



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 May 18, 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

1-3 Worcester Avenue, RDA

Present: Thomas DiPersio, Thomas DiPersio Jr & Associates

The applicant proposes to replace a septic system that serves two houses abutting Lake Boon with a new pumped system. The new system will be installed under the existing gravel driveway. This location is furthest from the lake, the highest point in the yard, and previously disturbed. The existing retaining wall will need to be re-built. Erosion controls will be installed. If dewatering is necessary, the ground water will be pumped over the lawn. The soil is sandy so the water should not have much silt.

Emilie Schuler asked if the system will still function if the driveway is paved in the future. Tom DiPersio said paving over a septic system is not recommended by Title 5, but as long as it is vented it would not be impaired. Joe Rodrigues asked how the old cesspools will be cleaned out. They will be pumped out according to Title 5 regulations. Paul Byrne moved to issue a negative determination with the conditions that the Commission is notified in advance if dewatering is necessary, and the Conservation Agent must inspect and approve the dewatering setup. Second by Joe Rodrigues, vote 7-0-0

Administrative Business

Extension Requests – Lake Boon Drawdown, 190-0536, Lake Boon Herbicide Treatments, 190-0362

The applicant could not attend tonight's meeting and there is some uncertainty as to the exact expiration dates of the OOCs. In addition, 190-362 was issued in 2001 and should be reviewed

to determine if the Commission wants a new NOI to be filed. Paul Byrne moved to continue the discussion to the next meeting, second by Emilie Schuler, vote 7-0-0

Discussion – Conservation Land updates

The survey of Old North Road Conservation Land is almost complete. Entrance and private property signs have been ordered. A Boy Scout would like to make a new trail loop as an Eagle Scout project and another Scout Troop is interested in painting trail markers.

Minutes – Paul Byrne moved to accept the minutes from May 4, 2017. Second by David Mercer, vote 7-0-0.

Discussion – Eversource Public Comment Hearing and June meeting schedule

The Siting Board hearing is on June 1 at 7:00 which conflicts with the next Conservation Commission meeting. The next meeting will be rescheduled to Tuesday June 6 at 7:00.

Discussion – Nomination of new Commissioner

Catherine Childs is moving from Hudson and is resigning from the Commission effective May 19th. Paul Byrne moved to request the Board of Selectmen to appoint Jason Weksner to fill the position. Second by Joe Rodrigues, vote 7-0-0.

Discussion - Wetlands Protection Bylaw

Pam Helinek met with Sudbury Conservation Agent Debbie Dineen to discuss the Sudbury Wetlands Bylaw and the outreach efforts which helped to get it passed in Town Meeting. Sudbury found that smaller, more personalized meetings with neighborhood groups and vocal opponents worked better than Public Forums. Sudbury also made a number of compromises to ensure passage. The Commission decided to wait for the Annual Town Meeting next spring rather than put the bylaw on the warrant for the Special Town Meeting in the fall. Many people feel that Special Town Meeting is not appropriate for major items and the bylaw may not be well received in the fall. Marianne Iarossi, Emilie Schuler and Pam Helinek will attend the Fort Meadow Commission meeting currently in process. Marianne Iarossi and Emilie Schuler will attend the Lake Boon Association meeting Sunday night May 21st.

Adjournment

Paul Byrne moved to adjourn the meeting. Second by Catie Childs, vote 7-0-0. The meeting was adjourned at 7:35 PM.