

Montague Conservation Commission

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MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, July 8, 2010

Commissioners Present: Mark Fairbrother - Chair, Donna Francis, Addie Holland, Donna Petersen, Sean Werle, Walter Ramsey – Montague Town Planner / Conservation Agent

Approval of Minutes: April 8, 2010

Sean Werle motioned to approve the April 8, 2010 meeting minutes as amended by Addie Holland, seconded by Addie Holland. All members present voted in favor.

Appoint Conservation Agent:

Motion by Sean Werle to appoint Walter Ramsey Conservation Agent, second by Donna Petersen. All members present voted in favor.

Annual Commission Reorganization:

Mr. Fairbrother invited other commissioners to request appointment as Chair; there were no takers. Motion to appoint Mark Fairbrother Chair and Deb Picking Vice-Chair by Sean Werle, second by Donna Petersen. All commissioners present voted aye except Mr. Fairbrother, who abstained. 4-0-1.

Upcoming Business:

David Gendron of 76 West Mineral Road in Millers Falls was in to inform the Commission he is pursuing an APR on some of his and his wife Amanda's property off West Mineral Road, identified as Assessor's May 18, Lot 6. He pointed out the land on an aerial photo of the area, gave a brief history of the area and its present status. He is working with various groups and agencies to make the APR happen.

Lou Ekus of 44 Center Street in Montague Center was in to give the Commission a general overview of maintenance issues with the pond behind his house and the inlet canal which supplies water from the Sawmill River. The pond and canal are filling with silt and debris and Mr. Ekus would like to clean them both out. Mr. Ramsey will investigate procedures in the regulations and offer guidance to Mr. Ekus. Mr. Ekus was advised to firm up his plans and proposal to provide further clarity. He will probably submit a filing for the August, 2010 regular meeting.

Conservation Agent updates:

Mr. Ramsey will be attending a MACC Wetlands Delineation Training Workshop

Jiang Farm: Barn Construction update. The barn previously approved by the Commission under RDA #2009-02 was ordered moved further back from the road (Center Street) to comply with zoning setbacks. A new contractor has been retained by Jiang Farm. This contractor submitted a revised plan which shows the building moved away from the road and with slightly smaller dimensions, but with the side near the wetlands unchanged as to distances. Commissioners noted that the math on the site plan no longer works out, and a report from the site indicates the contractor may be moving the building closer to the wetlands in violation of the RDA. Site visits will be made ASAP; an Enforcement Order will be issued if necessary.

Open Space & Recreation Plan update. The FRCOG has received funding to finish the Plan update and it should be done this fall.

Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn at 8:10 PM by Addie Holland, seconded by Sean Werle, all present voted in favor.

Next scheduled meeting: August 12, 2010 at 6:30 PM

Approved by: _____ Date: _____