

**TOWN OF AMHERST
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
January 13, 2021
7:00 PM**

Present: Brett Butler, Chair, Jenn Fair, Vice-Chair, Lawrence Ambs, Ana Devlin Gauthier, Fletcher Clark, Laura Pagliarulo and LeRoy Gaynor. Erin Jacque (Wetlands Administrator) and David Ziomek (Director of Conservation and Recreation/Assistant Town Manager).

7:00 PM **Comments from the Chair (Brett Butler)**
Director's Report (Dave)
Wetland Administrator's Report (Erin Jacque)

7:10 PM **Conservation Land Management**

Discussion of Historic Walk Project – North Amherst

Meg Gage presented. Historic walk with signage from Mill River to Puffers/Cushman. Similar to story book trail. Ziomek said he sees signage as a permanent feature. Gage will keep the board informed as the project moves forward.

Use of Con Com Land in Education Study

Applicant did not attend meeting.

7:30 PM **Notice of Intent** – Meredith Borenstein for Joseph Aimua for construction of a single-family home, well, and septic system outside of resource areas. Proposed Driveway is located in 200-foot Riverfront Area to Cushman Brook at 84 East Leverett Road (Map 3C, Lot 12).

Board recommended the following plan revisions:

- (1) Add note changing the driveway pitch to drain to the north and a grassed swale
- (2) Explore pervious pavers
- (3) Demarcate the planting area with stones to permanently demarcate the native plantings
- (4) Check flagging on the Riverfront Area and make sure accurate as shown on the plans (flag numbers noted on plans)

Public Comment:

Patricia and Robert (across the street)

Wetlands demarcated on the map, bank flags should be referenced on the plan and begin the 200-foot riverfront boundary.

Brian Beck

Lot lines have changed from previously approved plan.

Jacque noted that the owner was proposing to change the lot lines based on whether the proposed project was approved by the board.

*Moved by Devlin Gauthier to continue the hearing to January 27, 2021 at 7:30 PM.
Seconded by Pagliarulo. All in favor.*

7:35 PM **7:35 PM Request for Determination** – Kenneth Lauzier for Amherst College for replacement and repair of 4 footbridges on Amherst College Property. Foot bridges are located in wetlands and buffer zones and within priority habitat areas at Map 14D, Lot 1.

Katherine Sims also present on behalf of Amherst College. Revisions reviewed by Lauzier. Jacque noted the plans that were needed to determine proposed alterations to resource areas.

Moved by Pagliarulo to continue the hearing to January 27 at 7:35 PM. Seconded by Clark. All in favor.

Other Business

Enforcement Orders:

Canton Avenue permit #089-0629 (status update)

Update: Jacque stated owner's surveyor could not get out to the site until April 2021. Jacque noted that she contacted the original surveyor and they were available right now.

Ben Baily

Stated that people were out cutting trees on the property in December of 2019 with no plan and no map.

Gaston (buyer of the Fabos home)

Noted that he observed heavy equipment on the site. Noted he received a notice in the mail that the owner wanted to waive abutter notifications for plan revisions.

Jaimie Sweeting (179 North Whitney Street)

Stated that the owners have ignored the plans.

Mary Anderson

Noted that work taking place to mark boundaries of the property encroached on her property.

Julia (abutter)

Stated that damage has already been done. There should be fining and restoration. The request for extension should be denied.

All abutters asked to be notified of future issues.

Ziomek stated that staff should not spend time helping the developer.

Board recommended no further action by staff.

Requests for Certificates of Compliance

Eversource Podick Substation DEP#089-0667

Moved by Clark to issue a Certificate of Compliance to Eversource DEP #089-0667. Seconded by Devlin Gauthier. All in favor.

Applebrook Subdivision - Lot 8 (multiple Orders)

Moved by Clark to issue Certificated of Compliance for all 3 outstanding Orders of Conditions on lot 8 of Applebrook Subdivision. Seconded by Devlin Gauthier. All in favor.

Emergency Certifications

Hickory Ridge – Remediation

Moved by Clark to ratify Emergency Certification for Hickory Ridge. Seconded by Ambs. All in favor.

Pomeroy Court – Flooding

Moved by Clark to ratify Emergency Certification for Pomeroy Court flooding. Seconded by Devlin Gauthier. All in favor.

682 Station Rd – Hazard Trees

Moved by Devlin Gauthier to ratify Emergency Certification for 682 Station Road. Seconded by Clark. All in favor.

Moved by Devlin Gauthier to adjourn at 10:07 PM. Seconded by Ambs. All in favor.