

Approved

09/28/17

CONSERVATION COMMISSION MINUTE
4th Floor Conference Room
9/7/17

Present: David Whitaker, Garrett Davieau, Tony George, Lionel Cloutier and David Koonce

Absent: Kyle Bradley

DOCUMENTS & EXHIBITS

85 Alger St. - plans

6 Island Rd. - written description

Off West St. (west side) - plans

Off West St. (east side) - plans

179 Laurel St. - plans

176 Beachview Dr. - plans

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chairman, Garrett Davieau at 7 p.m.

NEW BUSINESS

Tony George made a motion, 2nd by Lionel Cloutier - **vote** unanimously approved to pay the secretary for the current and 8/24/17 meeting (no quorum). David Whitaker made a motion, 2nd by Tony George - **vote** unanimously approved to accept the minutes of 6/22/17. David Whitaker made a motion, 2nd by Tony George - **vote** unanimously approved to accept the minutes of 7/27/17.

RE-ORGANIZATION OF OFFICERS

Tony George nominated Garrett Davieau as Chairman, seconded by David Whitaker - **vote** unanimously approved. Tony George nominated Kyle Bradley as Vice Chairman, seconded by Lionel Cloutier - **vote** unanimously approved. Lionel Cloutier nominated David Whitaker as Clerk, seconded by Tony George - **vote** unanimously approved.

ORDER OF CONDITIONS & CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE

Agent Koonce is requesting an extension of the Order of Conditions for 345-0459 and to re-sign the Certificate of Compliance for 345-0154. David Whitaker made a motion, 2nd by Lionel Cloutier to approve the extension of the Order of Conditions for 345-0459 and to re-sign the Certificate of Compliance for 345-0154 - **vote** unanimously approved.

David Whitaker acted as Hearing Officer and read the notices.

HEARING

7:05 p.m. **RDA, 53 Belmont Ave., Dean Lepkowski, construction of a 12' x 16' shed on concrete blocks.**
The applicant was not present.

Agent Koonce explained the shed would be 80' from the wetlands with no digging required. He stated the lawn is between the shed and the wetland. Agent Koonce has signed off on the building permit. Lionel Cloutier and Tony George did a site visit. David Whitaker made a motion, 2nd by Tony George - **vote** unanimously approved a Negative Determination.

7:10 p.m. RDA, 85 Alger St., Armando Sanchez, construction of a 16' x 16' (256 sq.ft.) deck and stairs.
The applicant, Armando Sanchez was present.

Agent Koonce and the Building Inspector did a site visit. The wetland is 15' behind the staircase. The Building Inspector recommended the stairs should be located as on the plans. Tony George stated the retaining wall was rebuilt without the Conservation Commission's permission. Garrett Davieau stated the stairs should be moved away from the wetlands. Agent Koonce asked the applicant to submit new plans showing the location of the stairs. David Whitaker made a motion, 2nd by Lionel Cloutier - **vote** approved by David Whitaker, Lionel Cloutier and Garrett Davieau for a Negative Determination pending Agent Koonce's recommendation for the location of the stairs. Tony George voted no. Agent Koonce wants the corners staked out. The applicant has paid the after the fact filing fee.

The Retaining Wall Issue: The retaining wall fell over. The Building Inspector gave him permission to rebuild the wall. He used the existing foundation and moved 5 layers of bricks with no digging done. The ground impact was minimal. Agent Koonce will do a site visit and relay information to the Commission. Lionel Cloutier made a motion, 2nd by David Whitaker - **vote** unanimously approved to continue the hearing.

7:15 p.m. RDA, 206 Lakeview Dr., Scott Crichton, enlarge existing driveway serving two-bedroom house, with grading & paving, and tree removal
Applicant, Scott Crichton was present.

The project entails the enlargement of an existing driveway serving a two-bedroom house with associated tree removal with grading and paving. The applicant will use the rocks as a retainer. He would like to take down a 20' tree by the side of the house and a 15' tree beside the stairs and grind them down to stumps. There is a 90' tree by the water that he wants to take down in the winter using a crane. Chairman, Davieau recommends a site visit. Tony George stated that there are a lot of branches breaking and falling down. The applicant is concerned about the branches falling on his roof. Agent Koonce asked about paving the driveway. It would need to be pitched and professionally graded for water run-off. Mr. Crichton stated that project would be for next year. Lionel Cloutier made a motion, 2nd by David Whitaker - **vote** unanimously approved a Negative Determination.

7:20 p.m. RDA, 6 Island Road, John DiVito, placement of 3-5' wide strip of rip-rap for erosion control
The applicant, John DiVito was present.

The project entails the placement of a 3-5' wide strip of granite/limestone rip-rap along the lake shoreline for control erosion. Agent Koonce did 2 site visits. He had a concerns of erosion control left of the driveway. He recommends rip rap on the slope up to the tree and to clean up the sediment from the driveway. The area should be vegetated with esthetically pleasing plants and use crushed stone to the water. David Whitaker made a motion, 2nd by Tony George - **vote** unanimously approved a Negative Determination. Agent Koonce asked to be kept posted.

7:25 p.m. NOI, West Street, (east side) 1 Solar, LLC, maintenance of a ground mounted solar energy system. Eric Glass & Jeffrey Murphy, Engineers from Beals & Thomas, Inc. represented the applicant.

The project entails the development, operation, and maintenance of a 1.3 MW ground-mounted solar voltaic energy system. Eric Glass explained their preparation and process of installation. The array needs to sit on 6 acres and is located east to west. It would be away from environmentally sensitive areas. Their engineer delineated and flagged the area. The only access to the upland area would be to go through a wetland crossing and cross a stream by use of an 11' timber bridge. No grading will be done on the array. Chairman, Davieau asked if the 2 arrays are interconnected. They are separated from each other. They would put in an access road to get to the array area. National Grid requires an upgrade for array electrical improvement. The applicant would

pay for any upgrades. This would provide clean renewable energy to the grid. The array could go on either side of the road. Construction would take 6-8 weeks. The Nexam Co. owns, operates and maintains the arrays. The property is leased. Agent Koonce stated the crossing is not much impact. He hired Chuck Caron a peer review consultant for the project. He disagrees with the wetland boundaries the applicant's consultant had on the plans. He feels the area is dominated by wetlands. He disagreed with the green line delineation on the plans. The applicant did not flag the red area. The hemlock swamp was a main concern. The applicant stated they delineated in the spring and disagree with the wetland areas. The Commission wants to do a site visit. Agent Koonce asked consultant Chuck Caron to join him on a site visit on Monday at 11 a.m. He wants more precise information on the disagreement discrepancies. Agent Koonce would like the applicant to respond to Chuck Caron's written report. The applicant would like to re-look at 3 of the green areas. Tony George asked about Hemlock wetland vegetation information. Allan Clamp the applicant's engineer will compensate for a 3rd party's opinion, if needed. Agent Koonce wants to focus on the red area for Monday. David Whitaker made a motion, 2nd by Lionel Cloutier - **vote** unanimously approved a continuance contingent upon room availability for Monday, September 18, 2017.

7:40 p.m. **NOI, West St. (west side) 2 Solar, LLC, maintenance of a ground mounted solar voltaic energy system** **Eric Glass & Jeffrey Murphy, Beals & Thomas, Inc. represented the applicant.**

The project entails the development, operation, and maintenance of a 1.3 MW ground-mounted solar voltaic energy system. The megawatt solar ray will be located in the northern portion of the parcel. A 15' wide gravel access driveway will be used and will allow vegetated trees 11' from the edge of the driveway. A 7' chain link fence will be outside of the 50' no disturb zone. The ridge needs to be smoothed out north to south in the middle of the array. Underground conduits will be used to connect to an overhead pole on West St. Construction will take 1-2 months. Seedlings and vegetation will be initiated as soon as possible.

Agent Koonce inquired about the access road. It will be hard packed gravel and will not be plowed in the winter months unless there is a problem. The security fence will have a 6" clearance. Consultant, Chuck Caron states the Order of Conditions should clarify the wetlands in the immediate area of the facility.

David Whitaker made a motion, 2nd by Lionel Cloutier - **vote** unanimously approved to close the hearing.

David Whitaker made a motion, 2nd by Lionel Cloutier - **vote** unanimously approved to issue a Favorable Order of Conditions.

NEW BUSINESS

DISCUSSION: Jared Maxfield: Request to start construction of proposed addition to house prior to RDA public hearing. The applicant has filed an RDA but is requesting to begin construction at 179 Laurel St. before the September 28th hearing. Agent Koonce stated there are statutory requirements that kick in to allow the hearing. There is a possible deed restriction. Double staked hay bales should be used for erosion control. David will inspect. Tony George made a motion, 2nd by David Whitaker - **vote** unanimously approved to allow Agent Koonce to sign off on the Building Permit after a satisfactory inspection.

DISCUSSION: Jennifer Couture: New well at 176 Beachview Drive.

Jennifer Couture: New well at 176 Beachview Drive. Her current dug well does not have enough water. Her plans show a new artesian well in the buffer zone to the lake. Standard erosion control will be used which includes silt barriers, hay bales and trenches. The old well will be used for agricultural purposes only.

DISCUSSION: - Bruce Cochran: Request to clean out drainage ditch at 170 Pleasant St.

Mr. Cochran was a no show.

DISCUSSION: Conservation Agent: Request from United States Geological Survey to remove beaver dam from Millers River near gaging station. The Commission gave their approval.

ADJOURNMENT

Garrett Davieau made a motion, 2nd by David Whitaker - **vote** unanimously approved to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,

Patty Driscoll, Secretary

Garrett Davieau

David Whitaker

Kyle Bradley

Tony George

Shirley C. Clark