

HADLEY CONSERVATION COMMISSION

MEETING MINUTES

June 14th, 2022

DRAFT 1

Meeting conducted in person at the Hadley Senior Center

Recording of the meeting is available on Hadley Media's YouTube Channel

Conservation Commission Members Present: Gary Pelissier (Chair), Stephen Szymkowicz, Edwin Matuszko (CPA Representative), Ray Mieczkowski, Shyla Davis (Staff)

Also Present: Randy Izer of the Selectboard, Michael Gagnon and Heather Minott of SLR, Chris Bloom, Doug Serill of Berkshire Design, Rob B

**6:30, Gary Opens the Hearing*

Notice of Intent - Eversource Energy, DEP File #170-286

19B15/19B16 Line Upgrade Project

Proposed replacement of transmission line towers in the Riverfront Area, Bordering Land Subject to Flooding, and the Floodplain. Project is located perpendicular to Hockanum Rd, near to the cemetery. Melissa Kaplan from BSC Group presented on this project, first giving an overview of the old vs new towers, the nuances of the site, and answering the commissioner's questions. Due to the presence of rare species habitat on-site, NHESP must conduct a review, and since this review had not been completed, no decision could be made at this time. A file number had been issued, so DEP's comments were addressed.

Motion: to continue to next hearing on July 12th @ 6:30 PM

Made by: Commissioner Matuszko, seconded by Commissioner Mieczkowski, 4 in favor, 1 absent

Notice of Intent – Howard Johnson, DEP File #: TBD

Howard Johnson Redevelopment Project

Proposed demolition of the existing Howard Johnson hotel building, and constructing a 3-story office building on the same site, which is in both the 100-foot buffer zone and the town bylaw 35-foot no disturb zone. Michael Gagnon provided a history of the site and explanation of proposed plans, walking the commissioners through the plan sheets and answering questions along the way. This project will be subject to peer review per the planning board, and the Conservation Commission would also like a peer review to be conducted, which Shyla will work on coordinating. Additionally, no comments or file number had been issued so no vote could be made regardless.

Motion: to continue to next hearing on July 12th @ 6:30 PM

Made by: Commissioner Matuszko, seconded by Commissioner Szymkowicz, 4 in favor, 1 absent

Other Business

Question from the audience:

Doug Serill of Berkshire Design wondering if the excess flood storage resulting from the completion of the Hopkins Academy school fields. There are hopes of a phase two, to be done as a separate NOI, and Doug wondered if the excess could be used as compensatory storage for a future project. The commissioners could not formally vote, seeing as there is no project, but they took a straw vote to provide insight into how the board felt about this idea.

Straw vote was 3 yays, 1 nay, 1 absent

Question from the audience:

Chris Bloom would like to receive input from the Commission regarding his hopes to remove the slaughterhouse on Shattuck road and put in ANR lots. There is a potential restriction due to NHESP mapping and alleged spadefoot toad presence. Chris will be supplying the Commission with his documents for several years of biological studies to aid in their advising whether it might be possible permitting-wise.

Comment from the Audience

:Randy Izer clarified the Planning Board's process regarding the Howard Johnson redevelopment, pointing out that this may take a few months.

Question from Staff:

Shyla requested guidance from the commissioners regarding the Hadley River Rules, to ensure she is up to date and following correct procedures.

Updates

Sign for Dawson Reserve

Installation needs to be rescheduled, Shyla and Edwin to pick a date

Tree for Paul Alexanderson

Shyla to research tree options, and time of year

Gary is up for Reappointment

Gary would like to continue in his role as chair

Minutes

May 10th, 2022 Meeting Minutes

Motion: To approve the minutes

Made by: Commissioner Matuszko, seconded by Commissioner Mieczkowski, 4 in favor, 1 absent

Adjournment @7:36

Made by: Commissioner Matuszko, seconded by Commissioner Szymkowicz, 4 in favor, 1 absent