

Shutesbury Conservation Commission Meeting Minutes
March 26, 2020 Virtual via Zoom

Site Visits (Summaries attached)

March 18, 2020

Attending: Penny Jaques and Liam Cregan/Commissioners

1. 137 West Pelham Road/Pace: BPA for a garage/workshop
2. 36 Sojourner Way/Armitage: BPA for master suite addition to existing home
3. 104 Lake Drive/Thompson: improve area where trees were cut; slab for shed

At 7:15pm, Jaques calls the virtual meeting to order.

Roll call attendance is taken. Commissioners present: Penny Jaques, Russ Mizula, Robin Harrington and Liam Cregan. Staff present: Linda Avis Scott/Land Use Clerk

Scott reads the statement regarding Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 "Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A, §18", and the Governor's March 15, 2020 Order imposing strict limitations on the number of people that may gather in one place, and that, pursuant to these, the Conservation Commission's 3.26.20 meeting will be conducted via remote participation.

Cregan moves and Jaques seconds a motion to approve the 3.12.20 meeting minutes. Harrington notes that Russ Mizula's name is missing from the list of Commissioners attending the 3.4.20 site visits. Regarding 375 Locks Pond Road/Bernard, Jaques requests "which requires significant excavation" be added to "addition with a full basement to the existing cottage". Roll call vote to approve the 3.12.20 meeting minutes as amended: Jaques: yes, Harrington: yes, Cregan: yes, and Mizula: abstain; the motion carries.

Site visit follow-up:

1. 137 West Pelham Road/Pace: Per Jaques, the Commission previously visited this site for the house building permit application; there are no wetland concerns. The BPA sign-off for the 36'x24' garage/workshop has been completed.
2. 36 Sojourner Way/Armitage: Per Jaques, there is a small intermittent stream downhill and greater than 100' from the project site. The BPA sign-off for the 18'x22' addition to the existing house was completed with a condition stating that excess excavated material be kept well away from the stream's buffer zone.
3. 104 Lake Drive/Thompson: Per Jaques, the owner wishes to improve three areas; the first area is outside jurisdiction, the second and third are within the 100' buffer zone for Lake Wyola; for the third area, Thompson proposes modifying the contours on the point sloping down to the lake's bank. During the site visit, Thompson was advised that a Request for Determination of Applicability will need to be filed and is to include a detailed site plan for all three of the proposed projects; he was encouraged to consider working with a consultant to assist in developing the plan. Per Thompson's phone request, Scott provided him with a list of consultants via email.

FY19 Annual Report: All Commissioners have received the FY19 Annual Report compiled by Jaques. Mizula will review the report and let Scott know of any errors he finds; neither Harrington nor Cregan were on the Commission during FY19.

Updates:

1. 375 Locks Pond Road/Bernard: Per Scott, Terry Bernard stated they plan to pursue installing a full basement; information about the Request for Determination application process has been emailed to T. Bernard; reaching out by phone has been unsuccessful and there has been no further email response from Bernard.
2. Lake Lowering Memorandum of Understanding: Per Scott, receipt of the remaining details remains pending a response from Mark Rivers/Lake Wyola Advisory Committee.

Continue Public Hearing for ANRAD at ZW-6 (Pratt Corner West) at 7:30pm

Jaques: per agreement with Maria Firstenberg/TRC, the public hearing will be continued to 5.14.20 at 7:30pm (see file).

ANRAD Peer Reviews: Jaques reports, per Emily Stockman/Stockman Associates, that in order to maintain social distancing, site visit participation will be limited to herself, one TRC staff member and one Commissioner. Carver Road: Jaques, Baker Road: Harrington, Pratt Corner East: Mizula and Pratt Corner West: Cregan. Jaques will follow-up with Stockman.

Updates continued:

3. South Brook Conservation Area Intern: Scott emailed Kayla Speros regarding the need to communicate her findings via email rather than in person and provided a means, per Cregan, on how to access ARCGIS; a response from Speros is pending.
4. Our Town Newsletter Article: Cregan will make some edits to last spring's article by Jeanne Brown and prepare it for submission.
5. 57 Shore Drive/West: Per Scott, Donna West emailed the Commission regarding plans to tear down the cottage at 57 Shore Drive and cut two large trees that lean over the cove. A follow-up email was sent to West asking for the distance from the cottage to the cove bank and a photo of the trees to be cut; response is pending. The Franklin County Cooperative Inspection Program (FCCIP) did not notify the Commission about the building permit application for the tear down. The Commission supports Scott's request to ask the FCCIP why the SCC was not notified noting that although the conversion of an impervious surface to vegetation is exempt under the Wetland Protection Act, due to its proximity to the lake, erosion/sedimentation control installation is required.

Sumner Mountain Conservation Restriction: Jaques recommends the Commission request Charley Eiseman to conduct the annual monitoring visit; the CR's stewardship fund will pay for Eiseman's services. Commissioners request Scott to contact Eiseman and property owner Chuck DiMare who requested to attend this year's monitoring visit. Harrington and Cregan may be interested in attending as well.

Highway Department Liaison: Jaques acknowledges former Commissioner Barry Field's service as liaison to the Highway Department. Mizula agrees to take on this responsibility and will consult with Scott. Jaques: in the spring of the year, per the Memorandum of

Understanding between the SCC and Highway Department, the Superintendent will provide the Commission with a list of proposed projects for the upcoming season.

There are no pending site visits. Jaques suggests there be a hold on site visits until the Governor relaxes the State of Emergency.

Unanticipated Item:

Forest Cutting Plan: DCR-DWSP Quabbin Ware River Region for an area east of Rt. 202 and north of Gate 15. Scott will scan the plan for Commissioners to review during the 4.9.20 meeting.

Continue Public Hearing for ANRAD at Lot ZG-2 (Pratt Corner East) at 8:00pm

Jaques: per agreement with Maria Firstenberg/TRC, the public hearing is continued to 5.14.20 at 8:00pm (see file).

At 8:02pm, Jaques moves and Mizula seconds a motion to adjourn the meeting. Roll call vote: Jaques: yes, Cregan: yes, Harrington: yes, and Mizula: yes; the motion passes unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Avis Scott
Land Use Clerk