

Conservation Commission Minutes

Date of meeting: April 20, 2023

Members present: Chair Robert Hennessy, Brian Williams, Luke Longstreeth, Virginia Martell

Attendees: Alejandro Levins, Doug Serrill, David Donnis, Lee Bell

Meeting opened by Chair Hennessy at 6:02 P.M.

1) **NOI Hearing, 12-18 Elm Street, Benson Mini Storage**

Alejandro Levins of Mini Storage, LLC has submitted an NOI for work at 12-19 Elm Street. Berkshire Design Group is the engineer of the plan and Doug Serrill is representing Berkshire Design at the hearing. The plan is to remove structures and debris on the property, which is about 8.5 acres in total, in order to construct storage units for the existing business, which is owned by Alejandro Levins. Doug Serrill explains the plan and the Stormwater management that they are proposing. He states that the plan calls for restoration of degraded areas along the riverfront of Mill River. Small discussion on violations that Mass DEP were concerned about. Chair Hennessy asks if they had a chance to read the notes submitted by Mass DEP regarding this proposed NOI. Doug Serrill and Alejandro Levins both acknowledge they have read the notes. Small discussion on the degraded area. Doug Serrill also points out that they have not yet heard back from NHESP and MESA for their comments. The Commission feels like they need to hear from them to make a determination. Further discussion in the Mass DEP comments and concerns. Discussion moves to violations that were associated to this property. The Commission acknowledges that the current owner is not responsible for past practices. Lee Bell, member of the Planning Board is present for the hearing. As a Planning Board member, he is interested in how The Commission will make a determination. Further discussion on the degraded surface along the riverbank. Dave Donnis, an abutter to this proposed project, has concerns over stormwater flooding that runs through his property. Small discussion on water runoff and flooding. Further discussion on reducing the degraded area along the riverbank. Chair Hennessy states that they need more information for them to make a determination. In particular, he would like to see the determination from NHESP. The Commission agrees. The Commission unanimously votes to continue the NOI hearing for their next meeting, which will be TBD.

Meeting minutes from January 19, 2023 are approved

Next meeting will be TBD

Meeting adjourned at 6:45p

Submitted by

Admin Assistant Gerard Bueno