



Conservation Commission Meeting Minutes **Monday, April 8, 2019 Town Hall, Room 101, 7:00 PM**

Present: David Haines, Jon Clements, Sabrina Moreau, Heather McCann, Eric Wojtowicz, Edward Knight, Associate member Mark Brownell, Associate member Doug Beach, Associate member Katerina Korolov; Conservation Administrator Erica Cross and Assistant Cayla Paulding. C. Paulding took minutes.

Absent: Associate member David Lamb

D. Haines called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM

Request for Determination Con'd

491 North Liberty Street, Septic Repair, Map 276, Lot 15
Thomas Spellman

7:25 motion to continue passes

Notice of Intent Con'd

Lot 2 Allen St, Single Family House with stream crossing & appurtenances
Map 231, Lot 19.01
Jeffrey A. Bessette

7:25 PM

J. Clements motions to continue, E. Wojtowicz seconds, all in favor

S. Moreau recuses herself as abutter

Notice of Intent Con'd – DEP# 104-1051 Withdrawn

260 Ware Road, Solar Array construction, Map 245, Lot 62.00
ZPT Energy Solutions II, LLC

Request for Determination

260 Ware Road, Solar Array construction, Map 245, Lot 62.00
ZPT Energy Solutions II, LLC

7:27 PM

Harold Greeter represents the solar company. Since last hearing, everything has been removed from 100 ft wetland buffer. E. Cross discusses reasons for still appearing before the commission and the reasons for motioning a negative determination. A shade spray analysis may be an appropriate measure to ensure no negative impacts. Tighe and Bond has delivered a clean report on the project. A storm water permit is still required for this project. Applicant was strongly encouraged to use stormwater BMP's as appropriate.

E. Knight motions for negative determination, seconded by J. Clements, all in favor

Request for Determination Con'd

357 Daniel Shays Hwy, Solar Array construction,
Map 226, Lot 45.01
Clean Focus Renewables

7:36

Joe Rogers from SWCA environmental and Zack Sawicki from clean focus renewables present the project. The project is outside of jurisdictional concerns. The plan is for a 10.7 acre solar array within 13 acre location. The area is partially logged and scrub brush landscape. Wetlands were delineated last fall with peer review. There are 100 ft setbacks for wetlands. The site access is off of Rt 202. Peer review from Tighe and Bond has been received and there were some small concerns about maintenance. The primary concern was how the storm water berms would be observed for maintenance and whether mowing would result in rutting of the storm water berms. The Commission discussed those concerns and decided that the width and gentle slope, as well as the infrequency of mowing, would not be likely to result in rutting/damage to the storm water berms. Overview of erosion control: silt fence and hay bale around perimeter of site; berms that are 12 inches high and filter socks at drip line of the panels. Zack Sawicki discusses implementing geotextiles in the shape of a honeycomb to eliminate erosion. D. Haines asks about raising the panels. The owner is interested in potentially maintaining the area for dual use. They are proposing 2 seed mixes that are specifically formulated for New England. J. Clements asks about site visit to hear more about slopes on site. E. Cross says no severe slopes present. The road entrance is the only place within the buffer zone. The applicants are meeting with the planning board tomorrow. This project will require a storm water permit. D. Haines asks about stumping. The forest is part regeneration and partially a logged area. They will need to do spot grading, so some of the root balls will be able to stay in place. D. Haines would like to keep as much intact as possible. The Commission recommended that the applicant only stump in the areas where necessary, such as in the areas with course grading. E. Cross will provide comments to the planning board that says the commission would like to see root balls maintained to the maximum extent practicable.

J. Clements motions to issue negative determination; seconded by E. Knight; all in favor

Notice of Intent – DEP # 104-1055

0 Gulf Rd, Rare Species Habitat Restoration,
Map 408, Lot: various
Daniel Bove, MA Division of Fisheries & Wildlife

8:08 pm

Daniel Bove discusses plan for early successional habitat restoration. The project will involve 3 components: 1) invasive control, 2) vegetation control, 3) prescribed fire. There is a plant biologist who is interested in rare plants. The biologist is unable to discuss species of rare plants at the public meeting. The habitat is unique meadow landscape with rare wetland features. Their primary focus is the meadow area but they need to manage invasives throughout the property. They are working within wetlands. For general vegetation control they may use chain saw or brush saw. Main treatment is stump treatment to reduce amount of herbicides used. The prescribed fire will help maintain the area long term. They plan to work 1 field at a time. The primary invasives are buckthorn. This project has been on their radar for a long time. This project will take at least several years with plans to renew permit. The permit can be active for up to five years. S. Moreau asks about public involvement or education opportunities with invasive management. D. Bove says with this sort of project, the less feet on the site the better. H. McCann asks if we can require reports. E. Cross says yes. Botanist offers doing an annual report and notifying commission when they will be on site. They will wait a season to burn. We have waived the state portion of the filing fee.

Public Comment:

Elizabeth Pols: Is the tree cutting going to affect the freshwater fishery of Scarborough brook?
Answer: they will not be removing trees near wetlands. Will the public be aware of when they do the prescribed fire? Answer: yes, it will be made public. The biologists will reach out if they require volunteers.

J. Clements motions to issue Order of Conditions for 5 years, as allowed for restoration projects, S. Moreau seconds, all in favor

Discussion Items: Bills, Minutes and Miscellaneous Matters

8:32 pm

- Bills: there was a typo, so bills will be reviewed next meeting
- Extension permits
 1. Lake Arcadia BCC # 00-20; Tri-Lakes Association
7:06 pm: Leeanne Connolly requests extensions for Lakes Metacomet and Lakes Arcadia to treat for invasive species with sonar. This is an ongoing project to treat the lakes. Only Lake Metacomet will be treated this year. Nothing will be happening with Lake Arcadia this year, but they do not want to permit to expire to avoid extra expenses. J. Clements would like the permit to be extended only 1 year to see the progress and to see if anything changes.

J. Clements motions to issue 1 year extension for Lake Metacomet; S. Moreau seconds; all in favor
 2. Lake Metacomet BCC# 08-28; Tri-Lakes Association

E. Knight motions for 3 year extension; J. Clements seconds motion; S. Moreau would like 2 year extension to see plan before treatment; E. Cross mentions technology and other variables are subject to change. D. Haines would like to see update before treatment occurs (pre-treatment report). L. Connolly discusses various reports and studies on the lakes. They would like to do a chemical analysis. They have a 5 year management plan. D. Haines asks about vegetation report. S. Moreau wants to know about assessment on emerging technologies. L. Connolly says they have consultants who research new technologies. Motion passes.
- Request for Certificates of Compliance
 1. 680, 690, & 700 S. Washington St. – DEP# 104-0996, BCC# 16-48
Not issued
 2. 18 Crestview Dr.- DEP# 104-839, BCC# 08-01
S. Moreau motions to issue partial certificate of compliance, J. Clements seconds; all in favor
 3. 32 Magnolia Lane- DEP # 104-863, BCC# 08-25
Not issued; waiting for as built plan.
- Emergency Certification
 1. 125 Metacomet St; tree removal
J. Clements motions to ratify; S. Moreau seconds; all in favor
- New Business
 - Recommend new Commissioner for M. Cavatorta's term
J. Clements would like ranked voting system to be submitted to E. Cross and go from there. That will give commissioners two weeks to vote. E. Cross will e-mail all of associate member's resumes out to commissioners.
 - Review re-appointments for upcoming expiring Commissioner terms
E. Cross will look into this.
 - Meeting Calendar for the Summer
Only 1 meeting in May (14th) due to holiday on the 4th Monday. July 8, 22nd; August 12th no other August
 - Holland Glen Improvements

Parking lot and trail improvements with KLT. E. Cross will help to fundraise around 4000\$. The commission is in favor of this project.

- Rain barrel & compost bin pre-order program with Palmer: June 7
This is a good way to educate people on rainwater runoff. E. Cross and Palmer agent are planning a big event.
- Proposed Stormwater Utility Bylaw
4/22 is the hearing for this
- Stormwater & Wetland Permitting Regulations – Review & Update Subcommittees
H. McCann, S. Moreau
- Fees – Subcommittee?
- Land Management Subcommittee
J. Clements, DB, MB, H. McCann
- Paid internship program with Mt. Holyoke
E. Cross wants 2 interns

9:40 E. Wojtowicz motions to adjourn, J. Clements seconds, all in favor

4/22/2019 JC motions to approve minutes; HM seconds; all in favor

NEXT MEETING Monday, April 22, 2019