

Town of Becket Conservation Commission 11 August, 2020 Meeting Minutes

Meeting held to comply with COVID-19 social distancing requirements. Conservation Commissioners attended in person with interested parties participating virtually.

Commissioners in Attendance: Chair David Johnson, Cindy Delpapa, Henry Hagenah, Also Conservation Agent Mary Stucklen.

Commissioner(s) not in Attendance: Meredyth Babcock and Henry Scarpo.

Members of the public calling in: Shannon Boomsma, Steve Feldman, Mike Kulig, Elton Ogden, Cindy Trenholm (every attempt was made to identify all people participating virtually on the conference line)

Introduction of the Commissioners: Chair Johnson asked for those on the conference call to state their names for the record. Chair Johnson called the 11 August, 2020 Becket Conservation Commission meeting to order at 6:42 PM, read the meeting guidelines and introduced the Commissioners and Conservation Agent.

Public Input: None offered

New Business

A Request for a Certificate of Compliance for 18 South Lake Way (Map 211, Lot 144: MA DEP File #102-0411) by Rosemary Bleyer and Sally Baumer. Order of Conditions was issued in November 2015 for the renovation to a residence and the construction of a garage. S Boomsma, for the applicants, explained the work was completed and an as-built plan provided with a narrative outlining the changes from the approved plan: drainage pipe/outfall was extended closer to the lake, stones were placed around the deck, the location of the stairs moved from the side to be incorporated into the deck, the fire pit was relocated, the driveway was straightened to accommodate septic, swapped 5 dogwoods for birch and astible, and a generator pad was placed next to the house. Commissioner felt astible was not a suitable replacement for dogwood and would like to see native shrub instead. Motion made to issue a Certificate of Compliance for MA DEP File #102-0411 to Rosemary Bleyer and Sally Baumer for the renovation to a residence and the construction of a garage at 18 South Lake Way (Map 211, Lot 144), with the ongoing condition that the Operation and Maintenance plan submitted with the NOI will continue to be implemented, (Delpapa/Hagenah). MSV.

A Request for a Determination of Applicability submitted by Cindy and Scott Trenholm of 62 Algeria Road (Map 219, Lot 231) for the replace (sic) of a stairwell in the buffer zone. Site visit completed. C Trenholm provided an update on the materials to be used saying pressure treated timbers will be used for the steps. Commissioner emphasized it is important to have timber pressure treated with EPA approved process for these site conditions- in the ground and near water. There will be 30 simple, 36 inch steps going down the slope to within 10 feet of the lake. There will be a 36 inch high handrail installed on the lake /down-slope side of the steps. Motion made to issue a negative determination #3 to Cindy and Scott Trenholm for the installation of timber-based stairs at 62 Algeria Road (Map 219, Lot 231) in the buffer zone with Becket Standard Conditions and using only wood preserved with an EPA approved method, (Delpapa/Hagenah). MSV.

A Request for a Determination of Applicability submitted by Elton Ogden of 308 Old Pond Road (Map 210, Lot 58) for the reconstruction and addition to a residence in the buffer zone. Site visit completed. M Kulig, representing the applicant, explained the existing 17 foot by 33 foot cottage will be demolished and a replacement will be built with a 12 foot by 18 foot addition to the west and a foundation will be added. It will be necessary to take down four significantly sized trees and these will be replaced with native shrubs.

Will attempt to eradicate a patch of Japanese Knotweed on the site outside the buffer zone. Staging and access to the work site will be from the north. Commissioner asked how the house will be demolished. M Kulig anticipated it would only take a day, since there is no foundation, using an excavator. Commissioner asked where the septic pipes are on site and if there might be some crossing Old Pond Road which could be damaged by something as heavy as a concrete truck. M Kulig will check with town boards as it would be good to avoid damaging anyone's infrastructure. Motion to issue a negative determination #3 to Elton Ogden for the reconstruction and addition to a residence in the buffer zone at 308 Old Pond Road (Map 210, Lot 58) with Becket Standard Conditions, straw wattles or compost tubes will be added to the erosion control measures and the four trees removed will be replaced with an equal number of native New England shrubs, (Delpapa/Hagenah). MSV.

A Request for an Amendment of the Order of Conditions (DEP File #102-0449) for David Levenfield of 229 South Cove Drive (Map 211, Olot 41) for the removal and replacement of trees. S Boomsma, for the applicant, summarized the revised plan and accompanying narrative. A photo of the five trees the landowner wishes to remove to allow for the construction of the driveway was shown. The trees will be replaced with 5-6 foot tall maple or beech trees on the slope above where the existing trees will be removed. Commissioner noted there has already been a great deal of alteration in the buffer zone on this parcel but the trees to be removed are pioneer species without a long life. Motion made to grant an amendment to the MA DEP File #102-0449 Order of Conditions to allow the removal of five trees and their replacement with 5 maple and or beech trees of 5 to 6 feet height and the trees will be monitoring for three years from the time they are planted on site, (Delpapa/Hagenah). MSV.

Continuing Business

A Request for Extension of the Order of Conditions (DEP File #102-0423) for Greenwater Pond (Map 201 & 202) issued on 8/7/2017 for management of aquatic vegetation. Motion made to continue the request for an extension to the Order of Conditions (DEP File #102-0423) for Greenwater Pond (Map 201 & 202) for the management of aquatic vegetation to the 25 August, 2020 Becket Conservation Commission meeting, (Delpapa/Hagenah). MSV.

A Notice of Intent application submitted by Indian Lake Association for the replacement of toe drains at the Indian Lake Dam (DEP File #102-0455). Motion made to continue the public hearing for Notice of Intent application submitted by Indian Lake Association for the replacement of toe drains at the Indian Lake Dam (DEP File #102-0455) to the 25 August, 2020 Becket Conservation Commission meeting, (Delpapa/Hagenah). MSV.

A Notice of Intent submitted by John Todice for the construction of a residence at 0 Sherwood Drive (Map 215, Lot 197; MA DEP File #102-____). MA DEP has not issued a file number yet. Waiting for septic system approval from BOH. Motion made to continue the hearing for the Notice of Intent submitted by John Todice for the construction of a residence at 0 Sherwood Drive (Map 215, Lot 197) to the 25 August, 2020 Becket Conservation Commission meeting, (Delpapa/Hagenah). MSV.

Additional Items

Update Re: Enforcement Order for A. and V. Bleier, 819 Bonny Rigg Road (Map 416, Lot 23), for unpermitted work impacting bordering vegetated wetland wetland, buffer zone, and intermittent stream; and Enforcement Order issued to L. and N. Dean, 765 Bonny Rigg Road (map 416, Lot 22), for unpermitted work impacting bordering vegetated wetland wetland, buffer zone, and intermittent stream. There are no materials or report due until September. S Boomsma reported to Agent Stucklen that she had spoken with the landowner and he will be taking on the reseeding work.

Update Re: Enforcement Order issued to K. Avalle of 318 County Road (Map 409, Lot 20) for unpermitted work in the Riverfront Area. There are no materials or report due until 15 August.

Review and approval of the July 28th, 2020 Conservation Commission Minutes. Since there are

Commissioners missing consensus was to wait on this item. Motion made to continue the approval of the June and July Conservation Commission minutes to the 25 August, 2020 Becket Conservation Commission meeting, (Delpapa/Hagenah). MSV

Conservation Commission vacancies. There are two openings and the Commission currently does not have a vice chair.

General Mail. The Federate Church publishes a calendar for town meetings each year for a modest fee. They are asking for the dates of the 2021 meetings. Commissioners agreed to the following dates: 1/26, 2/23, 3/23, 4/27, 5/25, 6/22, 7/27, 8/24, 9/28, 10/26, 11/16, 12/14.

Discussion: Letter to lake communities regarding wildlife fencing. Discussion about approach and timing. Agent Stucklen emphasized it was important to act soon before many seasonal residents leave. Need to send the letter so there can be more active effort to bring people into compliance. A few more days were allotted for editing but the final letter should be voted on at the next meeting so it can be mailed in September.

Motion made to adjourn the 11 August, 2020 Becket Conservation Commission meeting, (Delpapa/Hagenah). MSV. Chair Johnson adjourned the 11 August, 2020 Becket Conservation Commission meeting at 8:08 PM.

Action Items:

- Commissioners- wildlife fencing letter- edits by April 15.