

Shutesbury Conservation Commission Meeting Minutes
July 25, 2019 Shutesbury Town Hall

Site Visits (Summaries attached)

July 11, 2019

Attending: Penny Jaques and Russ Mizula/Commissioners

1. 484 Pelham Hill Road/Rhodes: observe erosion control installation
2. 575 Montague Road/Brown: observe condition of access road

July 25, 2019

Attending: Penny Jaques, Russ Mizula and Jennifer Wallace/Commissioners

1. Lot Q41 West Pelham Road/Pioneer Valley Habitat for Humanity: BPA for new home
2. 307 Wendell Road/Paquin: BPA for screened porch addition to existing home

Commissioners present: Penny Jaques, Russ Mizula, and Jennifer Wallace

Commissioner absent: Barry Field

Staff present: Linda Avis Scott/Land Use Clerk

Guest: Robin Harrington

Jaques calls the meeting to order at 6:50pm. Jennifer Wallace is welcomed as the Commission's newest member.

It is noted that due to a lack of quorum, the 7.11.19 meeting was cancelled. The minutes for the 6.27.19 meeting will be considered during the 8.8.19 meeting.

Site Visit Follow-up:

1. 484 West Pelham Road/Rhodes: Hay bale erosion control at stream crossing well installed; three to four additional bales will be added to the southeast edge of the southern line of bales; request erosion control be removed once work is complete.
2. 575 Montague Road/Brown: Property owner has worked to create a more stable site; will contact the SCC when loggers begin to use the access road; un-stabilized banks remain a concern.
3. Lot Q41 West Pelham Road/Pioneer Valley Habitat for Humanity: No jurisdictional wetlands being present, the BPA sign-off will be completed by Scott.
4. 307-309 Wendell Road/Paquin: The BPA for this project was issued prior to ConCom sign-off. The silt fence, installed for an addition that was not done, remains in place.

Mail: Various educational programs; 7.24.19 email from Mark Stinson "Emergency Declaration 'EXAMPLE', not applicable to anywhere in DEP Western Region"; ZBA Special Permit Public Hearing for 166 West Pelham Road, no BPA to date; 7.25.19 email from Eric Baldelli expressing interest in the Commission's work, he may attend a future meeting.

Forest Cutting Plan:

Wheelock South - Sand Hill Road/Cowls: Amendment #1 "Increase acreage due to seasonal timing and available market"; no SCC action (see FCP file).

Wheelock Solar Site/Pratt Corner Road: Jaques will contact Jeff Lacy/Planning Board to arrange a site visit to observe the status of the site's re-vegetation.

Top of the Lake Conservation Area: Jaques reports that Janice Stone is preparing the canoe/kayak launch NOI. The revised site plan for the project is reviewed (see attached). Wallace asks whether the Wildlife Habitat Evaluation (WHE) identified this site as an area of interest and notes the area is silting in and

plants are getting established in the new bottom land. Jaques notes that Emily Stockman, author of the WHE, expressed interest in the habitat of southern portion of Lake Wyola and that the canoe/kayak project will be designed to be as least impactful as possible. Wallace: because this is a sensitive site and does not turn over like the boat ramp area does, this project will be an educational opportunity. Wallace recommends that in its communications, the Commission raise awareness about the potential for and need for prevention of the importation of invasive species on canoes and kayaks.

Unanticipated Topic: Wildlife Habitat Evaluation: Jaques has conferred with Mark Rivers/Lake Wyola Advisory Committee about hiring Emily Stockman/Stockman Associates to conduct a one-day observation of Lake Wyola at the height of the season as well as the possibility of Stockman giving an educational talk at one of the Lake Wyola Association (LWA) annual meetings. Jaques recommends the SCC pay one-half the cost of Stockman's one-day observation. Mizula requests the SCC have an opportunity to review a quote from Stockman; Jaques will obtain a quote for review during the 8.8.19 meeting.

South Brook Conservation Area: Jaques informed Darci Maresca/UMass of Melory Brandeo's inability to complete the mapping project for this site and that the SCC is interested in having an intern who will do the project for credit. Jaques will follow-up on the status of the site's bridges.

Open Public Meeting for RDA at Pine/Shore Drives at 7:30pm

Wallace, being an abutter to the project, recuses herself. This action results in a lack of quorum to proceed. The public meeting for this RDA is continued to 8.8.19 at 7:30pm.

Highway Department MOU: Scott will follow-up with Tim Hunting/Highway Superintendent. Jaques requests a reminder be sent to Hunting in April of each year.

Eversource Line 354: Scott reads the 7.25.19 email from Simon Hildt/Eversource Licensing and Permitting Specialist and her response into the record (see file). This topic will be carried over to the 8.8.19 meeting when Field, who is most familiar with the site, will be present.

Sumner Mountain CR: Commissioners will review the 7.19.19 annual monitoring report by Charley Eiseman for discussion during the 8.8.19 meeting. Eiseman's \$250 invoice has been submitted for payment.

Open Space Plan: Carry this topic over to the 8.8.19 meeting.

Current Financials: Jaques moves and Mizula seconds a motion to pay the annual MACC dues of \$259 and the annual MSMCP dues of \$20; motion passes unanimously. Jaques recommends the Commission consider purchasing a second copy of the *MACC Buffer Zone Guidebook*; Scott will obtain the copy price.

Meeting schedules and Wallace's procedural question will be considered during the 8.8.19.

The being no further business, the meeting is adjourned at 8:00pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Avis Scott
Land Use Clerk

