

Town of Becket Conservation Commission 24 July, 2018 Meeting Minutes

Commissioners in Attendance: Alison Dixon (Chair), Barbara Brand, Cindy Delpapa, Karen Karlberg and Conservation Agent Stacy Parsons

Members of the public present: Meredyth Babcock, Shannon Boomsma, David Edgecomb, Ethan Klepetar, Gabrielle Murphy, Robert T Ronzio

Chair Dixon called the 24 July, 2018 Becket Conservation Commission to order at 6:32 PM, read the meeting guidelines, introduced the Commissioners and Conservation Agent, requested members of the audience to sign in, and asked if anyone present was recording the meeting. No one was recording the meeting.

Public input and comment for items not on the Agenda.

R Ronzio spoke regarding closing out an enforcement order noting former Conservation Agent Robbins completed a site inspection. Chair Dixon outlined the steps to closing an enforcement order. A final site inspection will be done and a letter sent if all is in order with the site.

R Ronzio's second item was about the RDA for beach nourishment filed by Sherwood Forest Lake District and if the paperwork has been completed. Agent Parsons reported the paperwork was completed and sent to the name on the application Steve Rosenthal. R Ronzio requested the paperwork be sent to him.

R Ronzio also wanted to discuss the Town's recently submitted bundled NOI for road work and asked if the Sherwood Forest Road District could be included or have something similar as the District has several culverts needing to be replaced. Chair Dixon explained the Town's bundled NOI was for road maintenance and the District is welcome to file their own bundled NOI for road maintenance. Agent Parsons recommended R Ronzio discuss the Town's filing with the DPW Director C Bouchard. She also volunteered to bring a copy of the MA Department of Environmental Protection's guidance for a bundled NOI for road maintenance. R Ronzio requested the Commissioners or Agent view the culverts needing to be replaced. Chair Dixon felt this request could be fulfilled.

R Ronzio also wanted to discuss a structure on a parcel in Sherwood Forest requiring demolition by 2020. Chair Dixon inquired about the presence of wetland resource areas on the property. Agent Parson will add this site to her list of site inspections for this coming Friday.

Informational Meeting regarding Enforcement Order specific to the Becket General Store. E Klepetar was present representing H Anello and the Becket General Store. E Klepetar asked, "to try and get clarity and move forward to keep the store open." Chair Dixon outlined the history of the site and the January, 2018 enforcement order concerning the disturbance and loss of grassed area in the riverfront area and the requirement to re-vegetated the area. Chair Dixon recommended the owner file an NOI once the number of parking spaces required for the site is determined by the Planning Board and the owner is ready to develop the parking area. E Klepetar asked if the owner is compliant with the enforcement order? Agent Parsons' opinion was there was a good faith effort to comply. E Klepetar asked for further clarification that the grassed area can be used for overflow parking and the owner will work to revegetate the disturbed grass area.

New Business:

A **Request for Determination of Applicability** submitted by Kenneth Courage Jr. for a septic

system upgrade at 274 High Street, Map 206, Lot 63. Commission visited the site. S Boomsma, representing the applicant, summarized the proposed work to upgrade the existing system with a raised system in a new location. Commission asked about the siting of the new location which will be closer to the resource area than the existing location. S Boomsma explained the designer prefers to site closer to the tree line where soils are less compacted. In this case it would also negate the need for another component, a pump, as the existing location would likely still need to be mounded though no perk test was done. Chair Dixon asked if the leach field location could be realigned to be further from the resource area. S Boomsma explained the system was designed to work with the contours and shifting would require additional grading. She stressed the proposed Title 5 compliant system is exempt from the WPA - only the construction falls within jurisdiction. Commission recommended some reconsideration of the design and plans could be resubmitted for the next meeting. Motion made to continue the Request for Determination of Applicability for a septic system upgrade at 274 High Street, (Map 204, Lot 63) to the 28 August 2018 Becket Conservation Commission meeting, (Brand/Karlberg). MSV.

A **Notice of Intent Application** submitted by Michael Tosch for a stream crossing replacement on Beaver Brook Road, Map 204, Lot 42. S Boomsma, representing the applicant, explained there was a small problem in the abutter notifications. Motion made to continue the Notice of Intent hearing for a stream crossing replacement on Beaver Brook Road (Map 204, Lot 42) to the 28 August 2018 Becket Conservation Commission meeting, (Brand/Delpapa). MSV with one abstention (Karlberg).

Request for Certificate of Compliance submitted by Ken Einhorn of Sherwood Greens for vegetation management in the Sherwood Green Road District issued in 2009, DEP 102-0437. Motion made to approve a Certificate of Compliance for vegetation management in Sherwood Greens, (Brand/Karlberg). MSV.

Ratify Emergency Certificate issued to Jeff Stanton for removal of hazardous trees approximately 75 ft from edge of water located at 148 Osceola Dr. (Map 210, Lot 83). Motion made to ratify the Emergency Certificate for the removal of a hazardous tree approximately 75 ft from edge of water located at 148 Osceola Dr. (Map 210, Lot 83), (Karlberg/Brand). MSV.

Ratify Emergency Certificate issued to Cutler for removal of one tree approximately 50 ft from edge of water at 27 Long Bow Circle Lane (Map 214, Lot 32G). The trees, yellow birch and spruce, are in danger of falling on the house. Owner is interested in replacing one of the trees. Motion made to ratify the Emergency Certificate for the removal of hazardous trees at 27 Long Bow Circle Lane, (Map 214, Lot 32G), (Brand/Karlberg). MSV.

Continuing Business

A **Bundled Notice of Intent** submitted by the Town of Becket Highway Department: The project proposes the anticipated yearly maintenance projects typically performed by the Highway Department within areas subject to the Wetlands protection Act. No representative from the Town was present. The MA Natural Heritage letter has yet to be received. Motion made to continue the public hearing, pending receipt of additional information, for the bundled Notice of Intent for yearly road maintenance work by the Town of Becket Highway Department, (MA DEP #102-0438) to the 28 August, 2018 Becket Conservation Commission meeting, (Karlberg/Brand). MSV.

Additional Items

Approval of the 26 June, 2018 minutes will be considered at the 28 August 2018 meeting.

Commission received the MA Association of Conservation Commission (MACC) fiscal year 2019 training calendar and request for payment of MACC annual dues. Commissioners Brand, Dixon and Karlberg

asked to have annual subscriptions to the MACC handbook. Commissioner Karlberg mentioned some difficulties with access to the online handbook.

The Commission received an email on 7/2/2018 from B Snyder of Solitude Lake Management regarding the 9 July 2018 herbicide treatment at Sherwood Greens. G Murphy and D Edgecomb asked for more detail on the content of the email. Agent Parsons reported the email contained only the notification of the treatment date and no other information.

The Commission received:

- an emailed update on the Crystal Pond dam inspection completed on 7/3/2018 from D Lenart received on 7/6/2018.
- a copy of the 253 Part A permit application for Indian Lake dam.
- a copy of *Their Land Their Legacy: A Guide to Helping Landowner Decisions About the Future of Their Land*. Commission agreed to ask the Becket Athenaeum about the possibility of hosting a space dedicated to conservation materials.
- a stormwaer inspection report, dated 7/5/2018, from Tighe & Bond for the Borego Solar Project. Of note is revegetation has not been completed
- an email about the work at 31 Rosner Lane being nearly completed and asking to remove erosion controls.
- an offer from Barbara Gordon to donate land in Sherwood Forest to the Commission. The Commission is unable to accept land and the Town has a policy of not accepting land within Sherwood Forest. R Ronzio said the Sherwood Forest Lake District accepts land for conservation purposes.

M Stucklen and S Parsons met with Thomas Wright regarding potential house renovations on a parcel adjacent to Yokum Pond. The site has multiple resource areas. Also met with Ken Einhorn about beach nourishment at Sherwood Green's beach and with Ben Anderson about a property on George Carter Road.

An update on Becket town beach; the DPW was able to temporarily repair damage done to the beach by the recent heavy downpours. The DPW would like to have a conversation about the beach issues. Agent Parsons felt the existing NOI and RDA can accommodate the work needed to address the beach issues

Greenwater Pond and Center Pond have confirmed their chemical treatment schedules. M Babcock reported she tried to contact the Center Pond Lake Association in order to coordinate the divers to hand pull the invasive plants as the exact location of the pellet applications is needed so divers can avoid the area. Solitude Lake Management has not responded to her inquiries either. M Babcock also hoped to offer them the services of the divers to document the location of plants and take photographs. Chair Dixon commented that the divers noted there was die back of the plants following the chemical treatment but they are now seeing multi-branched regrowth in the die back areas. G Murphy and D Edgecomb, residents of Sherwood Green, explained they have been trying to research the history of treatments in Sherwood Green as little information has been gleaned from the Lake District and last year there was inadequate notification of a treatment application. They asked if this sort of information could be made more readily available. The Commission discussed having an information session on lake management. M Babcock offered to research costs and logistics associated with training divers to hand pull plants.

Chair Dixon explained the recent resignation of M Stucklen from the Commission will allow her to apply for the position of Becket Conservation Agent. Three applications for the position have been

received.

Becket Land Trust contacted the Commission about the possibility of draining the Becket Quarry to reduce the hazard risk associated with people 'cliff diving'. Agent Parsons informed the Land Trust it would be possible but requires the filing of an NOI.

Commissioner Karlberg shared photographs of a possible violation, vegetation cutting, on Beaver Brook Road. Another possible violation was observed on Dawn Drive where vegetation removal was done last year. Additional vegetation removal may have been done this year. The state contacted the Commission today about a call reporting a violation on Bonny Rigg Road. Agent Parsons will investigate.

Motion made to adjourn the 24 July, 2018 Becket Conservation Commission, (Brand/Karlberg). MSV. Chair Dixon adjourned the meeting at 8:45 PM.

Action Items:

- 1.** Pay MACC annual dues and subscriptions to MACC handbook for Brand, Dixon and Karlberg.
- 2.** Request space at the Becket Atheneum for conservation materials.
- 3.** Notify B Gordon the Commission cannot accept gifts of land but the Sherwood Forest Lake District can accept such donations.
- 4.** Work on an information session on lake management/aquatic plant management
- 5.** Investigate possible violations: Beaver Brook Road, Bonny Rigg Road and Dawn Drive