

**TOWN OF STURBRIDGE, MA  
CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

**Thursday, November 5, 2015  
Sturbridge Center Office Building, 2nd Floor**

**Meeting Called to Order:** 6:00 pm.  
Chairman Ed Goodwin welcomed Steven Chidester to the Commission

**Quorum Check:** Confirmed

**Members Present:** Ed Goodwin (EG), Chairman  
David Barnicle (DB), Vice Chair  
Joseph Kowalski (JK)  
Steven Chidester (SC)

**Members Absent:** Calvin Montigny

**Others Present:** Glenn Colburn (CG), Conservation Agent  
Anne Renaud-Jones, Conservation Clerk  
Applicants and/or Audience Members: Bernie Gauthier, Leonard Jalbert, Charles Roy, Mark Farrell, Mike Beaudry, Michelle Kane, Ryan Kane, Ben Lundstel, Lisa Sanderson, Scott Sanderson, Ron Chernisky, John LeBlanc, Judi Powell, Allen Brauns, Bryan Coslin, Glenn Krevosky, Brian Eisold

**Committee Updates:**

- **CPA – (EG)** No meeting has been held
- **Trails Committee – (DB)** No meeting has been held
- **Lakes Advisory Committee** – Need for a new liaison from the Commission was discussed

**Approval of minutes for October 1, 2015**

**Motion (DB): To accept the minutes of October 1; 2nd: JK Vote: 3:0 Abstain (SC)**

**Approval of minutes for October 15, 2015**

**Motion (DB): To accept the minutes of October 15; 2nd: JK Vote: 3:0 Abstain (SC)**

**Agent Report:** Conservation Department has begun our annual Scavenger Tree Hunt, which will take place between Thanksgiving weekend and mid-January. Town Department Heads have been invited to decorate a tree before Thanksgiving Day. We are sending press release to newspapers and posting flyers. Winners will receive a prize: last year we offered -age-appropriate nature-related magazine subscriptions, we gave away a bird house, etc. We will draw the winning names at our January 21st meeting.

Last meeting we had discussions with the Trails Committee regarding work on the Pine Lands Trail, and where this work stands in the permit process. Different opinions about where the permitting process stands. We went back through our meeting minutes and pulled all reports relevant to the discussions about the Red Trail, and Brandon (Trails Committee) also provided meeting minutes from Trail Comm Meetings.

Suggest inviting Trails back to our next meeting (November 19) to revisit this discussion and come to a conclusion on a plan going forward. Leadmine Trail needs the most discussion/clarification regarding the trails classifications. Trails Comm has made a proposal (in the Plan presented previously); I have drawn up a counter proposal which needs to be brought before forward; Fish & Wildlife has expressed interest in keeping trails south of the pipeline in a more primitive condition. More discussion is necessary.

**Public Hearings**

6:15

**Notice of Intent DEP #300-939**, 188 Lake Road. Raze and rebuild SFH within the buffer zone. Charles & Jill Temple Roy, represented by Jalbert Engineering, Inc, Len Jalbert presenting. **Granted Request for Continuation to Nov 19 meeting.**  
Documents presented: legal ad tear sheet, certs of abutter notifications, letter from DEP assign number 300-939; Len Jalbert presented the project, a “raze and rebuild” of a single family single story home on Big Alum; new build will move back from the lake 25’ from current position; proposed design is slightly less in

square footage; large oak at lake edge will remain intact, another smaller oak at back of lot will be lost, replaced with new maples.

Existing dock will be removed; a new cantilevered dock will be installed on opposite side of waterfront; existing walkway will be replaced with new pervious walkway w 12 inches stone beneath; drip edge around all sides, new well is 27ft from street; town sewer; private well; 2 stories; The lot is basically flat: road to water's edge is approx. 200 ft; no issue with road runoff... Currently 2 existing propane tanks; are exploring option to place these underground: have setbacks from waterfront and well to contend with....

Agent comments: everything is moving back 25ft from the lake; that's a good thing, likes permeable pavers; unfortunate we are losing 30in oak; wonder if more beneficial to do shoreline planting of new trees; reinforced concrete wall does nothing for wildlife; it's barrier to animals; recent similar projects have all tried to revise to accommodate some movement of wildlife; Can we improve this to create some wildlife shelter habitat? Propane tanks; we'd rather have further from lake, but understand your setback limitations; if they go underground, it is governed by a whole new set of regulations;

Commissioners comments: Are you building the dock before the house: LenJ: we will demolish first to get access; then build dock, then build house; Comm: where is the landscaping? Absence on plan infers lawn; we would vastly prefer natural landscaping, also, new wall may hit root system and kill that large oak at waters' edge..... Best to stay as far away from root system as possible... Biggest problem is replacement wall: we strongly prefer good field stone

**CRoy:** I have no problem planting on the shoreline; and would love to save the large oak tree ... I thought riprap would help with echo waves, but am willing to do stone..... Comm: Please consider additional landscaping and re-design of retaining wall for next plan submission...

**Request for continuation to November 19 meeting: Granted Consensus AIF**

---

6:30

**Notice of Intent DEP #300-937, 43 Mountain Brook Road. Add 2nd story to SFH**

within the buffer zone. Ryan & Michelle Kane. represented by Jalbert Engineering, Inc, Len Jalbert presenting. Documents: DEP File number, Legal ad, Certified mailing to abutters,

This project is an existing single family home, we'll be adding a second story; We'll be excavation only along the side of this building to add support to the foundation, and then sono tubes in other locations;

The basement is only a crawl space (+/- 4 ft deep) ; part of the existing deck will become a room; New crawl space underneath; No grade changes; Deck will be removed on one side, concrete patio will stay; Town sewer with E1 pump; private well; Zoning ruled it compatible to surrounding neighborhood; voted to allow construction as presented;

Agent: the addition is 12 x 16ft; 41 feet from the water, so no closer than existing; new additional drip strips are beneficial; Concerned with 24in Maple tree; need to be careful with equipment around that root zone;

Commission: Could we put crushed stone near that concrete pad to help w runoff? Need to see more plantings throughout site; not lawn; Recommend siltation fence all around; all excess material from excavation must be removed from site;

**Motion (DB) 2nd (JK) to approve plan with minor revisions, and issue an Order of Conditions for this project. Vote AIF.**

---

6:45

**Notice of Intent DEP #300-936, 81 Paradise Lane. Construction of SFH within the buffer zone. Allen Brauns and Judith Powell, represented by Green Hill Engineering, Mark Farrell presenting.**

MF: this plan is a new build of a SFH, not on water, but on north side of the road; this is a 12-acre lot, with an intermittent stream and a wetland system; house site is 40ft above road and 50ft from the BVW, project requires a 400ft driveway; will be serviced by town sewer w E1 pump to pump downhill; new drilled well, and small gravel parking spot to this side

Agent comments: Concerned with runoff problems on that long driveway with a prolonged construction period; would recommend completing the driveway first to minimize this threat; or getting a base coat down; ..... this site has very little understory, so nothing substantial to slow runoff down that entire slope; would like to see some armoring along some spots;

MF: driveway is designed to sheetflow along its full length; drains in the design are incorporated for the 'weep' from the hillside; they won't be collecting the driveway runoff. We can beef up the drains, but swale will be a larger problem..... Asphalt surface will be best for the ability to pitch the slope so infiltration

is continuous along the length, Heavy machinery traveling on the first layer of asphalt would be a problem  
Agent comments: Concern about the wetland at the top of the hill where the house is; worried that homeowners (or future homeowners) will not recognize need for limiting activities; would like to see permanent markers of some sort as clear reminder that these areas are off limits; Plaques of some sort saying "No dumping, no yard clippings:

Commission summary: We'd like to see a Phased Plan indicating a basecoat on the driveway before major excavation of house foundation; and including wetland boundary markings at top of the hill near the house; also OOC to include protection of (tree) roots on the slopes to maintain stabilization

**Motion (DB) 2nd (JK) to approve this plan with the expectation that revised plans (indicating discussed revisions) will be received by Conservation Agent before Wednesday Nov 11, and then issue an Order of Conditions for this project. Vote AIF.**

7:00

**Notice of Intent DEP #300-938, I-84 near Quinebaug River. Mass DOT. Stormwater Management improvements in the riverfront. Motion (DB) 2nd (JK) to approve this plan as presented and issue an Order of Conditions for this project. Vote AIF. Brian Lundsted and Bryan Coslin**

MassDot is resurfacing of section of I-84 in spring 2016; Permit request pertains to installation of stormwater/drainage system improvements which will be installed during the resurfacing project. Areas affected start at River Road, continuing north to Route 131 (Main Street). Intent is to mitigate the impact of existing impervious cover. No increase in impervious area is proposed.

Goal is to install infiltration-type BMPs in 3 areas:

- 1) the median of I-84 east and westbound roadways, between River Road, continuing north to Route 131 (Main St)
- 2) area bounded by I-84 exit 2 ramp WB, Shattuck Rd, and River Road, and
- 3) east of I-84 exit 2 on ramp EB and Haynes Road.

At exit 2 – all new basins, sized to handle 2inch storm; spillways are 3ft from bottom of basin; spreaders at the end of each spillway.

Commission comments:

Comm: Do you deal with invasive species during this operation? MDOT: Different division addresses that

Comm: Deep sump catchbasins? MDOT: Yes, 4ft sumps; cleaned annually,

Comm: wooded areas in the median will be affected? MDOT: mostly grassy median, except for exit 2 where there are Pines in the center; everything we're doing is as close to the road as possible.

## Enforcement

**29 Main Street, Brian Eisold.** EBT Environmental, Glenn Krevosky presenting. Brian Eisold present.

Restoration plan was presented. **Consensus to approve the restoration plan.**

**45 Seneca Ln, Craig Moran.** Restoration/replanting plan. (continued for plan)

Agent sent letter to Mr. Moran's Atty, as requested; Reply from Atty stated that an earlier date was unreasonable, and restated that a replanting plan will be ready before the end of the year, with replanting completed in spring 2016. The Commission expressed great frustration with this response. Chairman Ed Goodwin will take this discussion to the Town Administrator for guidance.

**8 Birch Street, Gerry Paquin.** Work in the buffer zone without permits. Demolition plan.

Plan was submitted for review (Mr Paquin was not present).

**Consensus for commission to visit the site with the plan in hand to review.**

**9 Holland Road, Gerry Paquin.** Work in the Riverfront Resource Area without permits.

- Agent is continuing to monitor this site. Site is stable at this time.

**19 Mashapaug Road, Outdoor World Campground.** Fill in lake and buffer zone to create beach. Plan to remove sand and restore bank. Agent reported that the site is in good shape and recommended closing the enforcement order.

**Consensus to close the EO.**

**30 Camp Road – Richard Ellis –** Work in BZ. Stabilization plan required.

- Agent reported erosion controls are in good working condition. Stabilization plan to be presented at Nov 19 meeting.