

# Montague Conservation Commission

One Avenue A, Turners Falls, MA 01376

(413) 863-3200 Ext. 207

Fax: (413) 863-3222

Email: [planner@montague-ma.gov](mailto:planner@montague-ma.gov)

## MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, January 9, 2010

Upstairs Meeting Room, Town Hall, One Avenue A, Turners Falls, MA

**Commissioners Present:** Laurie Reid, Donna Francis, Mark Fairbrother - Chair, Deb Hensen

**Commissioners Absent:** Alex, Justin, Sean

**Staff:** Walter Ramsey – Agent

Mark Fairbrother called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

**6:30 Approval of Minutes:** *MOTION by DF to approve the minutes of December 12, 2019. MOTION passed with amendment for typos. Seconded by LR MOTION PASSED.*

**6:32 Request for Determination RDA #2019-03** filed by Katherine Smith for a new single family septic system. 157 Ripley Road, MAP 52 LOT 61.

Present: Katherine Smith

WR described the proposed house, septic system and well. Discussed location of driveway. There is an impoundment on the property that pre-dates the WPA. Deb Hensen reported on her visit to the site. She concurs that proposed septic site and all impacts are at least 50 feet from flagged wetlands. Flagged wetland are not on the plans. DH suggests that the determination should state that no boundaries are confirmed.

No public comment was received.

*MOTION by DH to issue a negative deamination, box 3, for RDA #2019-03 filed by Katherine Smith, with a condition that the determination does not confirm any resource area boundaries. Seconded by DF. All approved. Motion Passed.*

**6:40 RDA #2019-04 Request for Determination RDA # 2019-04** filed by Eversource Energy for a new EV charging Station at the First Street fish ladder parking lot, MAP 4 LOT 6.

Present: Melissa Kaplan (BSC Group)

Melissa Kaplan describes infrastructure improvements necessary for the charging station. Area not designated as flood plain and the land is previously disturbed. Negative 2 determination of impact by Walter Ramsey. MOTION by DH . Second by MF. MOTION PASSES 6:47PM.

### 6:48 Conservation Agent Report

Topic not anticipated: Proposed Garbiel Agriculture Protection Restriction (APR) Map 39 Lot 37- Old Greenfield Road. WR reports that the land was required to be re-appraised and as a result, the value of the APR increased \$15,000 in value. Dept of Agriculture (DAR) is needs the town to meet this funding gap in order to close in March. WR was notified yesterday. Franklin Land Trust (FLT) has indicated that they will split the difference (\$7,500) with the town. In total, the town would be expected to contribute \$40K from the

Conservation Fund in order to provide the match to purchase the Agriculture Preservation Restriction. The Commissioners reviewed the conservation value of this land and were supportive of providing the additional \$7,500 toward the match. Since it was not on the agenda, the Commission will take a formal vote at the February meeting. WR will coordinate with the FLT and the DAR.

Discussion of 2020 Commission Priorities:

- Commission would like to continue managed cutting on the north side of Sawmill River Recreation Area in Montague Center
- Communication: Need more efficient way to distribute large files. Hard copy is always available for review at Conservation Officer. Agent will look into drop box or other file sharing service. Agent will try not crash commissioner's emails with large files.
- Site Visits: Commission preference is for Agent to set up site visit and invite commissioners. Attendance is optional but they appreciate the ability view the site with the Agent and applicant.

***MOTION*** by *DH* to adjourn the meeting 7:15PM. Seconded by *LR* . ***Motion passed.***

Approved by: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_