

Conservation Commission
Town of Townsend
272 Main Street
Townsend, MA 01469
ph: (978)597-1700, ext. 1739
email: conservation@townsendma.gov

RECEIVED
NOV 10 2021
TOWN OF TOWNSEND
TOWN CLERK

Jenifer Eaton, Vice Chair

James LeCuyer

Anne LeCuyer

James Gates

Joan Savoy, Clerk

Jessica Consolvo, Conservation Agent

08/25/21 Minutes Townsend Conservation Commission Meeting
recorded by TCAM and uploaded to the Townsend, MA YouTube Channel

I. Preliminaries – Votes May Be Taken:

1.1 Meeting called to order by the Chair, JE at 7:03 pm. Roll call: JG, JS, JL, AL, JE in attendance.

1.2 JE announced the meeting is being video recorded; no one else was recording.

1.3 Topics unanticipated by the Chair 48 hours in advance of the hearing: JE reported Jim Deroian has resigned from the Commission on 8/24/21 and his resignation has been accepted. There are two openings now on the Commission and volunteers can contact ConsComm or complete a VRF. The new Conservation agent will conduct site walks on Wednesday mornings. JE announced an MACC Zoom on 8/26 about MA forests. Rotation for the writing of meeting minutes by the Commissioners was discussed and assigned. JS mentioned a Lunenburg Pollinator Habitat event.

1.4 Chair's report: JE reported she had no report.

1.5 The Agent's report was read by JE: JC reported a call from Jim Donovan about an OOC for 159-161 Brookline Rd. JS reported we need more information to go forward. Old Meeting House Rd. received a DEP number and have submitted a storm water memo. There are 5 permit intake forms from Building Dept.

1.6 JE asked for a vote to approve the meeting minutes from 07/28/21 and 08/11/21. Motion by JG to approve 7/28/21 minutes and seconded by AL. Unanimous. Motion by JS to approve the 8/11/21 minutes and seconded by JG. Unanimous. JS asked AL and JL about the protocol for approving old OOCs.

II. Appointments and Hearings – Votes May Be Taken:

2.1 – At 7:10 pm JE opened the hearing for the Notice of Intent and Stormwater Memorandum submitted for DEP 308-0686, Applicant: Dillis & Roy Civil Engineers for Squannacook Greenways, Inc.(SG), for a public access trail at Old Meetinghouse Road via a river crossing. The applicant seeks a waiver under Section 150-2, General Provisions (K)-11. JE opened the hearing under the MA WPA and the Townsend Wetlands Bylaw. There was a challenge to the legal notice. It was reported it had become common practice for the applicants to run the notices themselves in the Groton Herald. It was noted that the ads should be run in one of the Nashoba

Valley Publishing Company's papers and that the procedure for the placement of Legal Notices would be discussed at the next meeting. It was noted there was a 27-page abutters list and only 9 receipt-mail cards received. Stan Dillis presented the bridge crossing project for SG. A site walk was suggested. Abutter Diane Newell, 202 Old Meeting House Road, read a letter from her daughter, Lexi Aho, into the record. Also a letter from MA Fisheries and Wildlife was read into the record by Pat Huckery, Northern District Manager; it was a joint letter written by the Natural Heritage Program. (Note: All letters are available in the ConsComm office.) A site walk date, possible participants and routes were discussed. SD made a request to continue the hearing to September 22, 2021, after meeting with Fisheries and Wildlife, etc. JE asked for a motion to do so, and it was made by JL; JS seconded. Unanimous vote.

III. Work Session – Votes May Be Taken:

3.1 – JE asked for a vote to approve an OOC for NOI DEP 308-0684, TWB 2021-110 which was voted approved on 8/11/21 for the Wild and Scenic Grant Committee, Roger Rapoza on behalf of Townsend Cemetery & Parks, Location- Off Jefts Street, Adams Dam. The motion was made by JG and seconded by JL. The Special Conditions from the OOC were read by the Chair. Unanimous vote to approve. Signature pages were signed by the Commissioners.

3.2 – JE asked for a vote to approve an OOC for NOI DEP 308-0685, TWB 2021-102 which was voted approved on 8/11/21 for Lots 1 and 2 Warren Road, Kevin Smith and Kenneth Tully. The motion was made by JL and seconded by JG. Unanimous vote to approve. Signature pages were signed by the Commissioners. The Special Conditions from the OOC were read by the Chair.

3.3 – A vote was taken to approve and pay dues of \$60.00 for Conservation Agent to join MACC. JG made the motion and JS seconded. All members in favor.

IV. Correspondence and Announcements

4.1 – JE reported that the DEP Circuit Rider has volunteered to do a training for the Commission on completing forms. Available dates/times are coming.

4.2 – JE reported that MACC dues had now been paid for the Commission members. She stated everyone should have received an email with their access information and reminded all to call Lindsay Martucci directly to register for classes, as she will bill the Commission directly.

4.3 - JS distributed an accounting report on ConsComm accounts/funds. She reported that her understanding needs to be fine-tuned and she'd like to meet with the Town Accountant and report at a future meeting.

4.4 – JE reported that the paperwork signed by the Commission members on 7/28/21 left the building with the Chair, who resigned that night, so the particular residents and DEP had been consulted to see if the paperwork had indeed has been properly processed and filed, etc. DEP confirmed receipt, 2 certified mail receipts had been received and the 2 applicants were left

phone messages. Karen Hill, former Chair, made comments. She requested it be put on the record that she never took any files or paperwork out of the Conservation Office, never had access to the Conservation computer, did everything legally and to the best of her abilities, etc.

4.5 – JE noted there is no update on the Campbell Farm CR.

4.6 – JE stated that the TCAM letter dated July 29, 2021 requires no response as we are now compliant.

4.7 – It was decided that 4.7 had already been discussed.

V. Items for discussion at next meeting:

5.1 – JE said an item for upcoming discussion will be the Area of Critical Concern (ACEC) in Townsend and how this Commission views it. JS requested the Commission study what the ACEC is so we can be more informed.

5.2 – It was noted that 5.2, a review of the Townsend fee schedule, was not on the members' agendas so it should be put off until the next meeting. JG suggested we get comparable fee schedules from other towns so we can compare.

VI. Next meeting: JE stated that the net meeting will be Wednesday, September 8, 2021 at 7 pm, BOS Chambers, 2nd floor.

VII. Adjournment: The Chair asked for a motion to adjourn at 8:34 pm. JL made the motion and it was seconded by JG. All members in favor.

