

**TOWN OF SHEFFIELD
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
AUGUST 13, 2018
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

Others Present: Members of the public (see sign in sheet)

Chairman Ward called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Public Hearing: Request for Determination of Applicability filed by Christ Church Parish of Sheffield Episcopal Church, for property at the corner of Route 7 and Maple Avenue. The purpose of the hearing is to gather information regarding the proposed project: Treatment of Japanese knotweed. Chairman Ward and T. Pitman conducted a site visit prior to the meeting. Sari Hoy was present for the applicant. Ms. Hoy stated that a small patch of Japanese knotweed straddles five different properties. All of the abutters have given permission for the treatment. Most of the stand was cut in June to allow regrowth tall enough to treat. The low toxicity wetland approved herbicide Rodeo will be used and treatment will occur around September. Retreatment will occur in 2019 and 2020. A discussion ensued. **T. Pitman motioned, with a second from A. Batacchi, Jr. to issue a Negative Determination #2. The motion passed 3-0.**

The Commission asked Ms. Hoy to flag the area and have signs that state herbicide applications have occurred.

Public Hearing: Notice of Intent filed by Scott and Amy Margolis for property at 1296 Ashley Falls Road. The proposed project is the construction of a screen porch, relocation of a propane tank, removal of thirteen mature trees and the planting of fourteen native shrubs. Portions of the work are located within bank, riverfront area and bordering land subject to flooding. Chairman Ward and T. Pitman conducted a site visit prior to the meeting. Emily Stockman from Stockman and Associates was present for the applicant. Ms. Stockman gave a brief description of the area and stated that the thirteen trees that are going to be removed are flagged. They will be cut and trucked off site and no stumping is proposed. Erosion controls will be installed. She stated that they will be filing a second Notice of Intent to control invasive species. It will be an ecological restoration project. Since the entire parcel is in MESA jurisdiction NHESP will need to review both Notices of Intent. Ms. Stockman explained that the construction of the screen porch is exempt from MESA and the Wetlands Protection Act and asked that the Commission allow that work to be done. She stated that it meets the criteria for an exemption under 310CMR 10.02(2)(b)2.e. The propane tank will be relocated underground and the work is located along the edge of the lawn. Ms. Stockman requested a continuation of the public hearing until she could file the second NOI and NHESP gave their opinions on both projects, but asked that the Commission approve the work on the screen porch and the propane tank. A discussion ensued.

T. Pitman motioned, with a second from A. Batacchi, Jr. to accept the exemption Emily Stockman cited, allow the construction of the screen porch and relocation of propane tank and to continue the public hearing to September 10, 2018. The motion passed 3-0.

Enforcement Order: 992 Foley Road: Emily Stockman from Stockman and Associates was present for the owner. Chairman Ward and T. Pitman conducted a site visit prior to the meeting. A Wetland Resource Area Assessment and Restoration Plan was reviewed and discussed. Ms. Stockman stated that the areas of concern are well vegetated and she recommends no action at this time. It was recommended that the landowner cease mowing lawn areas and open field within BVW until the activity is reviewed and approved by the Commission and NHESP. She is proposing some native shrub planting in the area that has been cleared. A discussion ensued. **D. Ward motioned, with a second from A. Batacchi, Jr. to accept the management plan as presented upon review and approval from NHESP. The motion passed 3-0.**

Enforcement Order: 1448 South Undermountain Road: Chairman Ward stated that Ben Naylor from Berkshire Engineering informed him that NHESP had contacted him to request that they not do any work on the property until they can weigh in on the restoration plan. The matter will be placed on the September 10th meeting agenda.

Approval of Minutes: The Commission reviewed draft minutes from July 9, 2018. **T. Pitman motioned, with a second from A. Batacchi, Jr. to approve the July 9, 2018 minutes as written. The motion passed 3-0.**

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

Upcoming Conferences and Mail: Chairman Ward stated that there are some upcoming MACC seminars.

Chairman Ward talked about an article in the Berkshire Eagle regarding culverts and weed control in Stockbridge Bowl and Laurel Lake.

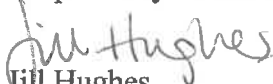
Public Comment: There were no public inquiries.

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

The meeting adjourned at 8:03 p.m.

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 Christ Church, NOI for Margolis, Assessment and Restoration plan for 992 Foley Rd, Draft 7/9/18 meeting minutes.

Respectfully submitted by:


Jill Hughes
Recording Secretary

Sheffield Conservation Commission

Date: August 13, 2018

Name – PLEASE PRINT	Street, Town
1. Emily Stockman	Adams, Ma
2. Ty Stockman	Adams, Ma.
3. Sari Hoy	Trinity Church
4. TRUDY WEAVER MILLER	CTC, 180 MAIN ST., SHEFFIELD.
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