

**TOWN OF GREAT BARRINGTON  
CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEETING  
MINUTES  
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 26, 2015  
6:30 P.M. – GREAT BARRINGTON TOWN HALL**

**PRESENT:**           ANDREW MANKIN – Chairman  
                  LISA BOZZUTO  
                  JEFF COHEN – not present  
                  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#167-0396** from Tighe & Bond for the Great Barrington Department of Public Works, property on Front Street in the Village of Housatonic, Great Barrington. The project calls for storm drainage system improvements, on the west side of Front Street, including the elimination of two outfalls to the Housatonic River, the consolidation of several undersized pipes, some on private property, and the construction of two new River outfalls that will be accessible and maintainable. Missing drainage easements will be formalized throughout the project area.

Shep Evans reported that he has received a letter from Natural Heritage dated 7/29/15 stating that the project is clear and ‘good to go.’

Joe Sokul stated that the CDBG grant has found additional funding which he will pursue for the northern part of the project.

MOTION: Jess Dezieck to close the public hearing

SECOND: Lisa Bozzuto

VOTE: 4-0 (David Shanahan not yet present for this vote)

MOTION: Jess Dezieck to issue OOC with invasive control within the easement area.

SECOND: Lisa Bozzuto

VOTE: 4-0 (David Shanahan not yet present for this vote)

**WPA NOI** from Native Habitat Restorations LLC for Adrian Alcala, property at 139 Alford Road, Map 33 Lot 43. The project involves the removal of invasive shrubs and vines in a 1.14 acre portion of the property including areas of Bank and Bordering Vegetated Wetland.

Jess Toro presented this project. She explained that the area between the house and the road has the heaviest invasive infestation; honey suckle, bittersweet, barberry etc. Wetland approved herbicide will be used with ‘cut and paint’ application on the bigger vegetation. There will be re-treatment based on the seed bank.

Andrew Mankin explained the water quality district by-law to Jess Toro. The Building Inspector is the regulatory agent.

Shep Evans said that he will let Ed May know about the project.

Jess Toro said that the project will begin mid to late September.  
The Commission will do a site visit.

MOTION: Jess Dezieck to close the public hearing  
SECOND: Lisa Bozzuto  
VOTE: 5-0

MOTION: Jess Dezieck to issue an OOC with standard conditions contingent on a site visit, a conversation with Building Inspector Ed May and a 3 year annual monitoring report.  
SECOND: Lisa Bozzuto  
VOTE: 5-0

**WPA NOI DEP #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 Dave Inglis which stated that he has raised enough funds for GBLC to take over. He plans on moving forward with the application.  
Shep Evans will contact him for the next steps.

Miscellaneous:

- Update on the status of the Revised GB Wetlands Bylaw.  
On 8/19/15, the Town Clerk received a note from the Attorney General stating that the By-Law has passed as written. It will take effect on 9/2/15. Shep distributed the final version.
- Adjustment of the September Meeting date from September 23<sup>rd</sup> to September 30<sup>th</sup>.  
The Commission agrees to change the date of the September meeting from September 23<sup>rd</sup> to September 30<sup>th</sup>.
- Approval of Minutes of the July 22, 2015 meeting.  
MOTION: Jess Dezieck to approve the minutes from the July 22, 2015 meeting  
SECOND: Lisa Bozzuto  
VOTE: 5-0
- The Commission agreed that future agendas will include citizen speak time.
- Shep Evans introduced Bill Boyer who is interested in becoming a Commission member.
- Jess Dezieck expressed her concern regarding Phragmites in Lake Mansfield.  
Andrew Mankin responded that he doesn't like the repeated use of herbicides and prefers to hand pull if there is a small occurrence.  
David Shanahan said that hand pulling would be preferred.  
The Commission agreed to do a site visit to determine how large the area is. A yearly plan may need to be created by the Lake Mansfield Task Force since this may be an ongoing problem.  
All agree that there should be a short term plan to deal with what is there currently but then the LMTF should come up with a long term maintenance plan without using herbicide.

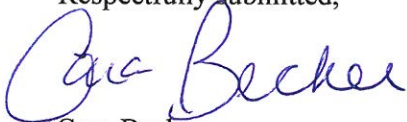
Gaetan Lachance said that he attended a town website/facebook meeting. He said that there are abbreviations on our website that need to be spelled out. He also suggested it include step-by-step instructions on how to apply. Jess Dezieck suggested a link to DEP for instructions.

Gaetan Lachance asked if there could be student membership.  
Gaetan will contact Sean Flynn at the school to inquire about interest.  
Shep Evans suggested that Gaetan speak to the Selectboard about this first.  
Andrew Mankin suggested not giving this participant a title or seat at the table.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

On a motion by Jessica Dezieck, seconded by Lisa Bozzuto, the Commission adjourned its meeting at 7:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Cara Becker". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "C".

Cara Becker  
Secretary