

**TOWN OF SHEFFIELD
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
SEPTEMBER 25, 2017
FIRST FLOOR MEETING ROOM
7:00 PM**

Commission Members Present: Donald Ward, III, Chairman
Arthur Batacchi, Jr.
Cheryl Blackburn
Jeffrey Collingwood
Theodore Pitman

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

Chairman Ward called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm.

Public Hearing: Request for Determination of Applicability filed by Martha Jackson for property on 400 Bow Wow Road. The proposed project is to install a rock retaining wall from end of the gabion boxes to edge of property line.

Joe Wilkinson from Wilkinson Excavating was present for the applicant. The Commission conducted a site visit prior to the meeting. Mr. Wilkinson explained that there is an existing retaining wall and that the property slopes down from the house. They will be adding rocks to the existing retaining wall and will extend it to the property line. They will put top soil down for the lawn after the wall is completed. All of the work is in the Buffer Zone, which is currently lawn area. No work will take place beyond the retaining wall and fabric will be placed behind the rocks. A site map was reviewed by the Commission and a discussion ensued. **J. Collingwood motioned, with a second from T. Pitman to issue a Negative Determination #3 with the following condition: (1) Add erosion controls on North and West side of proposed work. The motion passed 5-0.**

Approval of Minutes: The Commission reviewed draft minutes from September 11, 2017. **A. Batacchi, Jr. motioned, with a second from T. Pitman to approve the September 11, 2017 minutes as written. The motion passed 4-0.** J. Collingwood did not vote.

Proposed Donation to Housatonic Valley Association: Chairman Ward talked about joining the Housatonic Valley Association. A discussion ensued. **D. Ward motioned, with a second from C. Blackburn to join the Housatonic Valley Association and make a contribution of \$250.00, if the Town is not already a member. The motion passed 5-0.**

Bills Pending: The Commission approved a bill for the Berkshire Record.

Review of Forest Cutting Plans: There were no Forest Cutting Plans to review.

Upcoming Conferences and Mail: There are no upcoming conferences and no mail to review.

Public Comment: At the Commission's September 11th meeting James Kelly was present to discuss property on South Main Street that the Aragis would like to take upland portions of and convert them to open fields for agricultural use. Per the Commission's request James Kelly presented the Commission with a draft letter to Louis Aragi, Sr. and Louis Aragi, Jr. for them to review. A discussion ensued and the Commission made changes to the letter. Mr. Kelly will drop off the USDA/NRCS map and Sheffield Tax Map so it can be attached to the letter.

Reorganization of the Board: *J. Collingwood motioned, with a second from T. Pitman to nominate Donald Ward, III as Chairman. The motion passed 5-0.*

D. Ward motioned, with a second from C. Blackburn to have Jeffrey Collingwood chair a meeting in his absence. The motion passed 5-0.

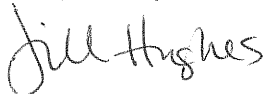
Copies of the Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC) Regulations were handed out to the Commission. The Commission will have a discussion at their next meeting.

Adjournment: There being no further business before the Commission this evening, *A. Batacchi, Jr. motioned, with a second from C. Blackburn to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed 5-0.*

The meeting adjourned at 8:05 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, Draft meeting minutes 9/11/17, RDA for Martha Jackson, Draft letter to Louis Aragi, Sr. and Louis Aragi, Jr.

Respectfully submitted by:



Jill Hughes
Recording Secretary

Sheffield Conservation Commission

Date: September 25, 2017

Name – PLEASE PRINT

Street, Town

1. Joe Wilkinson Sheffield, Mass
2. Jim Kelly County Rd, Sheffield, Mass
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____
11. _____
12. _____
13. _____
14. _____