

**TOWN OF SHEFFIELD
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
May 20, 2019
FIRST FLOOR MEETING ROOM
7:00 PM**

Commission Members Present: Donald Ward, III, Chairman
Arthur Batacchi, Jr.
Theodore Pitman

Commission Members Not Present: Cheryl Blackburn
Martin Mitsoff

Others Present: Renee LeClair, Recording Secretary
Members of the public (see sign in sheet)

Chairman Ward called the meeting to Order at 7:09 p.m.

Mill Pond Conservation Association with environmental scientist for discussion on four invasive species and potential new treatment options. Chairman Ward opened by welcoming the Mill Pond Association and their new environmental consultant Naomi Valentine. Ms. Naomi Valentine is the Assistant Project Manager of Ecological Restoration at SWCA Environmental Consultants presented a formal letter of request for an extension of the active Order of Conditions. Ms. Valentine began by explaining to the Commission that Mill Pond has not been managed for the past year, and the aggressive aquatic invasive and exotic plant species have taken over much of the ponds area. Eurasian watermilfoil the main invasive species of concern, but other invasive plants that are currently present are curly leaf pondweed, sago pondweed and water chestnut. The current state of the pond is represented in the photos attached to the request submitted today. A discussion ensued. **D.Ward motioned, with a second from T.Pitman to extend the current order of conditions for one year. The commission also requests that the association submit a new Notice of Intent before the extension expires on June 23, 2020 . The motion passed 2-1 A.Batacchi Jr. voted against the extension.**

Public Hearing: Request for Determination of Applicability filed by Jen Recline. The purpose of the hearing is to gather information regarding the proposed project: Installation of a 20ft by 40ft pool to be located at the west end of the property. Chairman Ward stated that he, M. Mitsoff, and T.Pitman did make a site visit to the Reclines property earlier today. Chairman Ward reviewed the submitted Request for Determination of Applicability and explained to the applicant Bob Johnston that he will need to submit a more detailed scale drawing. **D.Ward motioned, with a second from T.Pitman to continue this matter to the June 24, 2019 meeting. The motion passed 3-0.**

Solitude Lake Management for discussion and possible action on Fawn Lake and McCain Pond. Dominic Meringolo the Senior Environment Engineer/Territory Leader from Solitude Lake Management was invited by the Commission this evening to reviewed the routine program and requirements for Fawn Lake and McCain Pond. Mr. Meringolo stated he is request an extension for both Fawn Lake and McCain Pond. A

discussion ensued. **T. Pitman motioned, with a second from A. Batacchi, Jr for a one year continuance on the McCain and Fawn Lake projects with an expiration date of June 23, 2020. The motion passed 3-0.**

Discussion and possible action on the letter and land survey from Board of Selectman. Chairman Ward read a letter addressed to the Commission from the Select Board. Chairman Ward stated that they reviewed a recent survey done by Kelly, Granger, Parsons Associates Inc. and making a site visit to the covered bridge earlier today with he, M. Mitsoff, and T. Pitman. Chairman Ward stated that the Commission did determine that there are structures placed on Town property. A discussion ensued. T. Pitman stated that 200ft from the river requires permitting and falls under the Conservation Commissions' jurisdiction. A discussion ensued. **Chairman Ward motioned, with a second from T. Pitman to send a letter to both the Town of Sheffield and Mr. Luis Aragi requesting they submit a Request for Determination of Applicability addressing the work that has been done to the property near the covered bridge. The motion passed 3-0.**

Review of Forest Cutting Plans: No forest cutting plans to review.

Approval of Minutes: The Commission reviewed the minutes from April 22, 2019 and decided to postpone this since A. Batacchi was not at the last meeting.

Upcoming Conferences and Mail: Chairman Ward reviewed the mail and asked the clerk to make copies of the National Grid letter for the Commission at the next meeting.

The Commission reviewed the following:

Letter from National Grid dated April 22, 2019 regarding spring mechanical control, cut surface or basal treatment, a summer selective foliage treatment and as necessary, summer and fall CST and basal treatments on rights of way in Sheffield.

Letter from the University of Massachusetts Amherst dated May 15, 2019 regarding the fiscal impact of Open Space.

Landkeepers, Berkshire Natural Resources report and annual report 2018.

Public Inquiries: The Commission reviewed an email request from Jim Panichella. Mr. Panichella's request is to perform so routine hand maintenance to his land. The email was accompanied by a statement from his wetland scientist recommending that Jim reach out to the Commission for approval prior to filing since the work will have minimal to no impact on the land. **T. Pitman motioned, with a second from Chairman Ward to permit Jim Panichella to complete his requested tasks with Emily Stockman's recommendation. The motion passed 3-0.**

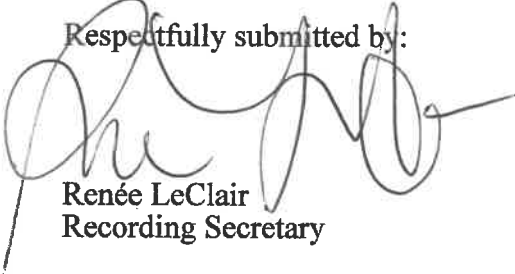
Adjournment: There being no further business before the Commission this evening. **Chairman Ward motioned, with a second from A. Batacchi Jr. to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed 3-0.**

The meeting adjourned at 8:43 p.m.

The following documents were reviewed during the Commission's meeting and have been retained as required by the Massachusetts Public Retention Policy: Meeting agenda, Sign

In Sheet, Letter from National Grid dated April 22, 2019 regarding spring mechanical control, cut surface or basal treatment, a summer selective foliage treatment and as necessary, summer and fall CST and basal treatments on rights of way in Sheffield, Letter from the University of Massachusetts Amherst dated May 15, 2019 regarding the fiscal impact of Open Space, Landkeepers, Berkshire Natural Resources report and annual report 2018, Email correspondence from Jim Panichella, Letter from SWCA, Naomi Valentine dated May 20, 2019 requesting an extension for the current order of conditions for Mill Pond.

Respectfully submitted by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Renée LeClair', written over the printed name and title.

Renée LeClair
Recording Secretary

Sheffield Conservation Commission

Date: May 20, 2019

PLEASE PRINT: Your Name

Street, Town

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. <u>Sherry Graybeal</u> | Sheffield
36 Bow Wow Rd. |
| 2. <u>DOUGLAS + HONOR BROWN</u> | 124 Bow Rd
SHEFFIELD |
| 3. <u>Edith Velmaus</u> | 6 Bay Lane |
| 4. <u>Robin Kriesberg</u> | 322 Bow Wow Rd. |
| 5. <u>MARTHA JACKSON</u> | 400 Bow Wow Rd |
| 6. <u>Gyana Blumenthal</u> | 18 Bow Wow Rd |
| 7. <u>Norton Blumenthal</u> | 18 Bow Wow Rd |
| 8. <u>Jay Hubing</u> | 414 Bow Wow Rd |
| 9. <u>Garrah Williams</u> | 340 Bow Wow |
| 10. <u>Marly Nightman</u> | 368 Bow Wow |
| 11. <u>Hester Velmaus</u> | 778 Hewins |
| 12. <u>Naomi Valentine (SocA)</u> | Amherst, MA |
| 13. <u>Peter Cherneff</u> | Hewins St. |
| 14. <u>Bob Johnston</u> | Burr Hill Rd. Milltown |
| 15. <u>Dana Cumming</u> | 153 Bow Wow Rd |
| Dominic Merugda | Solitude Lake Management |