:35 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Cara Becker

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Secretary