

HADLEY CONSERVATION COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
February 12, 2013

Approved at the 3/12/13 meeting

PRESENT: Paulette Kuzdeba, Acting Chair; Gordon Smith; Edwin Matuzsko; Jim Hafner; Jennifer Parsons, Associate Commissioner, and Janice Stone, Conservation Staff.

1. 7:00 PM Request for Determination filed by G. Bailey for construction of an attached garage in the buffer zone at *93 Rocky Hill Road*. Mr. Bailey was present to discuss work with Commission. He explained that the foundation had already been poured for the attached garage when the house was constructed. He did not know they needed to come to the Commission for the work, thought it had already been approved. The addition was finished in December, and they also added a shed in the 100' buffer zone, but outside the 35-foot buffer. The Commission had supplied him with the recorded plan and conservation restriction for the buffer zone on that property, for him to follow. Jim made a motion to issue a negative determination #3, Ed seconded and all voted in favor. Mr. Bailey asked if it was okay to add some gravel to the existing driveway. Commission said yes, as long as it remains in the existing footprint and is not excessive.

2. 7:20 PM Request for Determination filed by R. Bercume to construct a single-family house in the buffer zone at *lot 7 Indian Pipe Drive*. Both Mr. Bercume and his consultant Charles Dauchy were unable to be present at the meeting. Mr. Dauchy had emailed to the office that if the Commission had any questions or concerns that would possibly prohibit the decision as a negative determination, they would ask the Commission continue the public meeting until the next month. Janice and the Commission discussed what was shown on the plan. The house will be more than 50' from the edge of the wetland, as proposed and approved in an earlier filing for this subdivision. Commissioners had questions about when the wetland was flagged, and whether people to do the clearing would know where the 35' no-disturb buffer begins. The wetland had been flagged in 2004, but was redone in December 2012. Commission discussed concern about how to maintain the 35' buffer behind the houses, so close to the house and lawn. What kind of signage or permanent barrier is needed to keep people from mowing, clearing, dumping yard waste, storing materials in the 35' buffer or wetland? Edwin mentioned that according to the subdivision plan, there will be four lots with the wetland and buffer zone close to the house, so there should be a solution consistent on all these lots (4-7). Commission agreed the applicant or consultant needed to propose a solution to this concern that could be used on all the lots (a line of native shrubs, or a fence?). They also stated there needed to be measurements made from the corners of the house to the edge of the 35' buffer zone, so new owners could know where the line was as well. Gordon made a motion to continue the public meeting the next meeting March 12. Jim seconded, and all voted in favor.

3. Other Business. Update on Aronson property purchase. Still in the works. **DEM meeting on the Management Plan for the Mount Holyoke Range** on Thursday 2/21 7 PM. **Route 47 Scenic Byway** meeting scheduled for Wednesday 2/13 6 PM at Hadley Senior Center. Janice mentioned how this had not been posted in Hadley or on PVPC website. Commissioners interested in going were concerned about the short notice and lack of public awareness. Janice

will check with David Nixon about public posting. **Open Space Plan survey.** Commissioners discussed draft questions for survey. Janice hopes it will go out in property tax bills in March. Commissioners thought there should be other means of distributing and dropping off the surveys than just from that mailing. Pick up and drop offs at town hall, senior center and library. Perhaps have many copies available at Town Meeting in May. People could fill them out and return them same day. Put survey on town website for download. Commissioners also discussed the questions, things to add, and ways to combine some of them. Janice will relay back to consultants for redrafting. Janice mentioned to the Commission that the **two Notices of Intent** (incomplete) from a year ago have been withdrawn by UMass (*lots 25 & 45 drainage*). No new APR projects for **CPA** funding yet, but there will be in a few months. See handout on status of past projects, and ones upcoming. **Conflict of Interest training.** Go to town website to connect to test. Required each year for all appointed and elected members of town boards and committees. Response to letter sent to **DEP Commissioner** about withdrawal of DEP file # letter comments reviewed by Commissioners. **Boston Globe** is going to do an article on farming and APRs in Hadley. Reporter is looking for good farmers to talk to about history of farming and APRs in town. Janice suggested Gordon, since he and his family had 3 of the first 10 APRs in town. Others suggested Joe & Wally Czajkowski, and Edwin and his son. **Minutes** for January not approved, were not included in agenda mailing. **Lawrence Plain Road complaints.** Ted Mieczkowski came in to speak to the Commission again about a ravine behind Cedar Reach Horse Farm *off Lawrence Plain Road*. He submitted a draft letter listing the complaints with exhibits backing his concerns. He will supply the Commission with a final copy when he is done. He is sending it to DEP, and the Hadley Zoning Board. Says that sawdust mixed with horse manure is being dumped in ravine. Wonders where the dead horses go. He states that the trailer on the property does not have a permit, and the gas tank is in bad shape (Board of Health issue). Site visit with Conservation Commission was cancelled because of medical situation with Ted and bad weather. Can't see much until the snow is gone. He states he will be filing a Request for Determination about Peg Wilson's ravine and especially about the culvert blocking the flow of surface water from going into the ravine and staying in the NHESP habitat area and aquifer recharge area. He has met with the Board of Health, and they told him his concerns were more appropriate for the Building Inspector and Fire Department about trailer on horse farm. **Students sitting in on meeting.** Three students from two classes at UMass (journalism and wetlands) sat in on the meeting, and asked Commissioners some questions after meeting.

4. 8:40 PM ADJOURNMENT. Ed made the motion to adjourn. Jim seconded, all voted in favor.

Respectfully submitted by

Janice Stone

Materials used in review and deliberation of agenda items will be found in corresponding project folder in Conservation Commission office.