

Conservation Commission

April 5, 2010

In Attendance:

Stacy Parsons (Chairing)

Mary Weeks

Robert Skubel

Jack Hickey

Terry Eucker, Berkshire Conservation Agent

7:30 pm (continuation) Request for Determination, 25 Brodie Mountain Road

John Boleng, Civil/Architectural Design

- J. Boleng reviewed information from the site visit to Sheep's Heaven Hill. River flows west, not east as shown on the recent USGS. T. Eucker reports that an earlier version of the map shows the map flowing west also.
- Reviewed software programs and technology used to create the maps and calculations, including MA GIS data layers. According to J. Boleng watershed area is under the regulatory limit at .484 square miles.
- T. Eucker reviewed the information and disagrees. In redrawing the contour lines, she found areas she believed should be included in the calculations. She contends that the watershed area is a minimum of .5 square miles if not larger.
- Three members voted on a positive determination with one member voting for a negative determination. Applicant will not be required to pay for review services conducted by BCAP. Determination will likely be reviewed by DEP on appeal. Issuing positive determination to confirm the stream as perennial.

7:45 pm

Informational meeting with Chad and Lori Wojkowski, 85 Miner Road

- They have spoken with Kate Parks, Natural Resources Council/USDA, regarding services available. USDA allows for fences and livestock to cross streams. Commission will consult with the WPA for specific agricultural regulations under the Act.
- Silt and erosion issues contributing to siltation downstream where stream enters Pontoosuc Lake. Homeowners have already moved the fence 50' to prevent stream crossings and allow for vegetation to establish. Requested and were granted permission to seed the area with construction seed mix.
- No further action taken. Commission will research agricultural regulations and send information to the owners.

8:00 pm

Request for Determination, Wilson MacDonald, 210 Old State Road

- M. Weeks recused herself and left the room.
- Reviewed information from the previous informational meeting. Requesting to dig out and create basement and redo the foundation.
- Reviewed construction sequence. Using small machinery to dig out and build a foundation. The area will be backfilled and any excessive fill will be taken off site. Only a subset of the work may be completed depending on conditions.

Other Business:

- Approved March minutes
- Reviewed budget statements
- Discussed concern raised about fill behind the Fire Department. M. Weeks will follow up on concerns. Jeff DeChaine is in charge of the project. May be effecting wetlands or floodplain. Will review maps and contact him for further information.
- M. Weeks and R. Skubel met with D. Condron regarding complaint forwarded through DEP. Site photos were taken and emailed to members. No further action taken. (S. Parsons has recused herself from this case.)
- J. Hickey relayed a message from R. Tinkham regarding possible proposal for a gravel pit across from the old Drive In (currently Laston Field) on property owned by V. Macht. Also discussed concern that gravel pit at 69 Swamp Road may be pursuing new permitting. Area is believed to be in the floodplain according to information on file with the Assessor's Office.
- Board of Health asked if Conservation had a permit on file for 420 Williamstown Road. No previous filing was found and no application is pending.

Adjourned 9 pm