

Montague Conservation Commission

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MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, November 12, 2015

Commissioners present: Mark Fairbrother - Chair, Donna Francis, Addie Holland, Alex Peterkin, Sean Werle (until 7 PM).

Walter Ramsey – Montague Town Planner/Conservation Agent (absent).

Approval of Minutes: August 13, 2015, September 10, 2015, October 8, 2015

Motion to approve August 13, 2015 minutes by Addie Holland, second by Sean Werle, 5-0.

Motion to approve September 9, 2010 minutes by Sean Werle, second by Alex Peterkin, 5-0.

Approval of the minutes from October 8, 2015 was postponed until December 10, 2015 at the request of Commission members.

Enforcement Order Update: James Smith, 420 Turners Falls Road. Enforcement Order issued for unauthorized fill in BWV.

Mr. Smith was not present.

A letter from Mr. Ramsey to Mr. Smith dated October 14, 2015 was read (attachment A). That letter offered an on-site meeting by the ConCom with Mr. Smith and specified conditions the ConCom requires to resolve the issues raised in the Enforcement Order, and set deadlines for these steps to be taken. There has been no reply from Mr. Smith to date.

An email from Mark Stinson of Mass DEP to Walter Ramsey (attachment B) regarding what the ConCom should require of Mr. Smith was discussed.

Mark Stinson is to be informed that Mr. Smith has been unresponsive and is in violation of the Enforcement Order.

Mr. Smith is to be sent a letter explaining his violation and the consequences if he continues to remain in violation.

Sign Order of Conditions for NOI #2015-04, Walnut Street Condominiums.

This order of conditions was approved by the Conservation Commission on October 8, 2015. Tonight the Commissioners had the document available for signing.

Public Hearing, Notice of Intent #2015-07 filed by Charles Momnie for FirstLight Hydro Generating Company for properties identified as Camp 4E (Assessors map 17, Lot 12). Applicant plans to stabilize and restore 85 linear feet of eroding bank along the Connecticut River. Votes may be taken.

Present for the applicant were Micky Marcus, consultant from New England Environmental, and Charles Momnie from FirstLight Hydro.

Mr. Werle recused himself from #2015-07 and left the meeting.

Mr. Marcus presented the project – a section of of slope has slipped near the camp building, impacting approximately 85 of bank. The project is to stabilize the slope to prevent further impact. Also, a small amount of miscellaneous junk from historical resident activities will be re moved from the bank.

Comment letter has been received from DEP (file # 229-0245) (*attachment C*).
No response has been received from Mass. Natural Heritage.

Applicant requested that the Hearing be continued to allow time for Mass Natural Heritage to return comments, if any, on the project. Hearing is continued until Thursday December 10, 2015 at 6:30 PM

Millers Falls Road landslide update.

The landslide has been stabilized and the debris at the toe of slope has been removed.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn at 7:25 PM by Donna, seconded by Alex, all present voted in favor (4-0).

Next scheduled meeting: Thursday December 10, 2015 at 6:30 PM

Approved by Commission vote: December 10, 2015,
Conservation Commission Chair: Mark E. Fairbrother