



Office of the

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Town of Townsend,
272 Main Street
Townsend, Massachusetts 01469

Michael Turgeon, Chairman

Christine Vitale, Clerk

James Le Cuyer

Amelia Gentry

James Deroian, Vice-Chairman

John Hussey

Karen Hill

Minutes

Memorial Hall-Selectman's Chambers

Wednesday, April 11, 2018 @ 730PM

1.0 Preliminaries

1.1. Open Meeting- MT opened the meeting at 7:30pm.

1.2. Roll Call- Chairman, Michael Turgeon (MT), Vice-Chairman, James Deroian (JD), John Hussey (JH), James Le Cuyer (JL), Karen Hill (KH), Amelia Gentry(AG) and Clerk, Christine Vitale (CV).

1.3 Topics not reasonably anticipated by the Chair 48 hours in advance of the meeting

1.4 Chair's Report- MT has been reviewing the Townsend Wetland Bylaw for regulation revisions.

1.5 Agent's Report- DH- members from the Squannacook Greenways would like to speak with the Commission in regards to the Squannacook River Rail Trail. DH was told that there was approximately 80% in favor of the project. ATV notice has been put up on the town website as there has been recent activity at Old Meetinghouse Park. KH will appear before the Board of Selectman to talk about the recent activity and restrictions. DH will also check the signs at the park and see if new ones need to be installed. Received a complaint in regards to tree cutting at 4 Edwards Road. Area was wet, 75 plus trees have been removed. There were some signs of a possible intermittent stream, cattails and there is a culvert in the area. A site walk was conducted in July of 2016 by Karen Chapman and John Hussey. JH recalled that the area was bone dry and there were no signs of vegetation. MT- We were in a severe drought and this was one of the worst. Destabilization of water could have been affected from the removal of the trees. The homeowners were present and explained that they began removing trees that were hazardous. Con Com came out and said that they could continue. There are still some trees that pose a concern. MT- I would like for the vegetation to grow back in and see if there is any wetland vegetation. JH and JD will go back to the property to look at the remaining trees that pose a risk.

1.6 Review of Minutes – KH moves to approve and release the 3-28-18 minutes. JH seconded. All in favor.

2.0 Hearings and Appointments

2.1 7:45pm Notice of Intent DEP 308- 658

Applicant: W& B Associates for Barry & Carol Uphold

Location: 11 Squannacook Terrace

Project: The proposed projects is for the removal and installation of a septic system located within the ACEC and buffer zone of a wetland.

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MT opened the hearing, legal notice read and abutters list checked. Chris Mackenzie (CM) was present for the applicant. The proposed project is for the replacement of a septic system located next to the Squannacook River. There is also an older septic system on the property. The proposed system will allow it to go down further. JD and JL ask why the older system wasn't removed. CM- It would only be removed if the new one was to overlap. The old system will be excavated out and the new one will be in this place. MT- would like him to verify compensatory storage is being provided to the greatest extent feasible. There should be a table reflecting this information or it should be in the NOI. We need to know the elevation of the flood plane and what the volume is as well as compensatory storage. DH will send out a letter detailing the information that we are looking for. KH moves to continue to 4-25-18 at 8:00pm. CV seconded. All in favor.

2.2 8:00pm Request for Determination of Applicability TWB 2018-135
Applicant: Harriett Harty
Location: 124 Meadow Road
Project: The proposed projects is for the installation of a barn on a gravel pad.

MT opened the meeting. Legal notice was read. Applicant was not present. The proposed project is for the installation of a barn on a gravel pad. DH did conduct a site visit and found this to be non-jurisdictional. They are 215' feet away and recommends a Negative Determination. KH moves to issue a Negative Determination. JH seconded. All in favor. KH moves to close the meeting. CV seconded. All in favor.

3.0 Work Session:

3.1 Compliance Issues

3.1.2 22 West Meadow Road – JD abstains. Lyndsy Butler received correspondence from the EPA that a NPDES permit is not required.

3.1.3 59 West Meadow Road - Still waiting to return to property.

3.1.4 529 Main Street- MT- We will be watching the area for any issues.

3.1.5 4 Edward Drive – addressed in 1.5

3.2 Discuss Phragmites at Ash Swamp- DH has been looking at herbicide options.

3.3 Squannacook River Clean-up- Still waiting to hear from Natural Heritage. Many attempts have been made in regards to the permit needed for the clean-up.

3.4 Squannacook River Race – We cannot take on the liability.

3.5 Approve and sign amendment for OOC DEP 308-655 83 Barker Hill Rd – Applicants are looking to build a shallow swale for water to be redirected. DH and JL visited the area and recommend that the water be redirected as it is building up across the driveway from all the melting. The area is non-jurisdictional. KH moves to approve the amendment. JL seconded. All in favor.

3.6 Discuss TWB requirements – MT_ We need to look at a 35' general provision and a procedure for a waiver as well as performance standards.

3.7 Vote on acceptance of Nashua River Wild and Scenic River Study Committee – JH is afraid that this will take the river out of the Town's hands and giving up the river wouldn't be in the best interest of the Town. KH- There was talk about a 300' buffer. They will be receiving \$170,000 yearly between 13 communities and Townsend cannot pick their representative, it will be up to the Wild and Scenic River Committee. KH moves for a 5 minute recess. CV seconded. All in favor,

MT re-opened the meeting.

CV moves to accept the Wild and Scenic River Study. JL seconded.

JD- Yes, MT- Yes, AG- No, JL- No, JH- No, KH- No, CV- Abstain.

3.8 Request to amend OOC for DEP 308-604, 3 Boutelle Road –MT recuses himself. JD- a site visit was conducted and all members were present. The driveway is further away from the wetlands. The berms are

minimal as is the changes to the stone wall. The slope is less aggressive so there is no need for the stone wall.

JL moves to accept the amendment. JH seconded. All in favor.

4.0 Correspondence:

4.1 Mandatory Referral from ZBA- 205 Main Street – no comment

5.0 Items for discussion at the next meeting

6.0 Advertisements and Conferences

7.0 Next meeting: April 25, 2018 at 7:30pm

8.0 Adjournment- KH moves to adjourn at 10:40. JL seconded. All in favor.