

Town of Sheffield
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
September 27, 2021
7:00 PM

Commission Members Present: Don Ward, Chairman
Ted Pitman
Rene Wood
Arthur Batacchi, Jr.

Others Present: Lori Neil, Administrative Assistant
Members of the Public

Chairman Ward called the Conservation Commission meeting to order at 7:03 pm.

1. Public Hearing on a Request for Determination of Applicability (RDA), filed by Rhonda Cushwa for property located at 247 South Undermountain Road, in accordance with the Provisions of M.G.L. Chapter 131, sec. 40. The applicant is seeking approval to upgrade the chicken coop from a metal utility trailer to a new 10' X 14' shed. T. Pitman, D. Ward and R. Wood completed a site visit at the Cushwa residence earlier today. The new coop will be set back an additional 35 feet compared to the current one. D. Ward suggested the first 50' around the bank should be mulched with straw, leaves or pine needles seasonally to minimize erosion. **R. Wood made a Negative Determination under #3: the work described in the Request is within the Buffer Zone, as defined in the regulations, but will not alter an Area subject to protection under the Act. Therefore, said work does not require the filing of a Notice of Intent, subject to the following conditions: 1.) There will be seasonal mulching and, 2.) Replant the bare section along the stream. T. Pitman seconded the motion which passed 4-0.**

R. Wood made a motion to close the public Hearing. D. Ward seconded the motion. Motion passed, 4-0.

T. Pitman made a motion to move item # 5 on the agenda to item #2. D. Ward seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0.

2. Discussion regarding complaint of Berkshire Lake Property Owner's Association, Inc. The Conservation Commission shared a letter with the Cushwa's that was sent to Guy Watson from the Board of Health (BOH) regarding the Cushwa chicken coop.

3. Discussion/Possible Action regarding Enforcement Order for 1152 Barnum Street. There were no updates at this time. L. Neil will request from Jackson Alberti a follow-up in writing for the next meeting.

4. Discussion/Possible Action regarding Enforcement Order for 854 and 864 South Undermountain Road. There were no updates at this time. L. Neill will request the status of the Notice of Intent (NOI) in writing.

5.) Discussion/Possible Action regarding Enforcement Order for 1448 South Undermountain Road. No updates at this time. L. Neil will email Emily Stockman to request an update in writing.

6. Commission Member Items: D. Ward discussed the status of the A. Rand letter. There was a comparison of maps that D. Ward shared with the Commission. The land is not in the floodplain and it is more than 200' from the river. The work performed is on a pre-existing structure. The Commission decided a Request for Determination for Applicability (RDA) was not needed. **R. Wood made a motion with the condition that there is no expansion on the current footprint. T. Pitman seconded the motion. Motion passed, 4-0.**

R. Wood discussed a Notice of Intent for the Fire Department for Dry Hydrants. She suggested it get republished for the next meeting on Tuesday, October 12, 2021 and to start a new hearing.

D. Ward shared an email of an announcement from Lee Hauge, President of the Lake and Pond Association (LAPA) West fall symposium. It will be held via Zoom on Saturday, October 23, 2021 from 9am – 12Noon. More information will come once the speakers and agenda is finalized.

D. Ward has been working on maps to share with Commission members and the public. He will share at the next meeting.

T. Pitman inquired about the status of the Scenic Mountain Act. R. Wood will email Martin Mitsoff to request the materials. There was discussion of working with the Berkshire Regional Planning Board.

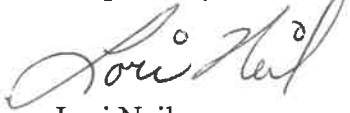
7.) Approval of Draft Minutes from September 13, 2021. R. Wood made a motion to amend the minutes. The motion was seconded by A. Batacchi. Motion passed, 4-0.

8. Public Inquires: None

9. Adjournment.

R. Wood made a motion to adjourn the meeting, which was seconded by A. Batacchi and approved by a 4-0 vote. The meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Lori Neil", written in dark ink.

Lori Neil
Administrative Assistant

Documents reviewed at this meeting:

- 9-27-21 Meeting Agenda
- Request for Determination of Applicability, (RDA)
- Letter from the Board of Health addressed to Guy Watson
- Letter to Adam Rand from T. Pitman
- (3) Printed maps of Rand Property from town Web-site
- NOI – Fire Department/Dry Hydrants
- E-mail from Lee Hauge, President of the Lake and Pond Association (LAPA) West - fall symposium.
- Draft Minutes from 9/13/21
- Attendee Sign in Sheet