



Office of the

## CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Town of Townsend,  
272 Main Street  
Townsend, Massachusetts 01469

Michael Turgeon, Chairman

John Hussey, Vice-Chairman

James Le Cuyer

James Deroian

Anne Le Cuyer

Karen Hill

### Minutes

#### Memorial Hall-Selectman's Chambers

Wednesday, July 10, 2019 at 7:00PM

#### 1.0 Preliminaries

1.1. **Open Meeting** – MT opened the meeting at 7:01pm

1.2. **Roll Call** – Chairman Michael Turgeon (MT), Vice-Chairman John Hussey (JH), Karen Hill (KH), Anne LeCuyer (AL), James LeCuyer (JL) present; John Deroian (JD) absent.

#### 1.3 Topics not reasonably anticipated by the Chair 48 hours in advance of the meeting

##### 3.5 Approve and Sign Certificate of Compliance for DEP#308-475, 182 Warren Road

MT requested motion to add this item as 3.5 to the agenda; KH moves to add, seconded by JH. All in favor.

##### 3.6 Sign Emergency Beaver Dam removal at Ash Street

MT requested motion to add this item as 3.6 to the agenda; JH moves to add, KH seconded. All in favor.

1.4 **Chair's Report** – MT address items throughout the agenda; MT addressed concern raised by Jennifer Pettit at previous meeting regarding her letter to Conservation Commission pertaining to the lot at 28 Adams Road; the clarification is that the letter said possibly in Zone 1.

1.5 **Agent's Report** – DH will address items throughout the agenda.

1.6 **Review of Minutes** – MT tabled review of minutes until next meeting.

#### 2.0 Hearings and Appointments

##### 2.1 7:05 pm Continuation of Notice of Intent DEP#308-669

**Applicant:** Squannacook Greenways, Inc.

**Location:** MBTA parcels located south of Route 119, starting at Depot Street and ending at the Townsend-Groton town line

**Project:** The proposed project is for the construction of a public access trail. Project is located within the riverfront area, ACEC and NHESP and now isolated wetland area subject to Town Wetland bylaw.

MT opened the hearing at 7:05; Stan Dillis (SD) was present and discussed site walk conducted in previous week. SD advised the option to grade around the isolated wetland area is unfeasible due to the extensive ledge. Grading up would be too steep and grading down would require blasting and at least 100 trees would have to come out. The ledge is too steep to attain the 5% grade required by the ADA Compliance requirement in MBTA lease. MT confirmed for the record that the lease agreement explicitly requires ADA compliance. SD discussed alternative option coming straight down rail impacting the isolated wetland area

Wednesday, July 10, 2019

of approximately 1900' which is currently in poor condition, and replicating it on a 1:1 basis adjacent to an existing wetland area that will create a better functioning overall wetland. SD advised the construction sequence includes erosion controls on both sides and a stockpiling area for excavated materials for later removal; the tracks would be removed, the isolated wetland would be excavated and the materials moved down to the replication wetland area, graded to the adjacent wetland and then over-seeded with New England wetland plant mix. MT raised question if replication area has been investigated for ledge to ensure the grading down will be feasible; SD indicated based on site characteristics, the ledge should not pose an issue in the replication area. MT indicated he would like a planting plan that the Agent can approve; SD advised he would be using a seed mix but can specify plants to move in; there is currently no vegetation in the rail area to be moved, except a few ferns. KH raised question on existing shade trees and SD clarified this approach will save the larger trees and create a more beneficial wetland in the replication area. KH reiterated the smaller trees and blow downs will be removed which will mitigate invasives. MT also raised concern that invasives could take over without plantings. SD advised he is open to having Conditions to plant small willows; MT advised the planting plan should be in accordance with Replication Guidelines and should be wetland plants chosen for the light and soil conditions. DH reiterated concerns that seed mix might not take; SD added that it would be done in Spring. MT asked if Sterilite was asked for additional access to trail; SD pointed out that access from the Unitil sub-station site was unfeasible due to steep grade and Sterilite has expressed that due to traffic in their areas, it is not feasible to access the trail from their site.

MT advised two additional conditions will be added to the orders; first is to present a planting plan for mitigation area prior to start of construction for approval by agent; second is a two year monitoring program for the mitigation area.

SD added that in regards to Old Meetinghouse Road temporary disturbance and amount of disturbance, approximately 1100 square feet would be cleared of vegetation to allow truck to back in and pull out, and SD would overseed the area with appropriate mix; approximately 400 square feet of disturbance is in the buffer zone. KH motioned to close the public meeting, seconded by JH. AIF

JH motioned & KH seconded to approve Squannacook Greenways project with standard order of conditions and two special conditions: a planting plan for mitigation area prior to contractor bid for Conservation Agent approval and second is to monitor the mitigation area for two years and provide annual reports on progress. AIF

**2.2 7:20 pm                      Continuation of Notice of Intent DEP#308-665**

**Applicant:**                      **Ducharme & Dillis for Diane Silva**

**Location:**                      **59 West Meadow Road**

**Project:**                      The proposed project is to restore historic wetlands and grades within the buffer zone to a 3/1 slope. Project is located within the ACEC and Estimated Habitat of Rare Wildlife

MT opened the hearing at 7:25pm; MT advised that Natural Heritage has to complete their review before Order of Conditions can be issued, Natural Heritage is waiting for habitat assessment which has not been done yet.

KH motioned to continue the hearing to July 24, 2019 at 7:20pm, JL seconded, AIF

### **3.0 Work Session:**

- 3.1** Volunteer response for appointment to Conservation Commission – *MT reviewed the email from Sean Pearson who was not in attendance.*
- 3.2** Sign bills payable voucher for \$287.00 to Massachusetts Association of Conservation Commissioners for payment of Annual Dues – *KH motioned to approve and sign; AL seconded. AIF - Signed*
- 3.3** Sign bills payable voucher for \$55.00 to Massachusetts Association of Conservation Commissioners for payment of Fundamentals Unit 105 for Anne LeCuyer - *motion by KH seconded by JH. AIF - Signed*
- 3.4** Appoint member to the Town Properties Committee – *AL appointed. Motioned by KH seconded by JH. AIF*

**7:35 MT called a five minute recess**

**7:43 MT resumed meeting**

- 3.5** Approve and Sign Certificate of Compliance for DEP#308-475, 182 Warren Road – *AL motioned to approve and sign; KH seconded; AIF – approved and signed.*
- 3.6** Sign Emergency Certification for Beaver Dam removal at Ash Street – *DH confirmed location of dam at telephone pole #6 on West side at culvert located 15 feet from pole; JH motioned to approve & sign, seconded by KH and JL; AIF – signed.*

### **4.0 Correspondence:**

- 4.1** Massachusetts Association of Conservation Commissions MACC Wetlands Buffer Zone Guidebook – *DH confirmed copy is available for review at Conservation office*

**5.0 Items for discussion at the next meeting -** *DH advises that Notice of Intent or Request for Determination of Applicability anticipated to be coming in for end of Pierce Road in next two to four weeks.*

**6.0 Advertisements and Conferences –** *nothing at this time.*

**7.0 Next meeting: July 24, 2019 at 7:00pm**

**8.0 Adjournment -** *7:58pm, motioned by JL, seconded by JH. AIF*