

**TOWN OF SHEFFIELD
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
DECEMBER 12, 2016
DOWNSTAIRS MEETING ROOM
7:00 PM**

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

Commission Members Not Present: Jeffrey Collingwood

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

Chairman Ward called the meeting to order at 7:23 pm.

Public Hearing: Notice of Intent filed by the Town of Sheffield for property on Rannapo Road, proposed project is to relocate a portion of Rannapo Road.

Jeffrey Malloy and Peter Reed from the BSC Group were present. The Housatonic River has undercut the bank and there is damage to the existing roadway. This has led to safety concerns causing the Town to close a 200-foot section of the road to two-way traffic. The Town is proposing to relocate a portion of Rannapo Road away from the river, relocate an associated unpaved driveway and stabilize the bank with a retaining wall. The project is located in resource areas (BVW, 200-foot Riverfront Area and Priority and Estimated Habitat for rare species and wildlife). Mr. Malloy referenced a November 30, 2016 letter from the Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Program stating that the proposed project would not result in a prohibited take of rare species habitat.

Cheryl Blackburn entered the meeting at 7:32 pm.

Mr. Malloy reviewed and discussed the comments on the project from Mark Stinson, MassDEP. The Town is currently in the process of obtaining an easement from the owner of the land where the work will occur. The Commission discussed making this a special condition. A discussion ensued about the retaining wall and the roadway design. The plan that is proposed should last for 75 years and that a more permanent solution would be very expensive.

Chairman Ward briefly talked about Special Conditions and asked Jeff Malloy to help draft them. **D. Ward, III motioned, with a second from T. Pitman to continue the public hearing to January 9, 2017 @ 7pm. The motion passed 4-0.**

Discussion on the Scenic Mountain Act: The Town voted on May 12, 1975 to accept the provisions of MGL Section 39A of Chapter 131, The Berkshire Scenic Mountain Act. Chairman Ward talked about looking at the regulations from other towns. Discussion ensued about applying for a grant, areas of particular concern and about creating a committee to work on it.

Approval of Minutes: The Commission reviewed draft minutes from November 14, 2016. *A. Batacchi, Jr. motioned, with s second from T. Pitman to approve the November 14, 2016 minutes as written. The motion passed 4-0.*

Bills Pending: The Commission reviewed and signed a bill.

Review of Forest Cutting Plans: The Commission reviewed and discussed plans for McMennamin on Mount Washington and South Undermountain Road, email from Mass Division of Fisheries & Wildlife regarding Egerton plan off of Route 7 and an email from Division of Fisheries & Wildlife regarding Moskowitz on Berkshire School Road.

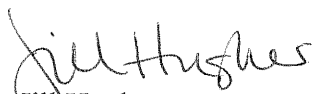
Upcoming Conferences and Mail: No conferences or mail to review.

Adjournment: There being no further business before the Commission this evening, *A. Batacchi, Jr. motioned, with a second from T. Pitman to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed 4-0.*

The meeting adjourned at 8:34 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 11/14/16, Information on the Scenic Mountain Act, Forest cutting plan for McMennamin, 11/14/16 email from Division of Fisheries & Wildlife for Moskowitz and 12/9/16 email from Division of Fisheries & Wildlife for Egerton.

Respectfully submitted by:


Jill Hughes
Recording Secretary

Sheffield Conservation Commission

Date: December 12, 2016

	Name – PLEASE PRINT	Street, Town
1.	Nadine Hawver	400 S. Undermtn Rd
2.	David Smith	599 Cooper Hill Rd
3.	Andrew G Petersen	343 Alum Hill Rd.
4.	Brecc Honeycutt	960 S. Undermtn Rd.
5.	Jeff Mally	BSC Group Inc.
6.	Peter Reed	BSC Group
7.	Shanda LaBombar	Town Administration
8.	Wanda Styka	Ranmapo Road
9.	Kathy Orlants	Main St, Sheffield
10.	Shay Russell	98 Berkshire Sch Rd.
11.		
12.		
13.		
14.		