Minutes

Lee Conservation Commission

Land Use Room Lee Town Hall 32 Main Street

Wednesday June 1, 2016 7:00 PM

Commissioners Present: Kathy Arment, Chair; Stu Dalheim; John Philpott; Marilyn Hansen; John Coty, Jr.; John Philpott

Members of the Public Present: Ray Grogan, Laurel Lake Preservation Assn. (LLPA); Matt Puntin, SK Design Group; Ken Wagner, WRS Inc.; Susan Erdos; Mark Alimansky, LLPA; Harold Sherman, LLPA; Roger Scheurer, LLPA; Thomas Lewis, TEC

* **Continued Notice of Intent Mary Lee Johansen 10 Church Street Longcope Park DEP #196-0427 Construction of a footbridge** Ms. Johansen was not in attendance. Mr. Puntin stated that he had talked to Chris Johnson of the Boy Scouts who is still working on the details of the project. **Motion made and seconded to continue to the July 6, 2016 meeting with the applicant’s consent. Unanimous approval**
* **Scenic Mountains Act Request for Determination of Applicability SMA 13 Kristen O’Brien 343 Forest Street Construction of a 50’ x 100’ garage within an already developed area** Mr. Puntin presented the plan. The applicant has gone to the Planning Board for a special permit. The project is in SMA zone 3. The retaining wall will be built into the foundation as they are cutting into the hillside. The bank will be stabilized with erosion control fabric and hydro seed. It is doubtful if the building will be seen from Forest Street. **Motion made and seconded to issue a SMA negative 3 determination. Unanimous approval**
* **Continued Request for Determination of Applicability TEC Associates Housatonic Railroad right-of-ways Vegetation control** Mr. Lewis from TEC explained the plan and presented a new map with 2 changes which add no-spraying zones. Under the Dept. of Agriculture regulations a 5 year vegetation plan is needed. The railroad must go to each community to get the Commission to approve the wetland boundaries. Every year a yearly organizational plan is sent out with more details. The commission has 45 days to comment on this and may ask for changes during that time. Spraying may be done in a buffer zone but is not allowed within 10’ of a resource area. Mr. Lewis checked the boundaries in Lee last month. A site visit will be held on June 10, 2016. **Motion made and seconded to continue to the June 15, 2016 meeting at 7 PM with the applicant’s consent. Unanimous approval**
* **Jan Cimini Question about fill on property** Ms. Cimini unable to be present; a date will be set for another agenda time.
* **Laurel Lake Preservation Association Report of the last 5 years for Laurel Lake drawdown** Mr. Wagner presenting. Zebra mussels need a hard substrate to grow on and most of this is in the upper portion of the lake. Now a 3’ drawdown is done. It has been found that the mussels dry out in 4-5 days and die if not in the water. The water quality of the lake is great and the lake has the lowest density of zebra mussels of any lake that has them. There are 7 species of plants in the lake. Milfoil is one of the most abundant. Spiny naiad is another. The milfoil needs to be destroyed as this is where a lot of the mussels are growing. Handpulling is one good option. Mr. Wagner considers the drawdown a success as it is knocking down half of the population of zebra mussels. A 5’ drawdown would be even better as it would get 75% of the mussels. If a 5’ drawdown was done, after a week or so, the lake could be returned to a 3’ drawdown level. With the milfoil pulled, an even greater success rate would be had. A date has yet to be set for a joint meeting with Lenox.
* **Approval of the minutes for the May 18, 2016 meeting. Motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes. Unanimous approval**

**Motion to adjourn made and seconded. Unanimous approval.** Meeting adjourned at 8:35

PM.

Respectfully submitted:

Kathleen Vsetecka