

**TOWN OF GREAT BARRINGTON**  
**CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEETING**  
**MINUTES**

WEDNESDAY, May 26, 2021  
6:30PM

**Call to Order** Chairwoman Van Olst opened the meeting at 6:34 pm, those “present” remote meeting via ZOOM conference call: Andrew Didio, Michael Lanoue, Andrew Mankin, Kate Van Olst, and David Shanahan.

**1. Notice of Intent (DEP File # 167-0436)** from Foresight Land Services on behalf of Leonard Felson & Julia Rosenblum. The property is at 56 River Street, Map 14 Lot 258. The proposed work consists of stabilizing a section of Housatonic Riverbank and related site work including construction of a planted structural bank stabilization system to mitigate against future erosion during storm events. **Continued from December 9, 2020.**

- Foresight Land Services is still waiting for National Heritage’s determination.

**A. Mankin made a motion to continue the hearing to the June 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting; M. Lanoue seconded; Roll Call Vote; A. Didio, “aye”; M. Lanoue, “aye”; A. Mankin, “aye”; K. Van Olst, “aye”; and D. Shanahan “aye”. All in Favor, 5-0.**

**2. Notice of Intent (DEP File # 167-0437)** from Berkshire Engineering on behalf of Steven Bankert, property is at 49 Pearl Street, Map 11 Lot 47. The proposed work consists of constructing a 10 foot by 15 foot addition along the western face of the existing house and converting an existing patio into a 10 foot by 20 foot sunroom along the southern face of the same house. **Continued from April 28, 2021.**

**A. Mankin made a motion to continue the hearing to the June 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting; M. Lanoue seconded; Roll Call Vote; A. Didio, “aye”; M. Lanoue, “aye”; A. Mankin, “aye”; K. Van Olst, “aye”; and D. Shanahan “aye”. All in Favor, 5-0.**

**3. Request for Determination of Applicability** from TEC Associates on behalf of The Housatonic Railroad Company. The property consists of the railroad Right of Way through Great Barrington. The anticipated work consists annual vegetation management in accordance with Massachusetts Rights-of-Way Management Regulations and the railroad’s Vegetation Management Plan. The applicant is seeking recertification of wetland resource area delineations. **Continued from April 28, 2021.**

- Tom Lewis welcomes the opportunity to have the commission to come look at the railway rather than denying their RDA.
- 2-3 conservation members to go on spot site visit.

**A. Mankin made a motion to continue the hearing to the June 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting; A. Didio seconded; Roll Call Vote; A. Didio, “aye”; M. Lanoue, “aye”; A. Mankin, “aye”; K. Van Olst, “aye”; and D. Shanahan “aye”. All in Favor, 5-0.**

**4. Notice of Intent (DEP File # 167-xxxx)** from White Engineering on behalf of Benjamin Wohlfert, property is at 121 Bridge Street, Map 20 Lot 17. The proposed work consists of reconstructing and substantially enlarging the single family residence at 121 Bridge Street including extensive decks and access ramp.

- Brent White shared a map on behalf of Wohlfert. B. White stated that 1 tree outside of buffer zone will be removed.

**A. Mankin made a motion to continue close the public hearing; A. Didio seconded; Roll Call Vote; A. Didio, “aye”; M. Lanoue, “aye”; A. Mankin, “aye”; K. Van Olst, “aye”; and D. Shanahan “aye”. All in Favor, 5-0.**

**A. Didio made a motion to approve the Notice of Intent as presented, with conditions that a restoration test be conduction on invasive species management and that there will be 15-foot buffer planted with a wetland seed mixture, A. Mankin seconded; Roll Call Vote; A. Didio, “aye”; M. Lanoue, “aye”; A. Mankin, “aye”; K. Van Olst, “aye”; and D. Shanahan “aye”. All in Favor, 5-0.**

**5. Notice of Intent (SMA File # 5-07-21)** from White Engineering on behalf of 30 High Street Nominee Realty Trust, property at 30 High Street, Map 14 Lot 72. The proposed work consists of construction of a portion of a single family house within a Mapped Scenic Mountain Region and associated site work and clearing. The remainder of the house, its driveway and utilities will be outside the Mapped Scenic Mountain Region.

- Brent White presented on behalf of 30 High Street Nominee Realty Trust.
- Elizabeth Tully, 6 High Street Nominee Trust, stated her concern with watershed and erosion during Construction.

**A. Mankin made a motion to continue close the public hearing; A. Didio seconded; Roll Call Vote; A. Didio, “aye”; M. Lanoue, “aye”; A. Mankin, “aye”; K. Van Olst, “aye”; and D. Shanahan “aye”. All in Favor, 5-0.**

**A. Didio made a motion to approve the Notice of Intent as presented, with conditions that a licensed agent be provided a schedule of inspections, be notified 3 days prior to a ¼ inch rain storm event, be notified when excavation starts, and updated with photo documentation, A. Mankin seconded; Roll Call Vote; A. Didio, “aye”; M. Lanoue, “aye”; A. Mankin, “aye”; K. Van Olst, “aye”; and D. Shanahan “aye”. All in Favor, 5-0.**

**6. Request for Determination of Applicability** from James J. Mercer, property at 162 Division Street, Map 33 Lot 13. The proposed work consists of constructing a 2,200 sq. ft. building in the vicinity of existing Housatonic Water Work’s facilities adjacent to Long Pond Dam within 500 feet of Long Pond. The building will house a water treatment plant for manganese removal.

**A. Mankin made a motion to approve the RDA (negative determination #1); A. Didio seconded; Roll Call Vote; A. Didio, “aye”; M. Lanoue, “aye”; A. Mankin, and “aye”; K. Van Olst, “aye”; and D. Shanahan “aye”. All in Favor, 5-0.**

**7. Request for Determination of Applicability** from James J. Mercer, property is Round Pond and land adjacent to it off Long Pond Road, Map 34 Lot 10. The proposed work consists of directional drilling under Round Pond and installing utilities to serve a single building lot on the west side of the pond.

**A. Mankin made a motion to continue the hearing to the June 23rd meeting; M. Lanoue seconded; Roll Call Vote; A. Didio, “aye”; M. Lanoue, “aye”; A. Mankin, “aye”; K. Van Olst, “aye”; and D. Shanahan “aye”. All in Favor, 5-0.**

**8. Request for Determination of Applicability** from James J. Mercer, property is the Round Pond Dam off Long Pond Road, Map 34 Lot 10. The proposed work consists of addressing accumulated maintenance issues on and adjacent to the Dam.

- The request for determination of applicability was withdrawn by James Mercer.

**9. Request for Extension, Order of Conditions, (DEP File 167-0419)** from Jessica Applin of Land Stewardship, Inc. on behalf of the Mass DCR Ecology Program. The applicant seeks a three-year extension of their current Order, until 6/11/2024, covering invasive plan management at Beartown State Forest, Fountain Pond State Park and East Mountain State Forest.

**A. Mankin made a motion to approve the request for extension; D. Shanahan seconded; Roll Call Vote; A. Didio, “aye”; M. Lanoue, “aye”; A. Mankin, “aye”; K. Van Olst, “aye”; and D. Shanahan “aye”. All in Favor, 5-0.**

#### **Citizen Speak Time / Commission Speak Time**

- D. Happ, Castle Hill Avenue, asked for an update on a site visit that is to be preformed at 160 Castle Hill Avenue. The board reported that the owner is out of town, but when they return, a site visit will be scheduled.

**Approval of minutes** of the March 2021 and April 2021 meetings.

**A. Mankin made a motion to approve the minutes of the March and April 2021 meeting; M. Lanoue seconded; Roll Call Vote; A. Didio, “aye”; M. Lanoue, “aye”; A. Mankin, “aye”; K. Van Olst, “aye”; and D. Shanahan “aye”. All in Favor, 5-0.**

**ADJOURN**

**A. Mankin made a motion to adjourn the meeting of the Conservation Committee; D. Shanahan seconded; Roll Call Vote; A. Didio, “aye”; M. Lanoue, “aye”; A. Mankin, and “aye”; K. Van Olst, “aye”; and D. Shanahan “aye”. All in Favor, 5-0.**

Chairwoman Van Olst adjourned meeting by unanimous consent at 8:51 p.m.

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Brooke M. Morehouse  
Recording Clerk*