



Office of the
CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Town of Townsend,
272 Main Street
Townsend, Massachusetts 01469

Michael Turgeon, Chairman

Christine Vitale, Clerk

James Le Cuyer

James Deroian, Vice-Chairman

Amelia Gentry

John Hussey

Karen Hill

Minutes

Memorial Hall-Selectmen's Chambers

Wednesday, November 15, 2017 @ 730PM

1.0 Preliminaries

1.1. Open Meeting- MT opened the meeting at 7:34pm.

1.2. Roll Call- Chairman, Michael Turgeon (MT), Vice-Chairman, James Deroian (JD), John Hussey (JH), James Le Cuyer (JL), Karen Hill (KH), Amelia Gentry(AG) and Clerk, Christine Vitale (CV).

1.3 Topics not reasonably anticipated by the Chair 48 hours in advance of the meeting

4.2 Letter from Natural Heritage to DCR- Forestry Project

4.3 Memo from CBO in regards to 59 West Meadow Road

4.4 Email from Jenifer Pettie in regards to activities at OMHP

KH moves to add the following items to the agenda in the appropriate places. JH seconded. All in favor.

1.4 Chair's Report- MT- There has been no progress in filling the LCU or Planning Board position.

Will try to work on Administrator's review. Administrator position has been approved for the additional five hours.

1.5 Agent's Report –DH-Site visit was conducted at 177 Lunenburg Road with DEP. They have put together a few restoration plans, none of which were approved. Met with Natural Heritage in regards to turtle habitat.

1.6 Review of Minutes –KH moves to approve and release minutes with the noted changes. JH seconded. All in favor.

2.0 Hearings and Appointments

2.1 7:45pm Request for Determination of Applicability TWB 2017-132

Applicant: Kevin Smith

Location: 108 Warren Road

Project: The proposed projects is for the removal of trees, regrading along foundation, removal of stumps, replacement of a fieldstone retaining wall and replacement of a distribution box.

MT opened the meeting, legal notice read. Kevin Smith was present. Project is for the removal of trees, stumps, replacements of a fieldstone retaining wall and replacement of distribution box. There is a small ditch on the property that he would like to fill as well. DH had previously conducted a site visit. MT- Are you expanding the lawn at all? KS- No expansion, just taking out trees that are a hazard. KS will not be removing stumps from cut trees in the back. MT- Run some wattles at the edge of the lawn. DH- wattles should be to the left of the driveway. MT- We don't want sediment getting into the road.

KH moves to issue a Negative 2 Determination with a condition that wattles will be installed following the tree line. JL seconded. All in favor.

KH moves to close the meeting. JL seconded. All in favor.

2.2 8:00pm Request for Determination of Applicability TWB 2017-131

Applicant: Gary Amadon

Location: 5 Wheeler Road

Project: The proposed project is for the installation of underground water utilities through an intermittent stream.

MT opened the meeting, legal notice was read. Gary Amadon was present. Project is for the installation of underground water utilities through an intermittent stream. Mr. Amadon has well water now and has had some issues and would like to run water. Eight months out of the year the intermittent stream is dry. DH and JH have gone out to the property.

JH moves to issue a Negative 2 Determination with a condition that an inspection will be conducted before and after. KH seconded.

KH moves to close the meeting. JL seconded. All in favor.

2.3 8:15pm Request for Determination of Applicability TWB 2017-130

Applicant: Gary Shephard

Location: 54 Main Street

Project: The proposed project is for mowing and maintenance of vegetation located within the river front area.

MT opened the meeting, legal notice read. Gary Shephard was present. Project is for mowing and maintenance of vegetation located within the riverfront area. GS- In 1996 the building was torn down and it has been maintained ever since. DH- visited site and noticed no disturbance and noted that the area is very clean and accessible to the public and is pre-existing lawn. MT- Only concern is that a small area is in Natural Heritage's jurisdiction. DH will get in touch with Natural Heritage. MT- So you allow it to be used by the public for recreational use? GS- Yes, people use the area for access to the river. MT-It is not nesting habitat and maintaining the vegetation is keeping the invasive out. The area has been historically maintained. JH moves to issue a Negative 2 Determination on the basis that it has historically been maintained, and that it is for maintenance only, no expansion and is open to the public for recreational use. KH seconded. All in favor.

DH will be in touch with Natural Heritage.

JH withdraws his vote.

KH moves to continue to 12-6-17 at 7:45pm. CV seconds. All in favor.

CV steps out

KH moves for a five minute recess at 9:00pm. JL seconds. All in favor.

Meeting is reopened at 9:05pm.

2.4 8:30pm Request for Determination of Applicability TWB 2017-129

Applicant: Gary Shephard

Location: 47 Main Street

Project: The proposed project is for maintaining vegetation for safe line of sight for first responders and fire apparatus entering Rt. 119, located within the buffer of a wetland.

MT opened the meeting, legal notice read. Gary Shephard was present. Proposed project is for maintaining vegetation for safe line of sight for first responders and fire apparatus entering Rt. 119, located within the buffer of a wetland. MT- I observed golden rod with a row of trees in the area. DH had visited the site. MT- We need to see if it is within the 35'. KH- The previous commission waived the 35' to 20'. DH- the WPA allows access for safety and this would fall within that scope.

AG steps out

MT- We will need to do another site walk to see if it is within the 35'.

AG returns

KH moves to continue to 12-6-17 at 8:00pm. JL seconded. All in favor.

3.0 Work Session:

3.1 Compliance Issues

3.1.2 59 West Meadow – 4.3 is also in regards to this address. A cease and desist has been issued from the Building Inspector. MT- We have probable cause to believe that there is a violation based on the memo from the Building Inspector. JH- Send certified letter and review DEP process and procedure for enforcement.

3.2 Review proposed plan for West Meadow Road Bridge submitted by DOT – DH will review and comment if necessary.

3.3 Approve payment to Dave Henkels for mileage reimbursement in the amount of \$ 25.54 from the WPA account. KH moves to reimburse DH in the amount of \$25.54 from the WPA account. JL seconded. All in favor.

3.4 Approve payment to Lyndsy Butler for mileage reimbursement in the amount of \$91.73 from the WPA account. KH moves to reimburse LB \$91.73 from the WPA account. JH seconded. All in favor.

3.5 Review RDA checklist –reviewed

4.0 Correspondence:

4.1 Notice from ZBA regarding Accessory Apt. Renewals – noted

4.2 Letter from Natural Heritage to DCR- Forestry Project – read

4.3 Memo from CBO in regards to 59 West Meadow Road- read

4.4 Email from Jenifer Pettit in regards to activities at OMHP- read

5.0 Items for discussion at the next meeting

6.0 Advertisements and Conferences

7.0 Next meeting: December 6, 2017 at 7:30pm

8.0 Adjournment – KH moves to adjourn at 10:20pm. CV seconded. All in favor.