

Conservation Commission Minutes

Date of meeting: May 12, 2022

Members present: Brian Williams, Luke Longstreeth, Virginia Martell

Attendees: Phil Genovese, Michael Wood, Mike Cahill, Greg Omasta, Meg Woytik

Meeting opened by Chairman Hennessy at 6:05 P.M.

1) **RDA Hearing Smith Academy walking path**

Jeff Squire of Berkshire Design Group is representing the Condo Association, located at 60-64 Main Street. They would like to get permission from the Commission to go forward with a boat dock project. The Commission's jurisdiction is the riverbank. They proposal includes installing a set of stairs that would lead down the riverbank onto a potential dock on the river. Mr. Squire explained that the proposed dock would be wooden, and the stairs would be prefabricated aluminum. They would want to use a anchorage system for the stairs and dock which would be post, This construction of the stairs would be the only impact to the riverbank. The Commission questions if they are the first authority that has reviewed this proposal. Small discussion on the order of permitting and Chapter 91. Jeff Squire has submitted plans to the Natural Heritage and have been in contact with the Army Corp of Engineers. Small discussion on Mass DEP comments. Luke Longstreeth asks for more details on the anchoring system. Jeff Squire explains that they would use a mushroom anchor. Further discussion on Chapter 91, and the licensing procedures. Chair Hennessy and the Commission agree that they would like to wait on a determination from Natural Heritage division before voting on this project. Bob Osley, an abutter to 60-64 Main Street is present for the Hearing. Chair Hennessy invites Mr. Osley to speak. Bob Osley states that he has some concerns with this proposed project, specifically with the impact of Wildlife and the expected disturbance on the riverbank. He is very much interested in what the Natural Heritage & Endangered Species division has to say about the project and environmental impact. He hopes the Commission decide to continue the Public Hearing so that more information can be gathered. Jeff Squire agrees to a continued Hearing. Brian Williams makes a motion to continue the hearing to their next meeting, on June 16th. Motion passes.

2) **RDA Hearing, Greg Omasta, controlling knotweed 137 N. Hatfield Rd**

Bucky Sparkle is the engineer for Peter Grandonico, he has submitted a restoration plan to the Commission. The Commission has reviewed the plan and are satisfied with the proposal. Mr. Sparkle verifies that he will be on site at the beginning of the project to layout the plan with the contractor. He will reach out to the Commission once work is completed.

3) Discussion on Notice of Non-Compliance, 166 Main Street

Jason Shea of 166 Main St. is present for the meeting. The Commission is discussing the Notice of non-compliance sent to Mr. Shea from the Mass Division of Fisheries and Wildlife. It was concerning “unauthorized” tree cutting on his property. Mr. Shea explains to the Commission that he was unaware he needed to notify local authorities about cutting down dead trees on his property. He apologizes and states he just wanted to clear dead trees and trees that he believed were hazardous. The property is in Ag use, and he would like to have a Christmas Tree Farm. Commission understands and ask him to submit an NOI for the retroactive work his has done and any work going forward.

4) Discussion On outstanding Order of Conditions, 34 Linseed Rd.

Marlene Aquadro is present for the meeting. Her and her husband are selling property at 34 Linseed Rd, and it has come to light that there is an Outstanding Order of Conditions on the property. Back in 2003, they had work done on their house and had an Order of Conditions through the Conservation Commission at that time. The Commission must approve the work and sign a Certificate of Compliance. The Commission agreed to provisionally sign a Certificate of Compliance pending a possible site visit and a signoff from the original contractor or another licensed contractor/engineer that states work was completed in compliance with the Order of Conditions.

Meeting minutes from, February 10, 2022, reviewed. Minutes approved.

Next meeting will be June 16, 2022.

Meeting adjourned 7:20 PM

Submitted by

Admin Assistant

Gerard Bueno