

Topsfield Conservation Commission
Minutes of Wednesday, November 19, 2014
Topsfield Library Meeting Room

PRESENT: Jennie Merrill, Chairperson; Cheryl Jolley, Vice Chairperson; Holger Luther; James Carroll; Dodds Shamroth; MaryAnn Tuxbury, Secretary; Lana Spillman, Conservation Administrator; Dee Wise, Minutes Secretary.

ABSENT: None

Other Attendees: Dick Gandt, Selectman; John Duffy; Alan Berry; David Mendonca

The Meeting was called to order at 7:02PM with a quorum present.

HEARING:

Continuation NoI 307-0719: 13 Pond Street, (Map 02, Lot 004), Duffy/C. G. Johnson Engineering Inc. John Duffy was present, representing James Duffy. Duffy verbally agreed to a 10-foot wide no-mow, no-disturb area adjacent/upslope of the BVW boundary. Spillman explained that the original plan did not include plantings. Duffy offered that he would abide by anything the Commission suggested, including plantings in the 10-foot area. He is going to grind the stumps from the trees that have been taken down. The trench for the electrical service is completed. Duffy stated that the driveway was not going to be installed before the winter. Luther requested that Bill Manuell be asked to amend his restoration proposal to include some plantings. Luther made a motion and Carroll seconded to continue the hearing for the NoI until December 17, 2014. So Voted Unanimously.

REQUESTS:

RDNI 2014-25: 13 Pond Street (Map 02, Lot 004), Duffy. John Duffy was present. Duffy would like to proceed with the utility line installation and tree grinding, (the stumps will not be removed) while the weather still permits. Spillman suggested a motion to issue a DNI under the Bylaw. Luther moved and Merrill seconded to make a Determination of Negligible Impact and issue a DNI for the proposed removal of trees and digging of a trench for the electrical line. So Voted Unanimously.

CoC 307-0711: 13 Pond Street (Map 02, Lot 004) Cook/C. G. Johnson Engineering Inc. John Duffy was present. The submitted As-built Site Plan is dated September 23, 2014. Duffy, the current owner stated that the septic system was installed and Spillman said that it looks great. Conservation posts were installed today, 11/19/14. Spillman recommended a motion to issue a CoC. Luther moved to issue the CoC for completion of the septic system as proposed by Chuck Johnson, and Carroll seconded. So Voted Unanimously.

CoC 307-0629: 12 Boston Street, English Commons Subdivision, (Map 81, Lot 001) Berry/Beal's Associates, Inc.

Spillman explained that it was discovered on Monday, November 17, 2014 that the CoC was already issued and recorded for the boardwalk that was the subject of OoC 307-0669.

Spillman added that she made a site visit with Alan Berry on August 27, 2014, and found the property in compliance. The constructed wetland areas are functioning beautifully. Conservation posts with markers were installed at the entrance to the trail (with boardwalk to Rowley Bridge Road). Luther questioned the ownership of the boardwalk on the Open Space, and Berry explained that it belongs to the Homeowners' Association; they will manage it. The Conservation Restriction on the Open Space land is held by the town, with oversight by the TCC. Spillman recommended a motion to issue a CoC. Luther moved and Jolley seconded to issue a CoC for the subdivision. So Voted Unanimously.

Continuation CoC 307-0452: 14 Arrowhead Road, (Map 32, Lot 031), Mendonca/The Morin-Cameron Group, Inc. David Mendonca, homeowner, was present and explained that a small berm was installed across the driveway with final paving, to prevent increased runoff onto the roadway. Spillman made a site visit and she recommended issuing the CoC with the usual continuing conditions. Luther moved to issue a CoC for 307-0452; the motion was seconded. So Voted Unanimously.

CoC 26 Coppermine Road, (Map 74, Lot 001), Lopes. Spillman explained that there are two parcels owned by the Lopes; the front parcel is the house lot and the rear parcel is Conservation land established with the subdivision development. It has been a very long process for the owners. The professional land surveyor did not show the common boundary on the plan, then prepared a corrected plan with the same plan date. Spillman made a site visit on Monday, November 17, 2014, and found the property in compliance. Spillman recommended a motion to issue the CoC. Luther moved/Carroll seconded to issue the CoC. So Voted Unanimously.

CoC 307-0718: 8 Wilmore Road, (Map 10, Lot 001), Keliher/DSD, Inc. A written request was received from Dan Johnson to continue to December 17, 2014.

Continuation CoC 307-0658: 5 Hickory Lane/Open Space, (Map 50, Lot 039), and 22 Evergreen Lane, (Map 50, Lot 032), Symes Associates, Inc./Beals Associates, Inc. Spillman received an e-mail request to continue until December 17, 2014. Symes Associates will attend the next meeting to explain their plan for the property. The site visit was made on Tuesday, November 8, 2014. The expected proposal is to establish a stone/boulder boundary along the approved limit of work in Buffer Zone, to prevent migration of lawn/alteration farther into the Buffer Zone. Luther added that the review also includes the extension to the boardwalk recently installed on the Open Space property. This review was continued to December 17, 2014.

RDNI 2014-14: 31 South Main Street, (Map 40, Lot 085), Guido. The proposed work in Bylaw Riverfront Area/Buffer Zone is removal of two very large, mature trees, (Silver Maple) that are adjacent to the abutting property to the west and are a threat to that house structure. One of the trees is infested with insects. Stumps are to remain in the ground and possibly ground to surface level. Spillman recommended a motion to issue a DNI under the Bylaw for removal of the two threatening trees. Luther moved and Carroll seconded to issue the DNI. So Voted Unanimously.

OTHER:

Tree Committee Applicant - John Meinelt – No person was present. Spillman commented that she is having a hard time contacting this person. Jolley stated that she may know somebody who can help in locating him.

Proposed 2015 Meeting Dates and Filing Deadlines.

Luther moved to tentatively approve the 2015 schedule. Carroll seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

MEETING MINUTES:

Luther moved to approve the minutes of **September 10, 2014** and **November 5, 2014** as amended. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT:

DEP Workshop re: 310 CMR 10.00 et. al., October 24, 2014 Regulations Revisions
Spillman stated that she did attend the workshop and that there are new regulations revisions; she distributed a summary.

TCC Budget, FY 2016,

Spillman proposes to reinstate the 3 hours that were lost when the department was asked to reduce their budget. Luther requested she send him the numbers so that he can review.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to come before the Commission, a motion was made by Luther and seconded that the meeting be adjourned. So voted unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 PM

Respectfully submitted



Diane Wise
Minutes Secretary

Minutes approved at the TCC meeting on December 17, 2014

Pursuant to the 'Open Meeting Law' G.L. 39, § 23B, the approval of these minutes by the Commission constitutes a certification of the date, time and place of the meeting, the members present and absent, and the actions taken at the meeting. Any other description of statements made by any person, or the summary of the discussion of any matter, is included for the purpose of context only, and no certification, express or implied, is made by the Commission as to the completeness or accuracy of such statements.