

HOLLAND CONSERVATION COMMISSION
27 Sturbridge Road, Holland MA 01521

Meeting Minutes of September 11, 2018

Meeting called to order at 6:30pm

Commissioners in Attendance: Andy Harhay, Anne Hall, Marcia Beal, Sam Spratlin, Jessica Chaffee and Kaitlin Desmarais

Commissioners Absent: Kathy McKenna
Clerk: Ginger Buteau

Residents in Attendance:

- Gary Krenzal (81 Sturbridge Rd) regarding Leno Rd. Mr Krenzal wished to know why the property on Leno was made a build-able lot. Marcia explained the history of the site to Mr. Krenzal. Jessica explained some of the project scope. Mr. Krenzal is concerned about the high groundwater level in the area and the impact on the environment, as well as the overflow through culverts impact on his property. Anne suggested he talk to the Board of Health as the variance passed regarding the septic system tied the con com hands. Andy also suggested he bring any concerns up to Jack. The site order of conditions was given to Mr. Krenzal and he was encouraged to contact us if he has any other questions or concerns.
- Christine Martin and Paul Huijing, 22 Old Acres Road. Just wished to observe meetings to get an idea of how ConCom works. They plan on adding a second story onto there home and had some questions about the process and time line.

Minutes of 8/28 not approved, Jessica made motion to table approval till next meeting. Marcia seconds. All approved.

- COC for NOI 0274 95 Maybrook Road postponed until 9/25/18.
- COC for NOI 0336, Andy, Marcia and Sam visited. Sam motions to approve COC for retaining wall. Marcia seconded. All in favor.
- COC for NOI 0302 for Andy and Lynn Harhay, 7 Massaconnic Trail, Sam moves to approve COC for expired NOI that was never initiated, Jess seconded. All in favor. Andy abstained from the vote.

Public Hearings

- NOI for 184-0343: George O'Mara 97 Leno Rd. Opened at 7:03pm. Mr O'Mara is proposing a plan from January 18, 2018 with a driveway crossing stream. Mr O'Mara edited the 1/18/18 plan with updates that were in more recent plans to reflect DEP requirements. He wants the ConCom to approve the building of the driveway in the future (He does not wish to build it now). Andy stated David

Foulis (DEP agent advising on NOI) felt that only crossing of the intermittent stream with a footbridge appears currently acceptable. Like the Commission, he has concerns of the presented modified plan from 1/18 due to potential issues with wetland delineation and the replication area. David believes some of the proposed wetland replication area actually resides in a wetland currently. Mr. O'Mara stated that he is open and willing to hire professional wetland scientist to re-do the delineation and redesign the replication area. ConCom informed Mr. O'Mara that they need this before they can approve the order of conditions however. ConCom suggested that it might be in his interest that he go with the most up to date plan with the footbridge as reflected in the 3/27/18 plan and come back in the future with a new NOI for the driveway . When he comes here with that NOI for the driveway he will need to have an up to date wetland delineation done by a professional; George agreed with that approach. Jessica makes a motion to approve plan from 3/27/18, Sam seconded and Anne abstained, all else are in favor.

- RDA's for Dave Buccelli for tree removals. RDA's have not been submitted yet and meeting has been postponed; Sam, Marcia and Andy did visit all properties and will show pictures at next meeting on 9/25/18.
- RDA for John Rehm, 36 Williams Rd. Tree removal between houses at #34 and #36. Oak tree overhangs both houses on each side and has damaged ~~the~~ both roofs in the past. Roots are also growing into foundation. ConCom decided to require a mitigation of 2 bushes OR 1 tree of 15ft or higher at maturity. Jessica approved with a negative determination 3 with the condition that a mitigation of either 2 bushes OR 1 tree a minimum height of 15ft or more at maturity be implemented. ConCom suggested a river birch as a good option. Kaitlin seconded and all are in favor.

Walk Ins:

- Larry Carlson: 6 North Leisure Drive. Ice has raised retaining wall bordering lake causing soil erosion under the wall. Mr. Carlson wishes to repair wall. Currently the wall is constructed from wood. Contractor will re-pound existing post and reface the wall (with wood) to prevent further seepage. ConCom informed Mr. Carlson that wood used needs to be Eco Friendly and safe for use in water. Mr. Carlson stated that he will not be digging anything out; he will fill the back of the wall facing the yard with soil once the wall has been repaired. Refacing will be done on ~90% of the wall, and will be done at draw down. No heavy equipment will be used and all will be done by hand. ConCom will need to do a site visit; tentatively, the project will be an RDA pending site visit. Jessica and Marcia will conduct the site visit at 0800 on 9/12/18.

Tree Removal Policies

- Andy spoke with DEP Circuit Rider Mark Stinson about developing efficient tree removal policies for the Town of Holland. Mark stated we could use an Agricultural exemption policy which states the trees can be cut for firewood purpose, as long as the property's tree canopy is not reduced by more than 50%.

Another option could be to utilize a tree removal specific form and bypass the RDA process. Weston MA has a good template that the ConCom would like to review and potentially adopt for use. We will continue the discussion at the 9/25/18 meeting and then make a decision.

Kaitlin made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 08:22, Jessica seconded. All approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Kaitlin Desmarais, Acting Secretary