

**Holland Conservation Commission
27 Sturbridge Road, Holland MA 01521**

Minutes of Conservation Commission held on September 26, 2017

Members Present: Chairperson Andrew Harhay, Marcia Beal, Chris McCooe, Kathy McKenna, Anne Hall;

Members Absent: Jessica Chaffee

Guest: Sam Spratlin

Meeting called to order at 6:34 pm by Andy Harhay.

Read and approve minutes:

- **Minutes of September 12, 2017: Motion to accept and approve the minutes of September 12, 2017 made by Chris McCooe, Anne seconded, all in favor. Motion passed.**

Email Correspondence:

- 9/25/2017: Pictures sent by Chris McCooe from her site visits.
- 9/25/2017: Mike Thibeault of Landscape Evolution emailed about being placed on the agenda for Tuesday, 9/26 to discuss a potential project at 4 N. Leisure Drive. (Andy Harhay responded that he could come as a walk-in, but it was too late to be placed on Tuesday's agenda.)
- 9/25/2017: Andy Harhay sent information to Holland Highway Department regarding grant funding to restore failing infrastructure with additional information (Baker-Polito Administration Awards).
- 9/25/2017: MACC Fall Conference (Publick House, Sturbridge, MA). Register now
- 9/21/2017: Tighe and Bond request for RDA for utility pole installation. 25 Pine Tree Dr. (Andy responded with updated information on the owners, Jeffrey and Margaret Candito, and set a Public Meeting Date for October 10, 2017 provided the current owners have been contacted by Tighe and Bond). Tighe and Bond responded that the Oct. 10th date will work for them.
- 9/21/2017: Questions from Kevin Polak (1 Island Road) regarding RDA schedule and payment. (Andy responded.)
- 9/20/2017: From Dori Ferrence regarding the need for a street sign for Brandon Street due safety concerns. She would like ConCom to help facilitate her request. (Kathy responded via email).
- 9/21/2017: Baker-Polito Administration Awards \$905,000 to various municipalities to help restore rivers by replacing failing infrastructure.
- 9/20/2017: Communication/clarification with Mark Stinson regarding NOI #184-0337 (Jim Blanchette, 3 Massaconnic Trail)
- 9/20/2017: From Worcester T & G Public Hearing Notice for Planning Board re Ralph and Nancy Donadio, 19 Lakeridge Dr.
- 9/20/2017: Notice regarding The Witness Tree: Appreciating Local Landowners and Forest Stewards (Tuesday, 10/3/17)
- 9/19/2017: UMASS Amherst re Land Trust Alliance and a continuing education program
- 9/19/2017: Notification of Wetlands Protection Act File Number WE #184-0337 for 3 Massaconnic Trail—Owner is Top Ten Holding Company, LLC
- 9/19/2017: Notice regarding Massachusetts Green Careers Conference on October 5, 2017
- 9/18/2017: Notification of Wetlands Protection Act File Number: WE #184-0336 for 95 Maybrook Road—owner Christopher Wszolek
- 9/15/2017: RDA Request from Kevin Polek for tree removal 1 Island Road (R10/A/14)
- 9/14/2017: Request for Certificate of Compliance for Laurie Philbin, 16 Leno Road
- 9/14/2017: eDEP Confirmation for the OCC filed by Bettina Schmidt for the Town of Holland
- 9/12/2017: Laurie Philbin attached the correct paperwork for the Request for Certificate of Compliance.

Phone Calls/Messages:

- Landscape Evolution/Mike Thibeault called to ask if he can be placed on the agenda for Tuesday, September 26, 2017 to discuss 4 N. Leisure Drive. (Andy responded via email).

Order of Business

- **Update – Tim Martin of 29 Pine Tree Drive:** Andy summarized what has happened to date. There was some confusion because he did not return to Conservation. Conservation needs to follow-up on his hearing which was continued. Andy will contact Tim Martin relative to arranging for members to visit the site.
- **Certificate of Completion – Laurie Philbin/16 Leno Road – removed two trees:** Jessica, Chris, and Andy made a site visit and all was in order. Chris McCooe made a motion that we issue a COC to Philbin's. Andy Harhay seconded, all in favor, motion passed.
- **Review property improvement proposal from Bob St. Jacques – 8 Collette Drive.** Jessica, Marcia and Kathy made a site visit and talked with Bob St. Jacques and discussed proposed plans. Jessica Chaffee suggested that he complete an NOI. Andy will contact Bob to see how the NOI is progressing and set a date for a public hearing.
- **Erosion Concern - 25 Forest Drive:** A North Brookfield resident owns the property and it appears that perhaps a septic system was installed. Need to check permitting and what is happening. A resident was concerned that sediment is running into a roadside culvert during heavy rains and perhaps eventually to the lake. There is very little grass evident to stabilize the soil. The house is not in the buffer zone. Numerous trees have been cut. Andy is not sure of the jurisdiction. Andy will contact the BOH and Jack Keough to see if there is a pink slip on file.
- **Update—Feasibility study:** The Select Board indicated that there is no official need to have a Review Board to make a decision on responses to IFB for the Feasibility Study.

7:00 PM—Public Hearing – DEP #184-0337

**7:00 PM – NOI Public Hearing – DEP #184-0337 Mark Farrell for Jim Blanchette – 3 Massaconnic Trail
New drilled well and septic system**

Persons attending: Chairperson Andrew Harhay, Marcia Beal, Chris McCooe, Kathy McKenna, Anne Hall; Sam Spratlin: Mark Farrell, Greenhill Engineering

- Andy Harhay opened the Public Hearing at 7 pm.
- Mark Farrell gave us the proof of abutters' notices and the public notice that was placed in the newspaper.
- Jim Blanchette is planning to enlarge the house and improve the septic system. Plans include a new tank with a pump, to transfer the waste to a leach field on another piece of property that he owns on White Road which is about 200 feet away. He also wants to put in a drilled well. The NOI is a revision to the scope of work initially proposed by Jim.
- The BOH wanted the leach field larger; this plan reflects the change.
- No fill will be brought in for the new addition and the elevation will remain the same.
- The new addition is on the side of the house away from the lake. When drilling for the well, they will make sure nothing gets in the water. Have the well company use a "spoils pit" when drilling the new well to direct the water and allow it to soak back into the ground. The resource area will be protected with silt fencing and straw wattles.
- Mark wrote it up as a Category 1 Addition, and the Town's portion (\$67.50) of the NOI fee of \$110 was paid by check.
- **Chris McCooe made a motion to accept the NOI for DEP # 184-0337 with the understanding that if plans change they will return to the Conservation Commission. Kathy McKenna seconded. All in favor motion passed.**
- **Kathy McKenna moved to close the public hearing, Andy Harhay seconded, all in favor motion passed.**
- **The Order of Conditions will be prepared at the next meeting.**

7:30 PM – RDA Public Meeting—Kevin and Kathy McKenna, 12 Lake Shore Drive

Persons attending: Chairperson Andrew Harhay, Marcia Beal, Chris McCooe, Kathy McKenna, Anne Hall; Sam Spratlin; Kevin McKenna

NOTE: Kathy McKenna attended as an RDA Applicant and recused herself from the decision making.

- Repair approximately 25-30 feet of an existing natural stone wall using the same stones that have fallen out of the wall. The land behind the wall will be leveled to eliminate erosion. Grass will be planted. All work to be done during the drawdown.
- **Anne Hall made a motion to accept the RDA with a negative Determination #3. Chris McCooe seconded. All in favor, motion passed. Special Conditions: Notify Conservation when the wall is started and finished. Cover soil if it rains. All work to be done during the drawdown.**
- Paid Fee of \$60 for Legal Notice

7:45 PM – RDA Public Meeting – James Delisa, 38 Stony Hill Rd.

Persons attending: Chairperson Andrew Harhay, Marcia Beal, Chris McCooe, Kathy McKenna, Anne Hall; Sam Spratlin, Jim Delisa, Mark Gadoury

- Removal of seven trees killed by gypsy moths. 5 trees are hemlocks and 2 are oaks. These trees have not come back after the Gypsy Moth infestation. Andy, Chris, and Jessica looked at the area. The trees need to come down.
- Andy asked how they would do this by the water.
- This will be a joint effort with neighbor, Mark Gadoury, because the trees are so close together. All trees are in the buffer zone with some right next to the lake.
- A silt fence will be needed, and the tree removal done during the drawdown. All the brush and debris need to be removed and/or used for firewood. Stumps and roots to remain. Shrubs to be planted as needed. Trees are not to be dropped into the lake.
- Craig McNally from North Brookfield will be doing the tree cutting.
- **Chris McCooe made a motion to accept the RDA with a Negative Determination #3 with the conditions that the stumps remain in place, silt fence to be placed by the water and all brush and debris removed from the buffer zone, and tree cutting to be done during the drawdown. Kathy McKenna seconded. All in favor, motion passed**
- Paid fee of \$60 for Legal Notice

7:45 PM – RDA Public Meeting—Mark and Kim Gadoury, 46 Stoney Hill Rd.

Persons attending: Chairperson Andrew Harhay, Marcia Beal, Chris McCooe, Kathy McKenna, Anne Hall; Sam Spratlin, Jim Delisa, Mark Gadoury

- Removal of 7 trees—6 hemlock trees and 1 oak tree (not in the buffer zone), and repair existing rock wall. Only 4 trees are truly in the buffer zone. Andy and Chris visited the site and Andy does not have a problem with the tree removal, but he is concerned that there is no vegetation between the rock walls. Andy expressed a concern about run-off. Anne expressed her concern about the chemicals used in the mulch. There are gardens below the wall that is to be rebuilt. Mark indicated that he is removing dirt to the upper part of the property and will be adding plantings and mulch to stabilize the areas between the walls.
- Craig McNally from North Brookfield will be doing the tree cutting.
- This will be a joint effort with neighbor, Jim Delisa, because the trees are so close together.
- **Chris McCooe made a motion to accept the RDA with a Negative Determination #3 with the conditions that the stumps remain in place, silt fence to be placed by the water and all brush and debris removed from the buffer zone, and tree cutting will be done during the drawdown. Marcia Beal seconded. All in favor, motion passed.**
- Paid Fee of \$60 for Legal Notice

Round Table Discussion

- Chris received a call from Cathy Say about replacing a rotting wooden wall. Cathy and Rob Say wanted to know if they have to do an NOI. Chris told them yes. They might use the same wall design as on the neighboring Henchey property. Discussion occurred about interlock walls.
- Kathy McKenna will finalize letter to the Merolla's regarding a replanting plan. Chris suggested we contact East Coast Tree Service before sending out the letter, since they represented the Merolla's at the RDA meeting.
- Anne asked about Open Space Committee. If a Committee topic requires a commitment on the part of Conservation, Anne will need to bring it back to Concom for a vote.
- Anne talked about the MACC Course she just completed on delineating bordering vegetative wetlands and identifying properties that impact the water quality. Anne feels we can set policies and they don't have to be bylaws. Anne feels that we need to talk about the quality of water. Marcia recommends that we put together a list of good practices.
- Kathy mentioned that she spoke with UMASS Amherst Grad students that she noticed while kayaking. They were surveying the lake for mussels.
- Kathy McKenna made a motion that we put forth Sam Spratlin's name to Select Board as a member of Conservation. Marcia seconded. All in favor motion passed.

Walk-ins

- **David Hemsworth, 2 Collette Drive:** Wants to close out paperwork.
- **Mike Thibeault, Landscape Evolution: Potential Project at 4 N. Leisure Drive:** They want to build a wall. A timber wall is leaning and the family wants to build stone wall using large boulders/natural stone. Set Public Hearing date for October 24, 2017 at 7 pm. He will need to bring a bobcat loader onto the lake bed, because he can't work from the land. Mike was asked to contact abutters to ask if he could obtain permission to access the right-of-way for set-up on land instead of the lake bed. Conservation will do the legal notices and Mike Thibeault will do the abutters' notices.
- **Michael Scanlon, 46 Wales Road:** Just purchased a piece of property and wants to clear 2-3 acres for horses. Michael has spoken to Ron Deroiser who will be doing the cutting and told Concom that Ron contacted the Forestry person. Andy will call Michael to get additional information.
- **Dave Tremblay, 9 White Road:** He wants to take down most of the existing house and keep part of it. Plans to build on the same footprint. There is a 5' X 5' area that is a deck that he wants to make part of the house. The house is 33 feet from the water. He has a tight tank for his septic and a shallow well in the basement. He was told that he needed to file an NOI. He was given a Wetland Protection Act form. There was a question as to whether Dave Tremblay needs an NOI if he just adds a second floor and renovates inside with out any digging. Members suggested that we get a clarification from Mark Stintson with regard to construction versus RDA or NOI. Dave was told to plan on submitting an NOI. It is best to file this on-line.

Adjournment

Motion by Kathy McKenna to adjourn meeting. Chris McCooe seconded the motion. All in favor, motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 9:15 pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted,

Kathy McKenna
Conservation Commission Secretary

CC: Select Board, Town Clerk, Board of Health, Planning Board, Building Inspector, Highway Surveyor, Zoning Board of Appeals, File and HCC Chairperson, Board Clerk