

Leverett Conservation Commission

Meeting Minutes

Monday, April 4, 2016 7:30pm

Leverett Town Hall - First Floor Meeting Room

9 Montague Road, Leverett, MA

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 p.m. by Commission Chair, Isaiah Robison.

Commissioners Present: Laurie Brown, Chris Nelson, David Powicki, Carl Siebing, Ralph Tiner, Andrew Young

Public Attendees: Paul Bourke, Lawrence Farber, William and Mary Sieruta, Mark Stinson (DEP)

- Reviewed and approved March 7, 2016 minutes. Unanimously approved (motion made by Ralph Tiner, seconded by David Powicki)

- 7:40 p.m. Public Hearing for NOI - 17 Richardson Rd (Terry Kayne)
 - Terry was not able to attend the hearing. A new narrative was submitted, but it did not reflect the conversation held with the applicant at last Saturday's site visit.
 - The Commission expressed the need for an updated diagram indicating which trees are to be cut and where new trees will be planted, as well as a new narrative describing the site visit discussion and how trees will be removed from the site.
 - Ralph Tiner suggested planting 1.5 ~ 2"-diameter white oaks in area of impact. Mark Stinson stipulated that all slash should be deposited at least 25' away from the streambank.
 - David Powicki made a motion to **continue** the hearing; seconded by Ralph Tiner. Vote unanimous.

- 7:46 p.m. Public Meeting for RDA - 18 Depot Rd (Bill & Mary Sieruta)
 - Bill & Mary would like to relocate the discharge point for their sump pump drainage and roof leaders away from their farm pond.
 - David Powicki made a motion to issue a **Negative 3** determination with the following conditions. Seconded by Ralph Tiner; vote unanimous.
 - *If the dug area remains exposed for more than one day, install haybales from the current discharge point to the driveway to protect the farm pond. The Commission retains the right to inspect the site until the site has been stabilized. Both Option 1 and 2 as depicted on the plan are permitted.*

- 8:00 p.m. Public Meeting for RDA - Right of Way management for New England Central RR
 - Keith Morris was unable to attend the meeting. Ralph Tiner made a motion to **continue** the meeting; seconded by Isaiah Robison. Vote unanimous.

- 8:15 p.m. Public Meeting for RDA - 44 Putney Rd (Paul Bourke for Lawrence Farber)

- Larry would like to build a deck with shed within 100' of the bank of Leverett Pond and install a seasonal dock. Mark Stinson noted that installation of a dock in a Great Pond requires a Ch91 License from the DEP after a determination is issued.
- Isaiah Robison made a motion to issue a **Negative 2** determination for the dock and a **Negative 3** determination for the deck with the following conditions. Seconded by David Powicki; vote unanimous.
 - *Applicant must notify the Conservation Commission 48h before work begins. The Commission retains the right to inspect the property until the site has been stabilized.*
- 8:30 p.m. Meeting with David Finn (Highway Superintendent) and Mark Stinson (DEP) about Emergency Certificates
 - David Finn was not able to attend due to snow. Mark Stinson described the uses for Emergency Certificates. He also suggested that he, the Commission, and the Highway Department arrange a meeting date in May or June to walk along a road with many stream crossings to assess their status and how to repair them when necessary.
- 8:45 p.m. Administrative Matters
 - Carl Siebing has been appointed as a new Conservation Commission member.
 - Laurie Brown will pursue discussions with the CPA about the possibility for a land acquisition fund with periodic deposits.
- 8:50 p.m. Old Business
 - FRCOG Permits: 105 Hemenway (David Palmer), 6 Ryans Hill (Kohl Construction for Joseph Levine) - No resource issues.
 - State-funded Pre-Disaster Mitigation Grant & Flood Mitigation Assistance Program
 - Agent inquired to neighboring towns about this grant; the DPW handles this grant in most. Agent will inform the Highway Department of the grant.
 - New trail on Teawaddle Hill Farm: David Powicki reported that trail markers are up and the trail is open.
- 8:57 p.m. New Business (Issues around town)
 - Agent reported inquiries about bringing >10 people to Teawaddle Hill Farm, girdled trees on Cave Hill Jewel Loop, and possible contamination of a vernal pool.
 - Received certificate for Ch61/61A Forest Lands (Starkweathert and Wescott)
- Next Meeting Date(s): May 2, 2016 at **7:15 p.m.**
 - The Commission voted to change the meeting time from 7:30p.m. to 7:15p.m. Motion made by Isaiah Robison, seconded by Laurie Brown. Vote unanimous. Change of time will be posted to the Town Newsletter and website.
- Meeting was adjourned at 9:10 p.m. (motion made by Isaiah Robison, seconded by Ralph Tiner).