

## **Town of Becket Conservation Commission Meeting Minutes: March 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

The Becket Conservation Commission (BCC) Meeting was held at the Becket Town Hall in compliance with the MA hybrid open meeting laws allowing applicants, contractors, and consultants to participate in person, virtually, or by audio.

Commissioners in Attendance: Chair David Johnson, Vice Chair Hank Hagenah, Doug Bessone, and Nic Pietroniro Conservation Agent

Guest in Attendance: Aaron Biasin, Karen Karlberg, June Wolfe, Dave Cameron

Commissioners participating virtually: Chris Clapper

Commissioners Not in Attendance: John Verity, Jim Schaefer, Henry Scarpo

The Chair called the March 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023 meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. having a quorum of four (4) Commissioners and indicated the meeting is being recorded. The chair emphasized that the meeting agenda included introduction comments that wouldn't be read and that it is the responsibility of each applicant and all others in attendance to review.

The Chair opened the meeting for public comment for items not on the agenda. Not hearing any comments, it was closed for public comment.

### **New Business:**

**1. Request for Determination of Applicability:** Submitted by Milton Arnold and Claire Romeo for the removal of trees within the Buffer Zone of a Bordering Vegetated Wetland at 28 Becket West Road (Map 204, Lot 52).

Issues: Commission to revisit site and assess the need for replacement trees and tree removal

Motion: motion for a continuance to the April 25th meeting, motion to approve by Doug, seconded by Hank, motion carried unanimously 4-0

**2. Request for Determination of Applicability:** Submitted by Melissa and Timothy Garthwaite for the work associated with the repair of the beam foundation of a single-family home and construction of an addition. Work may occur within Bordering Land Subject to Flooding at 32 Williams Road (Map 211, Lot 55).

Issues: work not in the Buffer Zone – no issues

Motion: to approve by Hank, seconded by Doug, motion carried unanimously 4-0

**3. Notice of Intent:** Submitted by June Wolfe for the work associated with Riverfront Area redevelopment of a single-family home. Current structures will be demolished and a new home, septic system, well and driveway will be constructed within the Riverfront Area of Shales Brook at 50 Dawn Drive (Map 204, Lot 80).

Issues: applicant provided significant information to deliberate and approve the application as submitted

Motion: to approve by Hank, seconded by Doug, motion carried unanimously 4-0

#### Continuing Business:

- 4. Notice of Intent:** Submitted by Emily Pfeiffer (MassDEP #102-0471) for the removal of trees, construction of a gravel driveway, and installation of a shed and gazebo within Buffer Zone. As well as the removal of vegetation in a Bordering vegetated Wetland, Land Under Water and from the Bank of Longbow Lake, at 0 Long Bow Lane West (Map 213, Lot 72).

Issues:

- a) The building of the gazebo and shed is prohibited without an approved septic system and well per the Becket by-laws subject to the jurisdiction of the Board of health. The applicant removed these two items from their application.
- b) The construction of a driveway and removal of any trees outside the 100' Buffer Zone are not jurisdictional to the Commission.
- c) The Commission needed documentation from the Long Bow Lake Association regarding the approval for removal of any lake vegetation.

Motion: motion for a continuance to the April 25th meeting by Doug, seconded by Hank, motion carried unanimously 4-0

- 5. Notice of Intent:** Submitted by the Mountain Grove Association, Inc. for the addition of sand nourishment, installation of benthic mats to control aquatic vegetation, and the permitting of two docks and a float in Shaw Pond at the Mountain Grove Association community beach area (Map 204, Lot 146)

Issues: The DEP has not issued a file number due to incomplete information. The BCC could not deliberate on the application. Dave Cameron provided documents and guidance for the approval process for a Benthic mats. The BCC will use this to create the standard format for considering the approval of Benthic mats moving forward. Nic and Dave Johnson will review with the applicant these standards to assist in submitting a complete and sufficient application.

Motion: motion for a continuance to the April 25th meeting, motion to approve by Doug, seconded by Hank, motion carried unanimously 4-0

#### 6. Additional Items:

The BCC minutes from the three prior meetings were approved unanimously 4-0  
January 24<sup>th</sup>, 2023 BCC minutes, February 22, 2023 BCC minutes, March 9<sup>th</sup>, 2023 BCC minutes

Motion to Adjournment at 7:26 pm - carried unanimously 4-0

Next Scheduled BCC meeting – April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Motion for BCC to use up to \$300 for the creation and posting signs at Becket's Great Ponds

Becket Conservation Commission meeting minutes  
Prepared by Dave Johnson, Chair  
Edit Date: 04/02/2023