

**TOWN OF SHEFFIELD
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
JUNE 9, 2014
DOWNSTAIRS MEETING ROOM
7:00 PM**

Board Members Present: Don Ward, Chairman
James Collingwood, Sr.
Howard Chezar
Cheryl Blackburn

Board Members Not Present: Peter Stiglin

Others Present: Jill Hughes, Clerk
Members of the public (see sign in sheet)

Chairman Don Ward called the meeting to order at 7:06 pm.

Public Hearing: Request for Determination of Applicability filed by Ben Webster for property on 1176 Sheffield Egremont Road. The proposed project is to remove existing liner swimming pool. Dispose off-site of water and structure. Add fill, cover with topsoil and grade to blend surrounding areas. The applicant is looking for a determination as to whether the area is in an area subject to jurisdiction.

Ben Webster was present for the owner Gail Guthrie. D. Ward and H. Chezar met with Mr. Webster to conduct a site visit earlier today. Mr. Webster provided the Commission with a sketch of the work area, which was reviewed and entered into the file. He explained that a waddle barrier will be set up and the work will be conducted from the front of the property just off of Sheffield Egremont Road. The work site is well over 200' from Hubbard Brook. Chairman Ward pointed out to the rest of the Commission that on the site visit Mr. Webster explained that the pool water would drain onto the lawn area so it will seep into the ground, but that the pool liner will be hauled off-site. A discussion ensued over the location of the septic system in relation to the work area. **H. Chezar motioned, with a second from J. Collingwood, Sr. to issue a Negative Determination #1 on this Request for Determination of Applicability. The motion passed 4-0.**

The Commission requested that they be notified when the waddle barrier is in place and when the work is completed.

Minutes: The Commission reviewed draft meeting minutes from April 28, 2014. H. Chezar motioned, with a second from J. Collingwood, Sr. to accept and approve the April 28, 2014 minutes as written. The motion passed 4-0.

The Commission reviewed draft meeting minutes from May 13, 2014. H. Chezar motioned, with a second from C. Blackburn to accept and approve the May 13, 2014 minutes as written. The motion passed 4-0.

Forest Cutting Plan – Cooper Hill Road: The Commission reviewed a cutting plan, which was disapproved by Tom Ryan, Dept. of Conservation and Recreation for reasons detailed in an attached email dated 1/22/14. H. Chezar thinks the Commission should look into this matter and a discussion ensued. The Commission will contact Mark Stinson to inquire how to proceed.

Upcoming Conferences and Mail: The Commission reviewed a letter from Lycott Environmental dated 6/2/14 regarding the site visit and scheduled treatment of Perlman Pond on 6/11/14. A discussion ensued about the possibility of the dam leaking and having a water test done. J. Collingwood, Sr. said he would be available to meet with them at the site. The Board clerk will contact them tomorrow to find out what time they plan on being at the site and inform Mr. Collingwood.

Upcoming conferences were discussed.

Bills Pending: The Commission approved and signed the bills payable for the RDA advertisement in the Berkshire Record.

Chairman Ward informed the Commission that he sent a letter of interest to the Select Board asking to be reappointed to the Commission for another term as his expires on 6/30/14. The Commission was pleased with Mr. Ward's continued interest to serve.

Chairman Ward updated the Commission regarding the vote taken at their last meeting on May 27, 2014 regarding Primax Properties. Town Counsel was contacted after the meeting and asked whether the vote was valid. Counsel responded that since it was a quorum of members and it was a majority vote that it was a valid vote. Attorney McCormick was informed of this.

Chairman Ward went over some housekeeping items with the Commission.

- Minutes sent to members as soon as possible after a meeting so those who were unable to attend know what was discussed.
- Meeting agendas and a reminder of the meeting date sent to members.
- An email sent to the Commission when documentation is received in advance so that members can pick up their copies and a site visit can be conducted before the meeting.
- Conducting site visits on Mondays at 5pm or on Fridays at 2 or 3pm.

The Commission reviewed an email dated 6/5/14 from Mark Stinson asking them to investigate a creation of a new pond in buffer/BVW and a discussion ensued. Chairman Ward will look into the matter and inform the Commission and Mr. Stinson of his findings.

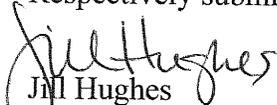
Adjournment: There being no further business before the Commission this evening, *H. Chezar motioned, with a second from J. Collingwood, Sr. to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed 4-0.*

The meeting adjourned at 8:09 pm.

The following documents were reviewed during the Board's meeting and have been retained as required by the Massachusetts Public Retention Policy: Meeting Agenda, Sign in sheet, RDA for 1176 Sheffield Egremont Rd, draft meeting minutes of 4/28/14 and

5/13/14, 6/2/14 letter from Lycott Environmental, Forest Cutting Plan for Cooper Hill,
6/5/14 email from Mark Stinson re: creation of a pond.

Respectively submitted by:


Jill Hughes
Recording Secretary

Sheffield Conservation Commission

Date: June 9, 2014

Name – PLEASE PRINT

Street, Town

1. Ben Webster 1719 N. Main Sheffield

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