

Conservation Commission – November 17, 2022 in Zoom/Conference Call Meeting

Members present were Dr. John Schreiber, Co-Chair Chair, Mr. Freddy Friedman, Co-Chair, Mrs. Nanci Worthington, and Dr. Doug Hyde. Others present were Ms. Nellie Wilson & Ms. Martha Bryan.

Meeting was called to order at 5 PM.

Meeting minutes of Minutes October 20th, 2022 were accepted as amended.

New Business:

Butler Hearing: Present for this hearing was representative, Ms. Nellie Wilson, Butternut Tree and Land Care. Property location is 33 Mill River Great Barrington Rd. Applicant submitted a RDA for the purpose of removing a 20" Poplar tree behind studio building with leaning over building, stump will remain in place on upper bank of the Konkapot River. Ms. Wilson mentioned that the property owner is worried that the tree is about to fall on the studio. Dr. Hyde mentioned that the tree is close to the studio and will fall on either on the studio or into the river. After discussion a motion was made, seconded and so voted to close this hearing. A motion was made, seconded and so to approve this application as a negative #3 with the following conditions: stump to remain, replace with one tree within the buffer zone.

Aibel Hearing: Present for this hearing was representative, Ms. Nellie Wilson, Butternut Tree and Land Care. Property location is 104 Hillside Ave (Laurel Banks Rd). Applicate submitted a RDA for the purpose of removing a dead Hemlock tree between house and lake, tree will be taken down when lake is frozen to cut down on debris/sawdust in the lake and all brush logs be will processed away from lake edge, stump with remain in place. Ms. Wilson mentioned that tree is right on the bank and is a threat to the house and deck. Mr. Friedman mentioned that the roots like they are going into the lake, and its difficult area to get to. Mrs. Worthington mentioned that the tree is dead. After discussion a motion was made, seconded and so voted to close this hearing. A motion was made, seconded and so voted to approve this application as a negative #3 with stump remaining in place and debris and sawdust removal as described.

Dr. Schreiber mentioned that the Planning Board has been researching large homes on Lake Buel, since most houses are small cottages which are now being knocked down to build large houses. He will reach out to the Planning Board about proposals other towns have done to reduce the size of lakefront new construction

Old Business:

*Mrs. Worthington mentioned that she has attended the recent Planning Board meeting to provide them with more information on available grants. Mrs. Worthington also mentioned

that there seem to be decreased interest in the Planning Board working on the Ridgeline Protection Act the moment.

*Dr. Hyde completed a follow site visit – Gagnon - 251 Hartsville Mill River Rd and two trees have been planted.

*Mrs. Worthington completed a follow site visit – Peterson – 0 Mill River Great Barrington Rd and twenty seven trees have been planted and two trees are marked as valuable.

*Dr. Schreiber mentioned that he has reached out to Ms. Shannon Boomsma regarding – Rennert – 346 NM Southfield Rd, to check on the status of filing a NOI. Ms. Boomsma requests that the Commission allow the NOI to be submitted in January, 2023. A motion was made, seconded and so voted to approve Ms. Boomsma request.

Mail:

*MACC – letter regarding Dr. Doug Hyde completed the fundamental training.

*Proof of registry recording – White Engineering Inc. – 164 Woodleigh Ave – Maher.

*Proof of registry recording – White Engineering Inc. – 108 Route 57 – Mawn.

*Forest Cutting Plan – Ormsbee – Sisson Hill Rd – 104 acres – approved & amended.

*Forest Cutting Plan – Rock – Stump Rd – 11+ acres – approved (property borders NM).

Next meeting is scheduled for January 19, 2023 at 5PM.

A motion was made, seconded and so voted to adjourn at 5:32 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Chretien
Secretary