

Conservation Commission – April 28, 2012

Members present were co-chairs Mr. Ned Wilson, Mr. John Weinstein & Mr. Peter Marks; meeting was called to order at 4:35 PM.

Meeting minutes of March 31st were accepted as presented.

Coote Hearing: Present for this hearing was property owner Mr. Thomas Coote. Applicant submitted a NOI for the purpose of a commercial aquaculture operation, specifically designed to raise brook trout for local retail and restaurant markets. Property location is 878 East Hill Road. Also present was abutter, Mr. Peter Scala, Attorney, Mr. Peter Puciloski on by half of Mrs. Roston and Board of Health Chairman, Mr. Larry Davis. Mr. Coote states that he would like to raise trout for local farmers and restaurants with a re-circling system that will recharge every day. Mr. Coote currently has four (4) tanks on site and doesn't plan to bring in any more tanks at this time. Mr. Coote advised the commission that he will use water from his own well supply to fill the tanks for the first time. Mr. Coote will get the fish to start is operation from Berkshire Hatchery that are disease free for the first time. Mr. Coote advised the commission that he is waiting for the aqua permit and can't do any work until the permit is granted. Mr. Coote mentions that hand dug wells will be used and wood chips will be used and wetland area will be planted. Mr. Coote also advised the commission that everything will be screened and waste will go into a composted area. Attorney, Mr. Puciloski inquired on if the fish will be killed & cleaned at site. Mr. Coote stated that he won't have a processing center at his site only the fish will be killed on site. Mr. Puciloski also mentions that if hand wells pumps are used then his client property will be affected. It was noted that Mr. Coote would have to apply for permits with the Board of Health. The Commission mentioned that they would like to get more guidance for this project from DEP before approving/disapproving. Mr. Coote suggests the commission contact Berkshire Hatchery Fisheries or NPDC for guidance. The Commission would also like to know what tank size will be used. The commission requested that Mr. Coote submit more detail (specific) narrative and plans in advance to the next scheduled meeting. Mr. Coote requested to continue his hearing until the next meeting. A motion was made, and so voted to continue this hearing until the next meeting.

Mr. Marks informed the commission that he received a call regarding a farmer (Elm Knoll Farm) on Clayton Mill River Road and that the farmer was pushing trees towards the river and dumping demolition materials and burying them in the river front area. Mr. Wilson will call DEP and speak with Mr. Mark Stinson on this situation. It appears that this project is not permitable and only needs to be clean up.

Old Business:

Mr. Wilson had spoken with DEP in regards last month meeting with Mr. Tom Levin in dredging a pond. DEP stated that if there is no stream goes in or out of pond and if the pond is less than 10,000 square ft then no filing is required.

Reviewed mail:

- a. DEP Issuance of simplified waterways – for P. Ferarri – Aberdeen Lane.
- b. Conservation Appraisals & Open Space & Recreation Plans for small communities grant – FY 13 DCS Annual Grant Round.
- c. Forest Cutting Plan – Bosworth Family Partnership – 772 Norfolk Road.

No other business was brought before the commission, so voted to adjourn at 5:49 PM.

Next regular meeting is scheduled for June 2nd.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Chretien
Secretary