



TOWN OF PELHAM CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Pelham, Massachusetts

Minutes for September 27, 2018

PRESENT: Dana MacDonald, David Gross, Meredith Borenstein

Chair MacDonald brought the meeting to order at 7:06 PM.

Septic system proposal at 266 Amherst Road

There was discussion of a septic system proposal from Cold Spring Environmental at 266 Amherst Road. The septic installation proposal indicates that the system will be 50 feet from a wetland. Chair MacDonald noted that the site is very difficult and that a new system, even sited within the buffer zone, will likely improve disposal from the residence. Agent Borenstein will ask Cold Spring to set up a site visit for the Commission. Agent Borenstein will handle the abutters' notification and necessary publicity. Cold Spring needs to get all the fees into the office before we will proceed with the notifications. Agent Borenstein will write up the RDA after we have an open meeting hearing to discuss it. The aim is to have the hearing at the Nov. 8 meeting. Mailings to abutters need to go out no later than Oct. 30.

Septic system at 48 Harkness

The Commission reviewed this proposal at the last meeting. The tank and septic field are both well outside the 100 foot barrier based on a site visit by Chair MacDonald. The Commission agreed that there is no need for further review and permitting for this project.

McClung property

Chair MacDonald told the Commission that the William McClung property abutting the Buffam Community Forest may be for sale. The US Forest Service may be willing to extend the grant that allowed the town to purchase parcels for the Community Forest, and thus we may be able to move forward. We have enough money to go forward with the purchase. The funding has already been approved by Town Meeting, the purchase would require only a favorable Select Board vote. Chair MacDonald needs to file a report to USFS and then Neal Bungard of the US Forest Service will apply for extension of funds to be able to move forward with the purchase. We may not need a conservation restriction for this purchase. The Forest Service prefers that scenario.

Parking at multiple conservation parcels

The Kestrel Trust wishes to meet with the Commission to discuss parking at Well Away Farm, the Pemberton Forest and the Buffam Community Forest. Agent Borenstein will contact Chris Volonte of Kestrel to see set up a Saturday date to tour the properties.

7:00 Review Previous Meeting Minutes

7:15 Recap of DCR meeting/rescheduled

DCR forestry violation meeting

The Division of Conservation and Recreation meeting that was cancelled last month has been rescheduled to 10 AM on Thursday Oct. 11. Agent Borenstein plans to attend and the Commission hopes that Commissioner Lukas will also be able to attend.

Tabled items

The agenda items including a follow up on mosquito spraying on Pelham roads and outlining actions to streamline wetland permitting actions under the town bylaw were tabled to a future meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 8:24 PM.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "David Lucas". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looped "D" and a stylized "L".