

**TOWN OF STURBRIDGE, MA
CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

**Thursday, August 13, 2015
Sturbridge Center Office Building, 2nd Floor**

Meeting Called to Order: 6:00

Quorum Check: Confirmed

Members Present: Ed Goodwin (EG), Chairman
David Barnicle (DB), Vice Chair
Donna M. Grehl (DG)
Calvin Montigny
Joseph Kowalski (JK)

Others Present: Glenn Colburn (CG), Conservation Agent
Anne Renaud-Jones, Conservation Clerk
Applicants and/or Audience Members: Leonard Jalbert, Andy Cormier, Glenn Krevosky, David Zonia, Linda Jowett, Priscilla Gimas, Scott Morrison, Donna Reardon, Tim Reardon, Tim Bonin, Doreen Grout, Carol Derby, Carl Nielsen, Louis Fazen, Lynn Echert, Mark Farrell, Jason Dubois, PC Wandalowski, B. Sullivan

Committee Updates:

- CPA: no meeting has been held
- Trail Committee: no meeting has been held; this weekend is a work weekend, there's an Eagle Scout project on the Gateway Trail
- Lakes Advisory Committee: no meeting has been held; Lakes testing has been completed; Long Pond is showing a low oxygen level and is choked with high milfoil

Walk Ins

38 Farquhar Road- Tree Removal, Priscilla Gimas, Sue Waters- at last meeting Commission expressed concern about confirming credentials of Northern Tree Arborist report in hand; Credentials were review and accepted as appropriate; Ms Gimas also sought another certified arborist to visit and report; his opinion was that trees nearest driveway had been weakened by driveway installation: Agent comments: supports removal of all trees requested

Motion: CM to accept the proposal as presented 2nd DB Vote Approved 4:1 (JK)

Tim Bonin (93 Shore Drive) Mr Bonin is requesting a minor amendment to an Order of Conditions on his SFH project at 93 Shore Drive: He is requesting to use a dry well instead of drip strips; is worried about heavy rain causing possible water into basement GC: Has visited the site; sees no problem, it accomplishes the same effect as the drip strips Consensus: All commissioners agree to this modification.

Public Hearings

Notice of Intent DEP #300-931, 146 Lane Eight, Louis Fazen & Lynn Eckhert. Removal and construction of a SFH and detached garage in the buffer zone with associated landscaping. Mark Farrell, Greenhill Engineering representing owners: This is a raze and rebuild of a SFH w garage; Plan shows the bulk of the new house sets back further from the water; no work is to be done on the steep slope; Later on in the project a garage will be built; there are no major trees being affected; CM: is there an increase in impervious area? MF no; GC: Electrical Service coming in at a difficult spot which may affect some trees: is it possible to have them move that? MF: Nat'l Grid has visited the site: we can discuss moving the (access point) and going underground for the distance to the house; GC: we'd like to avoid disturbing trees and tree roots wherever we can GC: what about storm water infiltration? MF: soil is very porous throughout the site: we can add drip strips.... GC: OOC will say "stockpile outside the 100' bz" MF: we are doing very little grading on the slope side; there will be a cellar; there is no change to the well; the driveway will not be paved; there is no vista pruning in this plan: EG: owners will have to return to this commission if they want to do vista pruning; Discussion was had regarding erosion control options: hay bales, wattles, silt fences, MF agreed to take all recommendations of the commission regarding erosion controls; Conservation is still waiting for comments from Natural Heritage; **Commission granted request for continuance to September 3 meeting.**

Notice of Intent DEP #300-932, 57 Bennetts Road, Danny & Lori Minchoff. Installation of a drilled well in the buffer zone. Mark Farrell, Greenhill Engineering representing owners: Minchoffs just purchased this property; There is currently a shallow well; new well site will be back about 10' from this slope; there will be a small trench built for drilling mud; the drilling process uses lots of water; we hope to be at 200-300 foot max well depth; but that cannot be controlled.

Motion to close the public hearing: DB; 2nd: DG discussion: none, vote: AIF

Motion to accept the proposal with some modifications to the erosion control 2nd DG Vote AIF

Notice of Intent DEP #300-928, 21 Bennetts Road, David Zonia & Linda Jowett. Second story addition and new deck in the buffer zone. (continued from July 13) DZ spoke to reiterate the position that the decks built as proposed would limit movement and traffic in the sensitive areas of vegetation, and minimize any impact to the lake Agent comments: the plan is to pin the deck to the ledge; there is little digging; little chance of erosion; there is 1 hemlock already in decline, it should come down; the deck does confine human activity; I see little negative impact from this project; EG: I am still opposed to expanding this deck and violating the 50' no build.

Motion to close the public hearing: DB; 2nd: DG discussion: none, vote: AIF

Motion to accept the proposal as presented DB; 2nd JK; Vote: approved 4:1 (EG)

Notice of Intent DEP #300-929, 70 Paradise Lane. Timothy and Donna Reardon. Raze and Rebuild of SFH with shoreline alterations; Scott Morrison, EcoTech, Leonard Jalbert, Jalbert Engineering representing the owners: SM: this house is in major disrepair; our plan is to demolish and rebuild a SFH; the impervious sq ft is slightly decreased with the new house; this plan shows slight increase in coverage closer to the resource; there is a dilapidated deck and dock right on the water that will be removed; we'll be installing a new retaining wall, but saving two large trees. Work will be done during drawdown; once the shoreline repair is finished, we'll set up the next line of erosion controls further back to begin work on the house; there will be a garage with a paved driveway; (7:09) Agent Comments: the house is closer to the resource and further into the 50' "no build" zone SM: yes, but we are limited on 3 other sides by zoning setbacks GC: yes, but conservation also has setbacks, designed to protect these resources.... GC: How will well drilling be accessed: SM: after demolition, before rebuild; there will be plenty of room GC DEP has replied to this NOI with comments, expressing concern about the retaining wall; natural rock wall has less impact and provides crevices and cavities for wildlife; can you adjust this plan to be a "cleanup and repair: instead of a new build? Commissioners expressed concerns with altering the shoreline, encroaching upon the 50' no build zone, and the plan to "fill" the small area where the old broken dock/deck currently exists.

Commission granted request for continuance to September 3 meeting.

Notice of Intent DEP #300-930, 53 Breakneck Road, Allen Lavanchy. Replacement septic system in the buffer zone. Mark Farrell, Greenhill Engineering representing owners: this septic system has failed Title V and needs to be upgraded; there will be no expansion of flow; we meet the 50' setback, but some of the leach field does hit the BZ; there will be some trees lost, but no expansion of the lawn; only as little as we have to do to meet Title V compliance. DB: can you rotate the leach field a little to avoid the 50'? MF: no, not without making many other adjustments to compensate, including a chamber pump.

Motion to close the public hearing: DB; 2nd: DG discussion: none, vote: AIF

Motion DB: to allow this project to move forward with erosion control modifications; 2nd JK; Vote: AIF

Notice of Intent DEP #300-908, 69 Route 84, (DPW fields), Parks & Recreation. Construction of recreational fields in Riverfront Area and Flood Zone A. **Commission granted request for continuance to September 3 meeting.**

ENFORCEMENT

29 Main Street, Brian Eisold. EBT Environmental to present restoration plan. Glenn Krevosky, EBT Environmental representing BEisold (not present); document presented included a sketch of the property plan; Fill will be removed from the wetland; two trenches were found through the bank- 1 of which is ash, this will be removed... we'll be putting a rain garden in at the top of the slope... there will be no more colloidal overflow; Jalbert Engineering is putting together the final plan, where we will show the established wetland line. Work continues on the invasive in the area.

8 Birch Street, Gerry Paquin. Work in the buffer zone without permits. GPaquin had installed a deck without building or conservation permits. Commission requested plan for demolition of deck for September 3 meeting. No work is to be done until plan is approved.

Laurel Woods, Andy Cormier, Randy Bercume. Failure to control erosion. Impacts to resource areas. EBT Environmental to present restoration plan. Glenn Krevosky, EBT Environmental and Andy Cormier presenting: All commissioners have visited this site and agree it is significantly improved; GK: grass seed has sprouted and is stabilizing the dirt; we have beefed up mitigation throughout.

Certificates of Compliance were signed for the following OOCs

- 34 Draper Woods Road, DEP #300-592, David E. Silverman
- 34 Draper Woods Road, DEP #300-469, David E. Silverman
- 9 Audubon Way, DEP #300-471, Victor Matheson
- 168 Lake Road, DEP #300-877, Timothy & Evelyn Hutchinson
- 88 McGargle Rd, DEP #300-680, William & Carol Carpenter

Letter Permits were issued as follows:

- **156 Lane Eight, Carol M Derby, removal 3 trees;** (after-the-fact application): the Commission expressed concern about Ms. Derby not coming to Conservation before the cutting; owner had photos of the trees showing degradation in their health; there was no arborist report; Commissioners have visited site: also requested that the owner stop trimming the banking of the small tree seedlings that sprout there. They will be beneficial to the stability of the bank. The commission agreed there is no need to replant new trees.
- **9 Cedar Pond Road, Susan Starr & Doreen Grout,** requesting removal of 6 trees within 100 ft buffer zone. Doreen Grout was present, representing her mother Susan Starr, who is the resident: DG: We have requested that an arborist come to visit the property, that has not been completed yet; there is no report yet. **Commission granted request for continuance to September 3 meeting.**
- Town Administrator Leon Gaumond addressed the Commission and shared some of the goals that have been established for the Conservation Commission for the upcoming year.

8:35 Motion to Adjourn (DB); 2nd: CM, AIF

NEXT MEETING: Thursday, September 3, 2015

A copy of tonight's meeting can be found on our Town's website or is available upon request via the Audio Department: 508.347.7267

The items listed, which may be discussed at the meeting, are those reasonably anticipated by the Chair.~ Not all items listed may in fact be discussed and other items not listed may also be brought up for discussion to the extent permitted by law.~ For those items that will be discussed, the Conservation Commission will address its questions and concerns with a proponent before allowing the public to weigh in on the topic being discussed with the proponent.~ For public discussion of non-agenda items, such discussion will be handled during the Walk-in period or as allowed by the Chair.