

Town of Becket Conservation Commission Meeting Minutes: January 23rd, 2024

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, John Verity, Doug Bessone, Henry Scarpo, Chris Clapper

and Nic Pietroniro Conservation Agent

Commissioners participating virtually: none

Commissioners Not in attendance: Jim Schaefer

Others in Attendance: Claire Shomphe, Eric Dorn, Mary Jean Dorn

Others participating virtually: Daniel Nitzsche

The Chair called the January 23, 2024 meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. having a quorum of six (6) 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. Enforcement Order:** Unpermitted tree removals within the Buffer Zone and on the Bank of Ward Pond at 0 Silver Leaf Drive (Map 214, Lot 132.2)

Issues: Trees cut down in the Buffer Zone without a permit

Motion: to issue an Enforcement order by Hank, seconded by Henry, carried unanimously 6-0-0

Order of Conditions:

- a. Ceased and desist all work in the 100-foot Buffer Zone
- b. Attend the February 27th, 2024 Conservation Commission Meeting
- c. Attend and submit a replanting plan at the March 26th, Conservation Commission Meeting
- d. Replanting plan must be started by June 1st and completed by June 30th, 2024

- 2. Request for Determination of Applicability:** Submitted by Ron and Marily Sturgill for the work associated with the installation of a new septic system and bottomless sand filter within the Buffer Zone of a BVW at 77 Shawnee Shore Road (Map 204, Lot 98).

Issues: BOH has not approved a plan and has requested additional testing before reviewing, Chair Johnson requested BOH provide an approved plan before the Commission will review applicant's RDA

Motion: for continuance to the February 27th 2024 Conservation Commission Meeting by Chris, Seconded by John

Order of Conditions: n/a

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3. Request for a Certificate of Compliance: Submitted by Jeffrey Lynch in reference to work regulated by a final Order of Conditions issued to Camp Lenox Inc. Richard Moss under MassDEP File #102-226

Issues: not able to perform a site inspection due to winter conditions and property access, Taconic Land Consultants did provide a written letter indication the work was performed to a lesser impact on the resource area and the Buffer Zone – photos were provide taken in the summer of 2023

Motion: to approve the Certificate of Compliance by Chris, Seconded by John, carried unanimously 6-0-0

Order of Conditions: n/a

Continuing Business:

4. Enforcement Order: Issued to Eric Dorn and Mary Jean for unpermitted activity in protected resource areas. Work includes the placement of fill and two culvert pipes to create a passageway for vehicles within a BVW at 442 County Road (Map 409, Lot 18.5).

Issues: Dorn's required to hire a consultant

Motion: to approve Daniel Nitzsche of GZA Inc as the consultant for the Dorn's by Hank, seconded by Jim carried unanimously 6-0-0

Motion: for a continuance to the 03/26/2024 BCC meeting by Hank, seconded by carried unanimously 6-0-0

Order of Conditions:

- a. Consultant to prepare a report indicating conditions that need restoration and conditions for future permitted use of the roadway across the resource area
- b. Applicant and consultant to submit a report and attend the Commission for the March 26th, Conservation Commission Meeting

5. Enforcement Order: Issued to Sean Rilla for unpermitted work within the Bank of an intermittent stream and violations to an open Order of Conditions under MassDEP# 102-0473 at 659 Leonhardt Road (Map 208, Lot 24).

Issues: Property owners did not attend the meeting and respond to the conditions set forth in the enforcement order

Motion for a continuance to the 03/26/2024 BCC meeting by John, seconded by Hank carried unanimously 6-0-0

OOCs – ongoing to be review at another site inspection

- a. Secure the bottom of the perimeter erosion control fencing
- b. Remove the bridge that is crossing the stream
- c. Remove the concrete sediment from the equipment washing

Conservation:

Eversource Improvement Projects

Shaker Mill Brook Conservation Land

Thomas Brook Conservation Area Proposal

Additional Items:

Correspondence/Items needing attention

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Review and Approval BCC minutes:

October 24th Meeting – Motion to approve minutes by Hank, seconded by Henry carried 7-0-0

November 28th Meeting – Motion to approve minutes by Hank, seconded by Henry carried 7-0-0

December 19th Meeting – Motion to approve minutes by Hank, seconded by Henry carried 6-0-1

Next meeting Tuesday February 27th, 2024, in the Community Room, at 6:00 pm.

Motion for Adjournment – motion to adjourn at 7:53 pm carried unanimously 7-0-0

Prepared by Dave Johnson, BCC Chair, 01-23-2024

These minutes were ratified at the 2024-02-27 BCC public meeting. The word document failed thus couldn't be saved into a pdf document and marker ratified

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "David Johnson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized 'D' and 'J'.