



## CONSERVATION COMMISSION

78 Main Street, Hudson, MA 01749  
(978) 562-2948

*Paul Byrne, Chairman*

*Joseph Rodrigues*

*Marianne Iarossi*

*David Mercer*

*Emilie Schuler*

*Catherine Childs*

*Brandon Parker*

### Meeting Minutes April 20, 2017

**Meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by chair Paul Byrne**

**Roll Call: Paul Byrne, David Mercer, Joe Rodrigues, Marianne Iarossi, Emilie Schuler, Catherine Childs, Brandon Parker, Jason Weksner (Associate Commissioner)**

**Staff: Pam Helinek (Conservation Agent)**

#### **Public Hearings**

##### **4 LaFrance Drive, continued NOI, 190-0603**

**Present: Steven Poole, Lakeside Engineering; Thuong Phan, 4 LaFrance Dr; Greg Boland (abutter) 5 LaFrance Drive**

Jason Weksner surveyed the trees on the property and identified 5 which could be cut. Paul Byrne said these would have to be replaced with trees of 3-4 inches. Steve Poole said that would be too expensive and that the applicant withdraws his request to cut any trees. The applicant would still like to cut invasive growth and remove dead material in the back corner of the lot, and submitted a planting plan with native shrubs and trees for the area. Steve Poole will call Pam Helinek before doing the work to flag which plants are invasive and can be cut so that any native shrubs are left in place. Paul Byrne moved to close the hearing and issue an Order of Conditions with the planting plan and the tree inventory as parts of the final Order. Second by Joe Rodrigues, vote 7-0-0

##### **13 Temple Avenue, NOI, 190-0604**

**Present: Erica Bigelow and Patrick Thornton, 13 Temple Ave; Malcolm and Mary Taylor, 7 Proctor Ave; Carl Lindegren, 17 Temple Ave**

The applicant proposes to hydro-rake parts of Lake Boon Cove to remove sediment, debris, and invasive vegetation. Paul Byrne asked for clarification as to who owns the land under the Cove. Some of the land is owned by the Taylors of 7 Proctor Ave, the rest is unknown. Pam Helinek said that the Town Clerk is researching the question and should have the answer in a few days. Pam Helinek reported that these applicants did a similar hydro-raking project about 10 years ago and there were numerous violations associated with the project, including tree cutting and using dredged materials as fill. Carl Lindegren said that the materials would be carted away. Paul

Byrne asked how much material will be removed from the lake. Erica Bigelow said that is unknown. Paul Byrne asked how much material accumulates each year. Erica Bigelow said that is unknown also, runoff comes from a swale that the town put in and from the golf course. Marianne Iarossi asked about the ecological benefits of hydro-raking. Emilie Schuler said that ecologically there is nothing bad about having a shallow cove, that fish and other aquatic organisms have the rest of Lake Boon for habitat, and that the value of a deeper cove is recreational and visual. Carl Lindegren said that the muck is dangerous to animals and children. Emilie Schuler said that deep water can also be dangerous. Marianne Iarossi asked about preventative measures that could be used to avoid the accumulation of sediment rather than repeated hydro-raking. Paul Byrne asked about the process of removing the dredged materials – how long will they need to dewater.

Catie Childs said she would like to do a site visit. The Commission requested more information from Solitude Lake Management. Erica Bigelow said it was too expensive to bring them to a meeting but that the Commission could email them directly. Pam Helinek will collect questions from the Commission and contact Solitude Lake Management.

Paul Byrne moved to continue the hearing until May 4 at 7:00. Second by Marianne Iarossi, vote 7-0-0.

### **23 Temi Road, RDA**

**Present: Luke and Kelli Jones, 23 Temi Road;**

The applicant presented a planting plan to mitigate for cutting trees in the Buffer Zone of Danforth Brook. The Commission asked for some of the arbor vitae to be replaced with native trees such as red maple or white pine. Emilie Schuler asked what species of grasses will be planted since some are invasive. The applicant will submit the species names of the grasses for approval before planting. Paul Byrne moved to issue a negative determination with the condition that the grasses planted are native. Second by Joe Rodrigues, vote 7-0-0.

### **Administrative Business**

#### **Violation - 85 Fort Meadow Drive, unpermitted structures in Buffer Zone**

**Present: Bruce LaFreniere**

A deck has been built in the Buffer Zone to Fort Meadow Reservoir without a permit. In addition a removable deck and gazebo were constructed on abutting Town Land. The structures have been removed from Town Land and the applicant wants to re-install on his own property. Paul Byrne said that an RDA should be filed for after-the-fact permitting of the permanent deck and permitting the other structures to be installed. The applicant should try to file by tomorrow for the May 4 agenda – otherwise he can file by May 4 for the May 20<sup>th</sup> agenda

**Discussion – Gerwick Property name**

Paul Byrne moved to name the property “Old North Road Conservation Land”, to rename the Danforth Lot “Danforth Conservation Land”, and the Morse Lot “Morse Conservation Land”. Second by Joe Rodrigues, vote 7-0-0.

**Discussion – Centennial Beach vegetation cutting**

The Recreation Division would like to cut vegetation along the bank of Fort Meadow Reservoir for a boat launch area. Paul Byrne said they should file an RDA.

**Minutes – April 6, 2017**

Paul Byrne moved to accept the minutes for April 6, 2017. Second by Joe Rodrigues, vote 4-0-3.

**Update – 101 Coolidge Street, violation**

Pam Helinek reported that the rock pile has been removed.

**Discussion – Wetlands Protection Bylaw**

Marianne Iarossi reported that she spoke with the Lake Boon Association, Fort Meadow Commission, and Lake Boon Commission and plans to attend their next meetings to discuss the Wetlands Protection Bylaw. Pam Helinek will contact Debbie Dineen from Sudbury to discuss their bylaw and the process they used for its passage. The Commission will schedule a public forum for June. Pam Helinek will find dates that the Town Hall auditorium is available and email the Commission to choose a date and time.

**Adjournment**

Paul Byrne moved to adjourn the meeting. Second by Catie Childs, vote 7-0-0. The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 PM.