

## **Town of Becket Conservation Commission 18 December, 2018 Meeting Minutes**

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

**Commissioner not in Attendance:** Karen Karlberg

**Members of the public:** Gail Ceresia

Chair Dixon called the 18 December, 2018 Becket Conservation Commission meeting to order at 6:37 PM, read the meeting guidelines, introduced the Commissioners, 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.*** Gail Ceresia introduced herself and expressed interest in becoming an associate commissioner. G Ceresia provided a brief overview of her credentials including status as a Professional Wetland Scientist and the owner of a small wetland consulting company. She explained her work does not bring her to Becket. The Commission does not have associated commissioners. Establishing such a position would need to come before the Select Board. The town has appointed Commissioners who do not live in Becket and this may be a position G Ceresia might wish to consider.

Mark Rosenman, 402 Alan-A Dale Drive, was not present at the November meeting. Agent Parsons reported the draft RDA she reviewed was incomplete. Agent Parson will follow-up with M Rosenman

### **Continuing Business:**

NOI application submitted by the Town of Becket for the construction of a UV disinfection treatment system including an 8' by 10' precast concrete building to house public water treatment equipment and modification of existing water pipes at the Rte 20 Chester Road Becket Spring (Map 417, lot 1900). Funding for the UV disinfection system on the warrant for the January special town meeting. Motion made to continue this hearing to the 15 January, 2019 Becket Conservation Committee meeting, (Brand/Dixon). MSV.

A review of the Enforcement Order for S. Prum, 80 Beaver Brook Road regarding unpermitted clearing in the resource area and buffer zone. Agent Parsons met on site with owner's son and detailed the expectations including no expansion of lawn and cut areas are to be allowed to regrow naturally per MA Heritage recommendation. Gardening will be restricted to an area farthest from resource areas and plantings restricted to native species. The owner must contact the Commission before any new work because of the abundance of resource area. Commissioners agreed it would be best to inspect the area when revisiting the Beaver Brook Road culvert work in a few months.

### **Additional Items**

*Review and approval of the November meeting minutes.* Chair Dixon offered corrections including changing docks to decks on Old Pond Road with one being rebuilt and one requiring the filing of an NOI. Agent Parson recommended Commission visit the site as an abbreviated NOI may not be necessary. The work may be able to be done under and RDA. Motion to approve the 27 November, 2018 meeting minutes as amended, (Brand/Dixon). MSV.

*Discuss date change for the January meeting to not conflict with the Special Town Meeting: Consider Jan 15, 2018 (sic).* Motion made to change the January 2019 Becket Conservation Commission to the third Tuesday, 15 January, (Brand/Delpapa). MSV. Town Secretary confirmed a room was available for the meeting on the 15<sup>th</sup>.

*Review and discussion of the annual report.* Chair Dixon has not completed the annual report but will try to disseminate a draft to Commissioners for review soon. Chair Dixon informed the Commission she is on the Select Board 19 December agenda to request M Stucklen be hired as Becket Conservation Agent.

*Homeowner's Brochure- final review.* Once finalized, approved by the Select Board and printed the brochure can be inserted with the tax bills at a cost of about \$200. This mailing will reach approximately 3,400 property owners. Commission discussed sending information to all of the lake associations in the spring specific to lake management issues.

*Forest Cutting Plans Review- next steps.* Commissioner Karlberg expressed interest in being the lead on plan review. Discussion of this should be continued at the January meeting.

*Equipment purchases.* Commissioners have discussed purchasing a GPS unit with a camera feature and a laser distance finder. Chair Dixon will look for email with recommendation and cost.

*Review proposed "Wetland Training for Contractors" email from Berkshire Regional Planning Comm.* Lauren Gaherty sent an email Berkshire County Conservation Commissions to ascertain if there is interest in Commissions supporting a special training for construction contractors. BRPC does not have funding for this training, Commissions would need to provide the funding. After a short discussion, Commissioners were in support of this training if there was an incentive for the construction professionals to attend the training. The suggested incentive was the opportunity to obtain professional development credits. Agent Parsons relay the Commissioner's conditioned support to L Gaherty.

*Conservation Commission vacancies.* Chair Dixon will talk with S Morley after the holidays.

*General Mail.* MA DEP sent the updated snow disposal guidelines. The guidelines were shared with other town departments. Commission agreed the guidance should be posted on the Conservation Commission page of the town's web site.

Motion made to adjourn the 18 December, 2018 Becket Conservation Commission, (Brand/Delpapa). MSV. Chair Dixon adjourned the meeting at 7:55 PM.

Action Items:

- 1.** Agent Parson will follow-up with M Rosenman.
- 2.** Commission will inspect 80 Beaver Brook Road Enforcement Order items when revisiting the Beaver Brook Road culvert work.
- 3.** Send Homeowner's Brochure to Select Board for approval.
- 4.** Forest Cutting Plan and equipment needs discussions added to January agenda.
- 5.** Agent Parson to contact L Gaherty/BRPC about contractor training.
- 6.** Chair Dixon will talk with S Morley after the holidays about rejoining the Commission.
- 7.** Post the MA DEP snow disposal guidance on Conservation page of town's web site.