

Conservation Commission Meeting Minutes March 4, 2013

In attendance:

Stacy Parsons (Chairing)

Rich Weisenflue

Jack Hickey

Mark Stinson, DEP Circuit Rider, observing

7 pm

(Continuation) Request for Determination, 4 B Street, Abrams property

- Reviewed existing site plan. Dock to be supported on pipes with nothing into the lake bed. Proposed work spans the length of bank on the property. In total, the project covers 512 sq. ft., including "bridge" to get to the dock (not connected to the bank).
- When the house was purchased there was an existing stone retaining wall (pre-1986). It was upgraded from timbers to cement.
- Reviewed modified site plan. Pier size was reduced 10' on each side. Wood railing would remain. New dock would be reconfigured from existing pieces. Total square footage is 392 sq. ft.
- Reviewed Wetlands Act Regulations. Agreed stone retaining wall was in existence prior to 1986. The overhanging deck was constructed in 1996.
- Reviewed performance standards for "bank": proposed work will not impair the stability of the bank or water carrying capacity of the channel, no impact to ground or surface waters, no impact to cover or wildlife habitat.
- Shoreline dock is non-water dependent use and would need further permitting out of the Boston DEP office. It is beyond what is necessary to provide dock access to the lake. Decision on how to proceed left to the applicant.
- Conservation unanimously approved project as presented. Applicant was advised of possible additional permitting required under Ch. 91.

8:00 pm

Request for Certificate of Compliance for 525 South Main Street

- Reviewed site visit information from J. Trybus
- Unanimous approval to issue Complete Certificate of Compliance.

8:15 pm

Informational discussion regarding possible solar project, Prospect Street

- Reviewed draft senior housing plan as a reference
- J. Hickey presented Energy Futures Committee idea to create a solar panel field, approximately 3 acres in size. Would need to get within 50' of the identified wetland resources on site (2 intermittent streams).
- Delineation completed by White Engineering. Would need to add gravel base for the solar panels as drip line.
- No action taken by the Commission.

8:45 pm

Informational discussion with Mark Stinson, DEP Circuit Rider

- Discussed dock permitting procedure in other towns
- Discussed BioMap 2 as a resource for the Commission
- Follow up discussions on MESA violation, Bull Hill Road, and Condron property on S. Main Street
- Discussed Pittsfield Conservation decision re; Petricca stormwater plan
- Discussed regulatory considerations with possible zip line project.

Other Business:

- Approved meeting minutes for December, January, February
- Reviewed budget statements
- Discussed MACC conference
- Shared Keystone Project Training flyer with Tree/Forest Committee
- Received memo dated 1/8/13 from R. Tinkham regarding the proposed curb cuts to the Berkshire Mall Road.
- Received memo from Selectmen re: articles for the Town Meeting due by 2/28/13.
- Reviewed Forest Cutting plans for Pittsfield's Sportsmen's Club (Silver Street) and Brower, Paris, Strong property (Bailey Road).
- Received notice of Hazard Mitigation Grant applications.
- Received WMECO Yearly Operation Plan and Massachusetts Municipal Wholesale Electric Co. Yearly Operational Plan for 2013.

Adjourned 9 pm