

Great Barrington Conservation Commission
Meeting via Zoom and in person at 334 Main Street, Great Barrington, MA
Wednesday, September 27, 2023

Call to Order: Andy Didio opened the meeting at 6:30pm. Those present: Andy Didio, Tom Ferris, Michael Lanoue, Andrew Mankin, David Shanahan. Absent: Kate Van Olst
Also present: Conservation Agent, Shep Evans

1. Approval of Minutes of the August 23, 2023 meeting.

Didio made a motion to approve the August 23, 2023 minutes; **Shanahan seconded**. Didio asked for any discussion – there was none. By roll call vote the motion was approved unanimously.

2. Notice of Intent (DEP File # 167-0455) from Solitude Lake Management on behalf of URJ Eisner Camp for an Aquatic and Mechanical Management Program for Camp Eisner Pond to control Invasive and/or Nuisance Aquatic Vegetation through USEPA/MA registered Mechanical techniques or hand pulling. At the Applicant's request, continued to the September 27, 2023 meeting.

Evans stated Solitude has asked for the matter to be continued to the next meeting.

Mankin made a motion to continue to the next meeting on October 25 at 6:30pm; **Lanoue seconded**. Didio asked for any discussion – there was none. By roll call vote the motion was approved unanimously.

3 Notice of Intent (DEP File # 167-0459) from Foresight Land Services on behalf of Shai Walker, property on the east side of Alford Road south of the Castle Hill Avenue intersection. The proposed work consists of constructing a new driveway crossing a Bordering Vegetated Wetland and related site work. Continued from August 23, 2023 and Site Visit conducted on Sept 21, 2023.

Mankin made a motion to approve the Notice of Intent with conditions for a one-to-one tree replacement and three-year monitoring by a professional of replication areas with an annual report to the Conservation Commission; **Lanoue seconded**. Didio asked for any discussion – there was none. By roll call vote the motion was approved unanimously.

4. Notice of Intent (SMA File # 8-09-2023) from S-K Design Group on behalf of Debra and Abram Klein.

The property is at 322 Long Pond Road. The project is construction of an accessory structure on an existing developed lot with a house, driveway, septic system and other amenities. Continued from August 23, 2023 and Site Visit conducted on August 31, 2023.

The Commissioners discussed concerns about trimming the large tree near the new structure. It was decided Evans should arrange a site visit to determine tree limbs to be cut.

Mankin made a motion to approve the Notice of Intent with the conditions to trim branches of the large tree 10-feet from the Northeast corner of the new structure and to arrange a site visit to determine tree limbs that may be cut; **Lanoue seconded**. Didio asked for any discussion – there was none. By roll call vote the motion was approved unanimously.

5. Notice of Intent (SMA File # 08-04-2023) from White Engineering on behalf of Steven Yang & Kathy H. Lee. The property is at 15 & 17 East Mountain Road. The proposed work consists of clearing and constructing a new driveway to a new house site and well. Continued from August 23, 2023 and Site Visit conducted September 21, 2023.

The Commissioners discussed concerns about visibility of the house/site from the road and surrounding area. It was decided that there should be another site visit on October 19, 2023 to see trees proposed to be removed and to be left remaining at the house site.

Mankin made a motion to continue the matter to the next meeting on October 25 at 6:30pm;

Lanoue seconded. Didio asked for any discussion – there was none. By roll call vote the motion was approved unanimously.

6. Notice of Intent (DEP File # 167-0460) from Foresight Land Services on behalf of the Town of Great Barrington property at 551 South Main Street, aka Olympia Meadows. The proposed work consists of renovations to the soft ball playing field.

Mankin made a motion to approve the Notice of Intent as presented; **Lanoue seconded.** Didio asked for any discussion – there was none. By roll call vote the motion was approved unanimously.

7. Request for Determination of Applicability (RDA) from Hevreh of Southern Berkshire, property at 270 State Road. The proposed work consists of taking down one large and one small dead White Pine trees in the Buffer Zone of a Bordering Vegetated Wetland and adjacent to the children's play area.

Mankin made a motion to issue a negative determination #3; **Lanoue seconded.** Didio asked for any discussion – there was none. By roll call vote the motion was approved unanimously.

8. Request for Determination of Applicability (RDA) from the Great Barrington Housing Authority, property at 2 Bernard Gibbons Drive. The proposed work consists of taking down as many as 19 very large trees within the Buffer Zone of an intermittent stream and close behind several family residences.

Mankin made a motion to issue a positive determination; **Lanoue seconded.** Didio asked for any discussion – there was none. By roll call vote the motion was approved unanimously.

9. Request for a 3 year extension of an Order of Conditions (DEP File 167-0433) from S-K Design Group on behalf of Guido's Fresh Market Place, property at 760 Main Street.

Matt Putin, S-K Design presented plans for planting that would complete the project. It was discussed there would be no changes to the Order of Conditions regarding planting.

Mankin made a motion to approve a 12-month extension of the Order of Conditions; **Lanoue seconded.** Didio asked for any discussion – there was none. By roll call vote the motion was approved unanimously.

10. Citizens Speak Time – No citizens asked to speak

11. Adjournment - **Mankin made a motion** to adjourn; **Lanoue seconded.** By roll call vote the motion was approved unanimously at 8:23pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Stacy Ostrow, Recording Clerk