

TOWN OF AMHERST
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
January 22, 2020
1ST Floor Meeting Room, TOWN HALL
7:00 PM

Present: Jenn Fair, Vice-chair; Lawrence Ambs, Fletcher Clark, and Ana Devlin Gauthier. Erin Jacque, Wetlands Administrator, David Ziomek, Director.

Meeting opened at 7:05 PM by Fair.

Director's Report (Dave)

Ziomek gave an update on the following items:

- Agricultural Commission: Community Gardens: potential locations:
 - Fort River Farm: NOI for gardens and parking lot.
 - New Szala property
 - Wentworth Farm
- Healthy Hampshire: Food insecurities, PVTA
- Hickory Ridge Solar, Phase I (looking for contamination, oil tanks, gas tanks, herbicide and pesticide)

7:10 PM Conservation Land Management – TBD

John Root – Presentation/discussion on pollinators (10 minute presentation, 10-15 minute Q/A)

John did not show up to present.

DPW Emergency Certification – Gull Pond Beaver Dam

Moved by Ambs to approve DPW Emergency Certification for Gull Pond Beaver Dam. Seconded by Clark. All in favor.

7:30 PM Notice of Intent (cont'd from 10/09/19) – Tofino Associates Inc. for construction of a single family house with associated driveway, utilities, and landscaping within buffer zone to bordering vegetated wetlands at Lot #1 Concord Way (Map 21D, Parcel 139).

Notice of Intent (cont'd from 10/09/19) – Tofino Associates Inc. for construction of a single family house with associated driveway, utilities, and landscaping within buffer zone to bordering vegetated wetlands at Lot #2 Concord Way (Map 21D, Parcel 138).

Notice of Intent (cont'd from 10/09/19) – Tofino Associates Inc. for construction of a single family house with associated driveway, utilities, and landscaping within buffer zone to bordering vegetated wetlands at Lot #5 Concord Way (Map 21D, Parcel 135).

Notice of Intent (cont'd from 10/09/19) – Tofino Associates Inc. for construction of a single family house with associated driveway, utilities, and landscaping within buffer zone to bordering vegetated wetlands at Lot #6 Concord Way (Map 21D, Parcel 134).

Notice of Intent (cont'd from 10/09/19) – Tofino Associates Inc. for construction of a single family house with associated driveway, utilities, and landscaping within buffer zone to bordering vegetated wetlands at Lot #7 Concord Way (Map 21D, Parcel 133).

Notice of Intent (cont'd from 10/09/19) – Tofino Associates Inc. for construction of a single family house with associated driveway, utilities, and landscaping within buffer zone to bordering vegetated wetlands at Lot #8 Concord Way (Map 21D, Parcel 132).

Moved by Devlin Gauthier to continue the public hearings for Tofino, lot 1, 2, 5, 6, and 7 to March 11, 2020 at 7:30 PM. Seconded by Ambs. All in favor.

7:40 PM Presentation from Tyler and Brad – Open Space Update (work done in 2019, planned items for 2020)

7:50 PM Notice of Intent – SWCA Environmental Consultants for Dredging of the University of Massachusetts Campus Pond at 640 North Pleasant Street (Map 8C, Parcel 13B).

Moved by Ambs to continue the public hearing to March 11, 2020 at 7:45. Seconded by Devlin Gauthier. All in favor.

8:05 PM Request for Determination – Berkshire Design Associates for proposed building addition to create a duplex dwelling, removal of 2-car garage, new gravel driveway, parking and associated work at 187 College Street (Map 14B, Lot 169).

Michael Liu presented for Berkshire Design Group. He explained the plan to demo existing garage and move parking away from the wetland toward the road. Jacque asked who would be monitoring erosion controls. Site manager stated he would monitor. Fair asked to move the driveway out of the 100-foot buffer. Liu said he would move driveway as far away as possible. Clark requested boulders at the edge of driveway to keep cars off of the grass. Fair requested native plantings. Locations for plantings were discussed. It was agreed the plantings would be placed in the back 10-feet of the lot. Jacque encouraged the board to wait on approval until a revised plan was submitted.

Moved by Devlin Gauthier to continue the public meeting for 187 College Street to the February 12, 2020 meeting at 7:45 PM. Seconded by Ambs. Vote 4/0.

8:20 PM Request for Determination – Confirm whether resource area boundaries depicted on the submitted plans are accurate under the MA Wetlands Protection Act and Town of Amherst Wetlands Protection Bylaw Regulations at 214 Pomeroy Lane (20C, Parcel 22 & 23).

Moved by Clark to continue the public meeting for 214 Pomeroy Lane Request for Determination to May 13, 2020 at 7:30 PM. Seconded by Ambs. Vote 4/0.

Moved by Clark to adjourn the meeting at 9:08 PM. Seconded by Devlin Gauthier. All in favor.