Minutes

Lee Conservation Commission Town Hall 32 Main Street Via Zoom Wednesday, April 7, 2021

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

Commissioners Absent: Stu Dalheim

Members of the Public Present: Gary Pfeiffer; Amer Raza. MassDOT; Catherine Hibbard; Brian and Liz

Cogswell

Construction of a single family house with amenities Basic RDA paperwork has been filed; cutting of trees has been done. There were problems with Mr. Pfeiffer getting into the meeting. Motion by Ms. Arment with a second by Mr. Philpott to put this agenda item on hold until later in the meeting due to technical reasons. Vote: Ms. Arment, aye; Mr. Philpott, aye; Ms. Hansen, aye; Mr. Coty, aye. Motion passed unanimously.

Request for Determination of Applicability TEC Associates for Housatonic Railroad Approval of boundaries of resource areas No representative present. Motion by Ms. Arment with a second by Mr. Coty to continue to the next meeting on April 21, 2021. Vote: Ms. Arment, aye; Mr. Philpott, aye; Ms. Hansen, aye; Mr. Coty, aye. Motion approved unanimously.

Request for Determination of Applicability MassDOT, Highway Division Resurfacing and related work on a section of Route 20 from the I 90 ramp to the Maple Street Intersection Amer Raza presented. The proposed project is the resurfacing and related work on the part of Route 20 in Lee from the intersection of Route 20 with Maple Street to I 90 interchange. The total length of the project is approximately 1.2 miles. Work will include micro milling, 2 inches of hot mix asphalt overlay, pavement markings and other incidental work. All work will be performed in the existing layout; all drainage will retain existing outlets. Sediment control barriers will be installed. Motion by Mr. Philpott with a second by Mr. Coty to issue a Negative 3 Determination with the condition that straw bales or other erosion controls be used on the sides of the road for protection. Vote: Mr. Philpott, aye; Mr. Coty, aye; Ms. Arment, aye; Ms. Hansen, aye. Motion approved unanimously.

Informal discussion re Boyd Technologies Future facility expansion Mr. Crawley Mr. Crawley was unable to be present

Informal discussion re work at 230 Church Street Questions about the work there—files need to be checked

Informal discussion re Laurel Lake Brook erosion on Laurel Street Brian and Liz Cogswell presented; Mr. Zerbato could not be present. There is a stream in back of Summer Street coming from Laurel Lake. This stream has changed from a 6 ft. stream to a 12 ft. stream and has made a new path—the water now does not go directly into the culvert under the road as it once did, and because of that, a lot of erosion is occurring. Mr. Zerbato has been contacted to see what the highway department can do to remedy this situation as the stream is on town property. Ms. Arment will contact Mr. Zerbato to get photos and recommendations.

Concern re Golden Hill Town Forest Catherine Hibbard Ms. Hibbard and her husband live by the main trail. They have noticed that someone has marked a new trail; they would like to know who marking the trail, if there will be trees or other plants cut, etc.. The special concern is the area by a stream. At this time no clearing has been done. Mr. Coty did a site visit and noted the new trail as marked goes down Conservation will remove the new flag markings in the Town Forest.

(A notification was received from the state stating that a lot more people are hiking now and people are coming into the state forests and making unauthorized trails. They would like to be notified if anyone notices this happening. The property being discussed tonight is a town property, but the town should be notified if any new trails, cutting, etc. is occurring.)

Return to the first item on the agenda: Moose Drive Map 25 Lot 41 Mr. Pfeiffer presented his plan as submitted. About 30,000 sq ft. of land was cleared of trees for a house, septic, lawn, etc. The lot is approximately 1 acre. They plan did not contain information needed for the Scenic Mountain Act. The Commission noted to Mr. Pfeiffer that he needed to be aware of the regulations; the cutting of these trees without a Scenic Mountain Act permit was in violation of said Act. The Act is to protect the views seen from different elevations and the cutting of trees can have a great effect on this. Mr. Pfeiffer needs to draw up a detailed plan with measurements showing exactly where the foundation of the new house is or will be, where the septic system will be, where the driveway will be, etc. Also, there needs to specific information on how many trees were cut down (the number cut down) and their location before the cutting, as well as specifics of the work that has been done and is planned to be done. Mr. Pfeiffer is to Stop All Work on the site. Motion by Ms. Arment with a second by Mr. Coty to continue the SMA Request for Determination with the applicant's consent to the April 21, 2021 meeting. Vote: Ms. Arment, aye; Mr. Philpott, aye; Mr. Coty, aye; Ms. Hansen, aye. Motion approved unanimously.

Motion by Ms. Arment with a second by Mr. Philpott to approve the minutes of the March 17, 2021 meeting. Vote: Ms. Arment, aye; Mr. Philpott, aye; Ms. Hansen, aye; Mr. Coty, aye. Motion approved unanimously.

Motion to adjourn by Ms. Arment with a second by Mr. Philpott at 8:30 PM. Vote: Ms. Arment, aye; Mr. Philpott, aye; Mr. Coty, aye; Ms. Hansen, aye. Motion approved unanimously.

Documents: SMA RDA Moose Drive Map 25 Lot 4; RDA TEC for Housatonic Railroad; RDA MassDOT; minutes of the March 17, 2021 meeting.