



# Conservation Commission Meeting Minutes

Monday, February 10, 2020 Town Hall, Room 101, 7:00 PM

Present: Edward Knight, Heather McCann, David Lamb, Associate member Mark Brownell; Conservation Administrator Erica Cross

Absent: David Haines, Jon Clements, Sabrina Moreau, Doug Beach, Assistant Conservation Agent Cayla Paulding

There is no quorum, so no voting will take place tonight.

Called to order at 7:00 pm by E. Knight

**7:00pm**

**Notice of Intent – DEP# 104-1052, BCC# 19-04 – Requests Continuance to 3/9/2020**

Lot 2 Allen St, Single Family House with stream crossing & appurtenances

Map 231, Lot 19.01

Jeffrey A. Bessette

As a quorum was not met for this hearing, the hearing continues to the next meeting.

**Belchertown High School Student Vision Presentation**

Imagining Carriage Drive

Louise Levy presents a vision for a pollinator friendly Carriage Drive. This is inspired from John Root's pollinator friendly presentation to the Conservation Commission. Fifty students came up with projects devoted to benefit pollinators. These posters will be placed in public spaces around Belchertown such as the senior center and grocery store. There were discussions regarding a nonbinding pollinator resolution for the town of Belchertown. Nearby towns, such as Amherst and Northampton, have implemented such resolutions. D. Lamb asks if she is involved with the upcoming Lake Wallace sensory trail. She is involved and plans to have her students help in the groundbreaking in some way.

**Discussion Items: Bills, Minutes and Miscellaneous Matters**

- Emergency Certificates
- Enforcement actions
- Certificates of Compliance
- Extensions
- Chap 61A – 0.5 acres on North Liberty St
- New Business –
  1. Discussion on updating bylaws – review of bylaw language

E. Cross says the updates are really more of a “cleaning up of language” to clarify intent and jurisdiction. E. Cross proposes to remove much of the “procedures” section, which will be detailed more in the upcoming regulations. DEP will be updating their storm water handbook by the summer. This works well with our timeline of getting the regulations done by the summer. Under the current regulations, it is required to publish public legal advertisements if permit applications are continued. E. Knight clarified a different intent of this language. E. Cross wants to make sure commissioners voice any concerns or additions to “purpose” section. E. Cross added several definitions to the proposed by-law. There is discussion of adding other mitigation measures instead of 2:1 replication. E. Cross discusses adding language to the by-law that allows waiver of strict compliance in certain cases where the commission sees overall benefit. E. Cross also discusses adding an “administrative approval” for certain work near resource areas that could replace emergency certificates such as tree clearing.

**NEXT MEETING Monday, February 24<sup>th</sup>, 2020**