

Minutes Approved
4-13-17

Cynthia Weigel

TOWN OF PELHAM CONSERVATION COMMISSION

MINUTES FOR October 13, 2016

MEMBERS PRESENT: Dana MacDonald, Cynthia Weigel, Tilman Lukas,
Gale Hubley, Kevin Hartzell

Others Present: None

1. Review of Minutes: deferred.
2. 38 S. Valley Rd. (Lizardi) Request for Determination of Applicability, Septic Replacement – Public Meeting
 - a. Posted in Gazette on October 5, 2016 for October 13, 2016; abutters receipts received as well.
 - b. Unanimous decision: Negative 3 determination for Bylaw and Wetlands Protection Act subject to following condition:
 1. Soil and sediment controls as set forth in plan
3. Groves (Shutesbury Rd.) Conservation Restriction, Amherst Watershed donation – Dana has not heard further from Lindsay or anyone else regarding final hunting language.
4. Pelham Bylaw –current language arguably requires notarization; PCC should consider amending to make clear notarization not required. WPA not require notarization.
5. Certificate of Compliance, Molly Wollahan (9 Harkness Rd.) requested under Bylaw – Certificate of Compliance was issued.
6. Millington Request for Determination of Applicability (see September 29, 2016 minutes)
 - a. Dana confirmed that the third party consultant was paid; Dana will issue permit
7. Pepper Request for Determination of Applicability (see September 29, 2016 minutes)
 - a. \$50 paid, RDA found, proof of abutter and newspaper publication submitted. Permit signed by PCC members today.
8. Conservation Agent for PCC - Dana presented our need to Chairs at meeting of Pelham Chairs. They were supportive of our request. We need to submit a one to two sentence warrant article. Dana will check with other Towns regarding how much per hour, how many hours and whether there is interest/ability to share an Agent. We anticipate the need for 10 to 20 hours per month at \$20 per hour.
9. Community Garden at Buffam Falls Conservation Area – mowing management plan needed.
10. Romer Woods – Dana will contact Gifford re: ATV use/abuse on Romer property.

11. Knowles Property Logging (see August 11, 2016 minutes) – Dana left a voicemail with Jennifer Fitch to discuss our concerns and those of Bruce Spencer and Lexi Dewey. Dana would like PCC to consider a Pelham Bylaw that all perennial streams be properly bridged unless logging is done by horse or oxen. This might avoid future problems.
12. A UMass professor has inquired about camping at Buffam Falls. PCC members voted unanimously against camping at any of the Pelham Conservation Areas at this time, including Buffam Falls. The importance of Buffam and other areas as a cold water fishery, lack of sanitation/trash facilities, and liability issues were among the concerns discussed.
13. Site Visits scheduled for October 27 at 5:30 for Tolson's (9 Bray Ct) and then Wes Couture (137B Packardville Rd).
14. PCC members need to begin reviewing Open Space Plan.