

**TOWN OF GREAT BARRINGTON
CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEETING
MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, JULY 23, 2014
6:30 P.M. – GREAT BARRINGTON TOWN HALL**

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

SHEP EVANS – CONSERVATION AGENT

1. CALL TO ORDER

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

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.

Shep Evans read an E-mail from Mr. Inglis who said that the process is still moving forward.

MOTION: Jessica Dezieck to continue the public hearing until the 8/27/14 meeting

SECOND: Lisa Bozzuto

VOTE: 6-0 David Shanahan not yet present

WPA RDA from Robert Baier for construction of a replacement septic system at #6 Round Hill Road. Continued from June 25, 2014

Robert Baier presented updated plans and a document with findings from Building Inspector, Ed May.

Shep Evans explained that this project is in the water protection overlay district.

Jessica Dezieck asked that straw waddles be used instead of hay.

All agree that Shep Evans will conduct a site visit when the erosion controls are in place.

MOTION: Jessica Dezieck to close the public hearing.

SECOND: Lisa Bozzuto

VOTE: 6-0

MOTION: Jessica Dezieck to issue a negative #3 with a pre-construction erosion control site visit by Shep Evans.

SECOND: Lisa Bozzuto

VOTE: 6-0 David Shanahan not yet present

WPA RDA from Narain Schroeder of Berkshire Natural Resources Council. Conservation property known as "Housatonic Flats" at 433 Stockbridge Road, Map 29 Lot 40. Proposed work in the flood plain to reduce the size and partially revegetate a gravel parking area and improve driveway sight-lines and overall safety entering onto Stockbridge Road (Route 7)

Narain Schroeder presented the revised plan. He explained that the plan is to reconstruct the current driveway to be level with Route 7 with at least one cars length.

David Shanahan asked about compensatory storage.

Narain responded that 30 yards of material is estimated to be brought in to raise the driveway.

Shep stated that this work is a conservation benefit.

Kate Van Olst suggested that an engineer figure out the math so that the work is within regulation.

MOTION: Jessica Dezieck to close the public hearing

SECOND: Lisa Bozzuto

VOTE: 7-0

MOTION: Jessica Dezieck to issue a negative #2

SECOND: Lisa Bozzuto

VOTE: 6-0-1 David Shanahan abstains

SMA Enforcement Order of 1-14-2014 for the McDonald residence at 166 Castle Hill Avenue. Bridghe McCracken of Helia Land Design will present a restoration plan and plant list for the property.

Bridghe McCracken presented the plan for the cutting area. She gave the Commission a list of 15 new trees and bushes. Bridghe explained that part of the plan is to remove woody invasives.

Shep Evans requested text that details numbers and sizes in the plan.

MOTION: Jessica Dezieck to approve the plan presented with a request that a summary, timeline and tree list be submitted to the Commission.

SECOND: Lisa Bozzuto

VOTE: 7-0

WPA NOI 167-0385 Kirt Mayland of Housatonic Solar 1, LLC will update the Commission on various aspects of the project including discussions with the Natural Heritage and Endangered Species program staff concerning turtle habitat & buffer area on Neenah Paper property. Continued from May 28, 2014.

Kirt Mayland presented the relevant maps to the Commission.

Kirt explained that he has been working with Natural Heritage. He hopes to get their final approval before coming back to the Commission.

Kirt said that he will be changing the compensatory storage calculations.

Jessica Dezieck spoke about the planned cutting; she expressed her concern about the amount of square footage that will be affected and that it is mostly canopy.

Kirt responded that they will only be 'topping' the trees, not removing them.

Andrew Mankin said when canopy is removed, trees drink faster; this will change the dynamic of the wetland. He asked if there is any mitigation for this.

Kirt said no but he agreed to look at this again.

The Commission agreed to a site visit on August 25.

The Commission asked that the following questions/statements be addressed by Kirt at the next meeting:

The type of erosion control and where

Soil types

Access roads or access point

Tree removal area

Canopy mitigation

Wetland boundaries must be clearly marked before construction.

MOTION: Jessica Dezieck to continue the public hearing until the 8/27/14 meeting

SECOND: Lisa Bozzuto

VOTE: 7-0

WPA OOC DEP #167-0380 Request from Craig Okerstrom-Lang of Okerstrom Lang Landscape Architects to Amend the Order of Conditions issued on October 24, 2013 for work on a residential property at 55 Hurlburt Road to include: 1) Installation of a drainage line from the swimming pool and pool house area to "daylight" in a previously approved rain garden; 2) Installation of a septic line for the pool house connecting to the existing septic tank; 3) creation of a temporary equipment route about 20 feet wide, along the outer edge of the buffer zone, for use in the construction of the swimming pool and pool house foundation and retaining walls.

Jeff Cohen recused himself and left the room.

Craig Okerstrom-Lang presented amendments with 3 additional projects.
Shep Evans read the special conditions.

MOTION: Jessica Dezieck to close the public hearing

SECOND: Lisa Bozzuto

VOTE: 6-0-1 Jeff Cohen abstains

MOTION: Jessica Dezieck to amend the order as presented.

SECOND: Lisa Bozzuto

VOTE: 6-0-1 Jeff Cohen abstains

Miscellaneous:

- **Guy Hesketh, PE for "Big Y" Petco remodel and new "sissor lift" loading area. ZBA early August.**

Guy Hesketh presented the project. He explained that they will be adding a lift to the area. It is a non-conforming property, so they will be going to the ZBA.

MOTION: Jessica Dezieck that the WPA and SMA do not apply

SECOND: Lisa Bozzuto

VOTE: 7-0

- **John Delmolino:** Andrew Mankin spoke about past NOI's. The Commission discussed issuing a certificate of compliance for the first NOI which had continuing conditions.

MOTION: Jessica Dezieck to issue a certificate of compliance for NOI 167-0193

SECOND: Lisa Bozzuto

VOTE: 7-0

- **Update on 263 Long Pond Road and Pfeiffer Arboretum restoration planting.**

Shep Evans announced that the planting has been completed successfully. The first round of invasive control is also complete. Another treatment will be done mid-summer.

Shep distributed pictures and a report from 7/14/14.

Shep read a letter from Christine Ward who was concerned about who does the monitoring. She said that posts that were supposed to be installed at 50 feet intervals to make a boundary were not installed. Shep Evans will follow up on these points.

- **Update on the restoration of cut wetland at 133 Hurlburt Road by Windy Hill Farm.**

Shep Evans said that the owner has hired Windy Hill Farm to do what was specified in the restoration.

- **Approval of Minutes from the June 25, 2014 and July 9, 2014 meetings.**

MOTION: Jessica Dezieck to approve the minutes from the June 25, 2014 meeting

SECOND: Lisa Bozzuto

VOTE: 5-0-2 Jeff Cohen and David Shanahan recused

MOTION: Jessica Dezieck to approve the minutes from the July 9, 2014 meeting

SECOND: Lisa Bozzuto

VOTE: 6-0-1

- **Other last minute items**

Jess Dezieck said that there is a CPA meeting on 8/7/14 at 6 PM for any applicants who need further information.

ADJOURNMENT:

On a motion by Jessica Dezieck, seconded by Lisa Bozzuto, the Commission adjourned its meeting at 8:25 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,



Cara Becker
Secretary