

TOWN OF WILBRAHAM
240 Springfield Street
Wilbraham, Massachusetts 01095
(413) 596-2800, EXT. 204



WILBRAHAM CONSERVATION COMMISSION

MEETING MINUTES FROM APRIL 25, 2016

The Conservation Commission meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM

Members present: Christopher Brown; Chairman, George Reich, Jim Roberts, Robert McMaster, and Stoughton Smead

Staff: Melissa Graves, Administrative Assistant

7:10 PM Notice of Intent 108 Crane Hill Road (continued from April 11, 2016)

Present: Michael & Herta Dane

This hearing was continued pending comments from Mass Natural Heritage and although Mrs. Dane verbally heard from NHESP that the project was exempt from review, the Commission is not in receipt of anything in writing.

The proposed work includes new septic system, demolition of garage, demolition of existing septic system and construction of a new single family home. Portions of the work proposed work falls within the 200' Riverfront Area. The applicant submitted a revised site plan showing the locations of the proposed new plantings as requested by the Commission. The new plantings and moving the leach field associated with the new septic system qualifies for an improvement over existing conditions under the Rivers Protection Act.

Motion: George Reich, close the public hearing and issue an Order of Conditions within 21 days
2nd: Jim Roberts

Unanimously in favor: George Reich, Jim Roberts, Robert McMaster and Stoughton Smead

**7:20 PM Request for Determination of Applicability Faculty Street location
Wilbraham & Monson Academy**

Present: Christopher Reed, Facilities Director

The Academy is proposing to abandon the existing gravel roadway and create a more visible and safe path for the students/faculty to access the Mohawk Athletic Fields from Faculty Street. There is an existing berm on-site that will be back-dragged and leveled away from the roadway. Erosion controls will remain in place.

Motion: George Reich, close the public meeting and issue a Negative #3 and a Positive #5 Determination

2nd: Jim Roberts

Unanimously in favor: George Reich, Jim Roberts, Robert McMaster and Stoughton Smead

A second motion was made to lift the Enforcement Order issued to the Wilbraham & Monson Academy.

Motion: George Reich, lift the Enforcement Order issued to W & M Academy

2nd: Jim Roberts

Unanimously in favor: George Reich, Jim Roberts, Robert McMaster and Stoughton Smead

Appointment Edward Ebberston Pearl Lane

Mr. Ebberston was requested to appear before the Conservation Commission because of alleged wetland violations adjacent to his home on Pearl Lane. The Town owns a parcel on Shady Lane that directly abuts Mr. Ebberston's property and it appeared as though a new trail was cleared, leaves were blown into the vernal pool and trees/brush was cut down. Mr. Ebberston assures the Commission that he has not done any of that since the last time he was requested to appear before the Commission approximately 1 1/2 years ago. Commission Chairman, Christopher Brown explained that the activity affects the ecosystem of the pond and wetlands and no work should be done in or around the area. And no work should be done on Town-owned property at all without proper procedures and permission. Mr. Ebberston indicated that he will not do anything on the property at Shady Lane.

Appointment Brian and John Shea

Brian Shea requested a meeting with the Conservation Commission to discuss potential projects on Town-owned property. He is pursuing his Eagle Scout status and a self-motivated project is a requirement. Brian suggested a new walker friendly bridge over a small stream on the White Cedar Swamp property to replace the dilapidated wooden pallets that are currently over the waterway. The Commission wholeheartedly thought this sounded like a great idea and encouraged Brian to do some more homework and talk to some environmental experts about the plan. He was also told to come back to the Commission when he is ready to discuss a final plan.

Emergency Certification Town of Wilbraham

The Town of Wilbraham Department of Public Works is requesting an Emergency Certification for the repairs to a culvert on River Road. The culvert is collapsed as well as the pavement. They intend to repair the outfall, replace pipe and stabilize the bank. Erosion controls will be in place while work is being completed. Conservation Commissioner Sto Smead signed the document on April 21, 2016 in anticipation of it being ratified at the April 25, 2016 meeting and to allow the DPW to start work immediately.

Motion: George Reich, ratify the Emergency Certification for the work on the culvert on River Road
2nd: Jim Roberts

Unanimously in favor: George Reich, Jim Roberts, Robert McMaster and Stoughton Smead

Certificate of Compliance Request 10 Briar Cliff Ave

The Conservation Commission received a request for compliance for 10 Briar Cliff Ave for conveyance of property. This parcel was part of a subdivision and has been completed for several years. This particular parcel is compliant with wetland concerns and appeared to be in completely compliant with the Order of Conditions.

Motion: Jim Roberts, issue the Certificate of Compliance
2nd: George Reich

Unanimously in favor: George Reich, Jim Roberts, Robert McMaster and Stoughton Smead

Having no further business, a motion was made to adjourn at 8:45 PM. The Conservation Commission will reconvene at its next scheduled meeting on Monday, May 9, 2016 at 7:00 PM.

Submitted:

Approved As To Form And Content:

Melissa Graves, Administrative Assistant

Christopher Brown, Chairman

Date: _____

Date: _____