

***Topsfield Conservation Commission***  
***Minutes of Wednesday, November 4, 2015***  
Topsfield Library Meeting Room

**Present:** Cheryl Jolley, Chair; Dodds Shamroth, Vice Chair; Holger Luther; Jim Carroll; Jen DiCarlo; Lana Spillman, Conservation Administrator; and MaryAnn Tuxbury, Administrative Assistant

**Absent:** None

**Other Attendees:** Mike Cerbone; Jeff Allen; Walter Harmer; Natalie Whelan; Bill Whelan; Margo Levitsky; Walter Levitsky; Sean Ward; Carol Decker; Dick Gandt; Deirdre Donarumo; Andrew Donarumo, Kim Sherwood, and others.

Jolley called the meeting to Order at 7:04 p.m.

**HEARINGS:**

**Continuation ANRAD 307-0726: 21 & 9 Towne Lane,** (Map 33, Lot 061 & Map 41, Lot 073), LeClair/Gove Environmental Services, Inc.

There was no one present to represent the applicant for this continued public hearing.

Jolley informed the other members that a written request to continue this public hearing had been received in the Office.

A motion was made and seconded (Luther/Carroll) to continue this public hearing to the November 18, 2015 meeting. So voted unanimously.

**Continuation NoI 307-0724: 57 Perkins Row,** (Map 58, Lot 025), New Meadows Development/The Morin-Cameron Group, Inc.

There was no one present to represent the applicant for this continued public hearing.

Jolley stated that today at 3:40 p.m., a letter was received in the Office from The Morin-Cameron Group, requesting a continuance so that they may respond to the peer review comments. Jolley read this letter aloud into the record.

A motion was made and seconded (Luther/Carroll) to continue this public hearing to the November 18, 2015 meeting. So voted unanimously.

Before the Commission could continue, Jeff Allen of 83 Perkins Row and Kim Sherwood of 29 Perkins Row interrupted the meeting to express their frustration over coming to the meeting only to find out that the hearing was being continued again. Several other abutters also expressed their frustration over this, and wanted to know if they could be informed beforehand if this happens again. Jolley responded that the abutters could call the Office to check, and she again mentioned that this letter was received at 3:40 p.m. She also stated that applicants have the right to come to the meeting and request the continuance then; they do not have to do it prior to a meeting.

**Continuation RDA 2015-06: 43 Alderbrook Drive, (Map 62, Lot 014), Giacchino/Cerbone**  
Mike Cerbone was present and represented the applicants for this continued public hearing. Cerbone had previously submitted to the Office colored photos of the property, showing the house and rink. Black and white copies of these photos had been sent to the Commission members. Cerbone had also previously submitted dimensions and calculated volumes for the existing rink.

Jolley referred to one of the pictures and asked where the intermittent stream is located. Cerbone replied that the stream's closest point is 25 feet away, and then it draws away from the property. A motion was made and seconded (Luther/Carroll) to close the public hearing. So voted unanimously.

A motion was made and seconded (Luther/Carroll) to issue a Negative Determination of Applicability under the Act and Bylaw with the usual conditions, and to also include a condition requiring installation of a sedimentation control line/limit of work boundary. So voted unanimously.

**REQUESTS:**

**RDNI 2015-20: 3 Johns Lane, (Map 68, Lot 045), Donarumo**

Andrew and Deirdre Donarumo were present. The application is for the construction of an addition on the side of the existing home; a corner of this addition may be in the Buffer Zone of an Intermittent Stream on the abutting property.

A. Donarumo presented a sketch plan showing the location of the addition, and explained to the Commission how they would like to access the construction site from Johns Lane. They need to keep the construction equipment away from the leaching area and the d-box of the septic system.

A motion was made and seconded (Luther/Carroll) to issue a Determination of Negligible Impact for the proposed additional, with a condition that they take heed of the access path to avoid sensitive areas, as was explained and shown on the sketch plan. So voted unanimously.

**RDNI 2015-21: 14 Brookside, (Map 26, Lot 035), Symmes**

There was no one present to represent the applicants.

Spillman stated that this was an after-the-fact filing for the removal of a large diseased beech tree within Buffer Zone and Riverfront Area of Mile Brook; there was an Emergency Certification previously issued for the work.

A motion was made and seconded (Luther/Carroll) to issue a Determination of Negligible Impact for the tree removal. So voted unanimously.

**OTHER:**

**116 Boston Street, (Map 69, Lot 013) – General Discussion**

Sean Ward, the property owner, was present for this discussion concerning the wetlands lines.

Luther stated that new test holes may need to be dug for the proposed new septic system. Ward responded that soil testing in the area already has been performed. The slope is the side of a drumlin, with difficult soils.

Spillman stated that the original OoC was issued in December 2007 and was extended in 2010 to December 2013. Due to the Permit Extension Act, the OoC may expire as late as December 2017. She stated that she thinks she needs to consult with DEP on this matter.

TCC concluded that if the proposed system is moved, e.g. tilted, to at least twenty feet from the previously flagged BVW boundary, it likely would be outside of the Buffer Zone no further TCC review would be needed.

Ward mentioned a second type of septic system for the barn, which would be completely separate from the existing septic system for the house. It is called a "perc right drip system", which takes up more area, and is closer to the surface.

**Corrected CoC 307-0588: 20 Aaron Drive, (Map 12, Lot 008)**

Spillman stated that the correction to the OoC was to correct a line that she had made a mistake in.

A motion was made and seconded (Luther/Carroll) to issue the corrected OoC. So voted unanimously.

**362 Boston Street, Conservation Land, (Map 26, Lot 001) – management of Japanese knotweed and proposal for removal**

Walter Harmer was present for this discussion. He reported on the removal he has done so far on the site. He stated that the Japanese knotweed is bad on this site. He brainstormed ideas on how to discourage the growth of and accomplish removal of the knotweed.

The Commission asked Mr. Harmer to come up with a proposal for the removal of the Japanese Knotweed and present it to the Commission. Harmer stated that he would do this.

**MEETING MINUTES:**

With a motion by Luther and second by Carroll, minutes of the **August 19, 2015** meeting and the **October 14, 2015** meeting were approved as amended.

**ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:**

**Office Survey**

Spillman explained that she has designed a survey form to be handed out to the public when their business with the Office is complete. She is looking for input on ways to improve the Office, and if the public was satisfied with the service they received. A link to the survey has been posted on the Commission's page on the Town's website.

**Vacation**

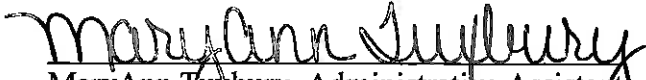
Spillman stated that she will be taking vacation time during the week of Thanksgiving. Jolley and Luther will be filling in for her.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

There being no further business to come before the Commission, a motion was made and seconded (Luther/Carroll) that the meeting be adjourned.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

  
MaryAnn Tuxbury, Administrative Assistant

*Minutes approved at the TCC meeting on November 18, 2015*

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.