

TOWN OF SOMERS CONSERVATION COMMISSION

MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, August, 6 2014

7:00 p.m.

TOWN HALL

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Vice Chairman Todd Whitford at 7:02 p.m. In attendance were secretary Candace Aleks, planning representative Greg Genlot, WPCA representative Dan Fraro, zoning representative Karl Walton, as well as wetland agent David Askew. Chairperson Joan Formeister arrived at 7:04. Also in attendance was alternate Lise Wood seated for member Henry Broer.

II. OLD BUSINESS

Application #673. David & Stephanie Tullock, 330 South Road. Wetland crossing

Wetland agent Askew reviewed the location of specific structures on the property with members. He has inspected the site and the wetland area to the back of the property that is used for recreation is mulched and stabilized. Agent Askew reported that none of the alterations interrupt flow through the wetland, although two of the temporary structures (a wood storage structure and trailer) are within the upper reaches of the wetland.

Member Karl Walton made a motion, seconded by Dan Fraro, to approve Application #673, with the condition that any further modifications receive the approval of the conservation commission prior to initiation.

All in favor, motion carried

III. NEW BUSINESS

b. Jurisdictional determination: John Gale, 329 Billings Road. Logging and clear cut in upland review area.

Property consists of approximately 20 acres. Mr. Gale is seeking the approval to clear cut the upland, with some selective cutting in the wetland. Agent Askew reminded members that there is a state exemption that allows for forestry as an agricultural activity. Mr. Gale stated that wetlands have been flagged. Wetland agent Askew requested that specific trees be marked within the wetland so he can review the planned harvest prior to initiation. Mr. Gale specified that there is a 10 year regeneration plan. Based on the information submitted, Wetland Agent Askew indicated that the plan, including logging in the wetland, appears to comply with the agricultural exemption

Member Walton made motion, seconded by member Greg Genlot, to confirm that the plan complies with the agriculture exemption and to request that trees are marked in the wetland and reviewed by Mr. Askew prior to harvest.

Vice-Chairman Todd Whitford recused himself.

Members in favor – 4

Recused - 1

Motion carried

IV. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

NONE

III. STAFF/COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Wetland Agent Askew submitted the August 24, 2014 report to members. Members discussed the Ninth District Road stream crossing. Member Walton shared his concerns regarding the potential destruction of the "Twin Tube" bridge on Maple Street, questioning if replacing the bridge is necessary. He stated the bridge has historical significance.

Member Dan Fraro made a motion, seconded by member Candace Aleks, to accept the report as written.

All in favor, motion carried

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES 7/2

Alternate Wood made a motion, seconded by member Fraro, to accept the minutes as written.

All in favor, motion carried

V. ADJOURNMENT

Vice-Chairman Whitford made a motion, seconded by alternate Wood, to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 p.m.

All in favor, motion carried

Respectfully Submitted,

Stephanie Benson
Recording Secretary