

**TOWN OF GREAT BARRINGTON
CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEETING
MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 24, 2015
6:30 P.M. – GREAT BARRINGTON TOWN HALL**

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

SHEP EVANS – CONSERVATION AGENT

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Mankin called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M.

WPA NOI DEP # 167-0394 from Berkshire Engineering for Navin Shah of Holiday Inn, property at 415 Stockbridge Road, Map 29 Lot 6. The applicant is seeking to expand the existing parking area to support an addition to the existing building. **Continued from May 27, 2015**

Ben Naylor, representing Berkshire Engineering, explained the project. There will be impervious pavement on areas North and South of the building. There will be 6 trees in total, removed. (They were marked on the plan) Proposed planting locations were added to the plan. The delineated wetlands were also marked on the plan.

Lisa Bozzuto said that she would like to see other options.

Mr. Naylor responded that an analysis was done and it was determined that this was the best option. He offered to send the analysis to the Commission.

Jessica Dezieck asked if there is a stockpile area.

Mr. Naylor said that a stockpile area was not marked on the plan.

Jessica said that the stockpile area should be marked and explained to workers. She asked for an invasive management plan, the submission of an annual report over the next 5 years, and a list of suggested trees with their sizes. Jessica also requested straw waddles be added to the erosion control in addition to the silt fence.

Shep Evans asked for the Certificate of Compliance from DEP.

Mr. Naylor said that it has not been received yet and he will look into it.

MOTION: Jess Dezieck to continue the public hearing until the July 27th meeting.

SECOND: Gaetan Lachance

VOTE: 5-0-1 Andrew Mankin recused

WPA NOI DEP # 167-0395 from Hill-Engineers, Architects, Planners, Inc. for Kimberly Daly of Berkshire Eye Center, the property is at 409 Stockbridge Road, Map 8 Lot 1.A. The applicant is seeking to convert a former bank drive-through window area into enclosed office space. This re-development project is within the 200' Riverfront area of the Housatonic River.

Daniel Levin, representing Hill Engineers, explained the project. He said that they will take the existing exterior space and enclose it to create interior space. There will be no parking changes. Straw waddles will be used for erosion control.

Jeff Cohen asked if there will be any excavation.

Mr. Levin responded that there will be.

Andrew Mankin asked for a maintenance plan for the storm water system, which was left out of the original plan.

Jessica Dezieck asked if the fence in the back will be kept as it is.

Mr. Levin responded yes.

There was discussion between Conservation Agent Shep Evans, and Mr. Levin about the need to apply to Natural Heritage.

MOTION: Jess Dezieck to continue the public hearing until the July 27th meeting.

SECOND: Lisa Bozzuto

VOTE: 6-0

- Emergency Certification – Heating Oil Soil Contamination at 27 Humphrey Street 6-05-2015

There was an oil spill at the Dolby property resulting in 50 cubic yards of contaminated area. Shep Evans issued an emergency certification to do the work. All signed the document.

- Special Permit Comments – Timberlyn Realty & Ventas Realty

This is a special permit from the Selectboard regarding 2 nursing homes that have been in existence but not listed as nursing homes.

A site visit was done by Shep Evans who issued a letter that this matter is non-jurisdictional.

MOTION: Jess Dezieck that WPA/SMA does not apply to either special permit.

SECOND: David Shanahan

VOTE: 6-0

- Misc. Certifications

Tri County CDC, acting for Construct Inc., proposed an affordable housing project on State Rd. They plan to add 3 buildings.

Shep Evans went to Uni-Mapper and did a site visit. He said that there is no resource area of concern.

Shep Evans reported that the Wetland Regulations need to be reviewed. Lisa Bozzuto, Jessica Dezieck and Andrew Mankin will be part of the working group. Shep distributed the draft language of the wetlands by-law and existing town regulations. Amherst regulations were handed out for reference.

Riverwalk – Christine Ward spoke to Andrew Makin about being a partner with them. They currently have a budget of \$40,000 a year and asked if the Conservation Commission has funds to contribute; potentially \$6,000 - \$8,000. All agree to continue discussions. Jeff Cohen asked that more information be provided about this group and the budget.

Shep Evans explained that the Town of Great Barrington has issued an RFQ for the Lake Mansfield project. They have received 20 responses. There will be a briefing session and site visit on 6/29 at noon at Lake Mansfield.

MOTION: Jeff Cohen that Gaetan Lachance represent the Conservation Commission.

SECOND: Jess Dezieck

VOTE: 6-0

Gaetan Lachance spoke about the Lake Mansfield Improvement Task Force meeting. Items that were discussed include:

1. The concern about the pond being stocked with brown trout. The response to this concern is that there are no native trout, therefore this type was chosen. They do not spawn.
2. Phragmites are growing. There was a request for the Conservation Commission to help with the remediation. Gaetan said that he will ask the group to document the area of concern and the Conservation Commission will then do a site visit.

Shep Evans said that Town Manager, Jennifer Tabakin, wants the Conservation Commission to meet with the Selectboard about the Fairgrounds history and the progression.

Jeff Cohen suggested giving the Selectboard a summary of what is going on, past motions etc.

All agree to set the meeting date for after July 8th.

Jeff Cohen said that the Commission financials should be discussed at quarterly meetings.

Jeff Cohen also spoke about the times when maintenance plans are required on an annual basis on a particular property. He asked if this can be enforced. He suggested acquiring computer capabilities that puts such dates into a program as a reminder.

Jeff Cohen asked if there has been any word from DEP regarding the mowing at the Fairgrounds.

Shep Evans said that the DEP said not to pursue enforcement of mowing.

- Approval of Minutes of the May 27, 2015 meeting.
Continued until the July 27th meeting.

ADJOURNMENT:

On a motion by Jessica Dezieck, seconded by Lisa Bozzuto, the Commission adjourned its meeting at 7:55 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Cara Becker". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Cara Becker
Secretary