



Town of Ayer Conservation Commission

Town Hall * One Main Street * Ayer, MA01432 * 978-772-8218 * 978-772-3017(fax)

Minutes for **01/08/09** – **Approved 01/22/09**

Location: Ayer Police Station Meeting Rm.

Members present: Bill Daniels (BD, Chair), Dave Bodurtha (Vice-Chair), George Bacon (GB), Takashi Tada (TT, Clerk), Jessica Gugino (JG), Becky DaSilva-Conde (CA, Conservation Administrator)

APAC taped: No

7:00 PM

- **Meeting Minutes Approval**
 - 12/04/08: Minor correction on Page 2.
 - GB moved to approve minutes from 12/04/08, as amended; JG 2nd.
 - Motion approved unanimously.

- **Accounts Payable**
 - CPA Article 23 – Greenway Committee/Boy Scouts projects
 - Invoice from G.V. Moore Lumber: \$30.00 for miscellaneous hardware (fasteners for Boy Scouts bridge construction at Long Pond dam.
 - GB moved to approve payment of invoice; JG 2nd.
 - Motion approved unanimously.

- **Public Hearing: NOI – 8 Old Sandy Pond Road**
 - Kevin Shivo & Marina Giovannini presented their Notice of Intent application for work to replace an existing deck with a new, larger deck and three-season porch.
 - The proposed plan calls for a total of 12 footings for the deck and stairs, plus a concrete pad for the stairs.
 - BD stressed that the plan should be to dig footing holes manually (no machinery). Also asked to verify the number of footings required.
 - There is bordering vegetated wetland (BVW) approximately 14 feet west of the house; therefore all work will be within buffer zone (100 feet) of BVW.
 - Access and storage of materials will be on the east side of the house, farthest from BVW.
 - The plan needs to be revised to show erosion controls, access, materials storage area, methodology for digging holes, and procedure for disposing of materials.
 - Erosion controls should be placed around the work area. Erosion controls on the west side should be above the slope to BVW.
 - Applicants have not notified abutters or received a DEP file number.
 - GB moved to continue hearing to 1/22/09; JG 2nd.
 - Motion approved unanimously.

- **Public Meeting: RDA – Lot 1 Sewer & Water Service, Pondview Acres**
 - David Hicks (Robert M. Hicks, Inc.) and Chuck Strickland (Meisner Brem Corp.) presented their Request for Determination of Applicability for work to connect municipal water/sewer and decommission old septic tank, at the existing house on Lot 1, Pondview Acres.



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- The work will be done in the front lawn between the house and Badger Road (Orchid Lane), between 65 – 95 feet from Long Pond. Hay bales/silt fence will be placed on either side of house to prevent any erosion.
- Septic tank will be decommissioned by filling with sand.
- GB moved to issue a Negative Determination, with special conditions; JG 2nd.
 - Motion approved unanimously.
- CA will draft the special conditions.

- **Public Meeting: RDA – Temporary Dock, 82 Sandy Pond Road**
 - Kevin Hardin presented his application for three small temporary docks and a concrete retaining wall.
 - The three docks are made of wood, are freestanding, and are removed each year.
 - Docks total 196 square feet in area.
 - There is no beach area on the property.
 - DB moved to issue Negative Determination; GB 2nd.
 - Motion approved unanimously.
 - DB requested that Mr. Hardin remove the pile of sand on his property, or install erosion controls. The pile is in close proximity to the pond.
 - Mr. Hardin agreed to do so in the spring.

- **Public Hearing (cont'd): NOI – Lot U-1, Crabtree Development (DEP # 100-0323)**
 - Steve Mullaney, of S.J. Mullaney Engineering, Inc., provided examples of Special Conditions pertaining to permanent vegetated buffers, as requested last meeting.
 - CA conducted site visit 12/19/08 – no issues to report.
 - GB moved to approve NOI for Lot U-1; DB 2nd.
 - Motion approved unanimously.
 - CA will prepare draft Special Conditions for review.

- **Public Hearing (cont'd): NOI – Lot T-1, Crabtree Development (DEP # 100-0322)**
 - Steve Mullaney again.
 - CA conducted site visit 12/19/08 – no issues to report.
 - GB moved to approve NOI for Lot T-1; DB 2nd.
 - Motion approved unanimously.
 - CA will prepare draft Special Conditions for review.

- **Updates**
 - Ridgeview/Pingry Hill Subdivision (Crabtree Development)
 - CA will participate in a site walk with Corps of Engineers to review wetlands on the site, tomorrow at 9:30 AM.
 - Received copy of letter from Representative Tsongas' office re: PanAm/Norfolk Southern (PA/NS) plans to construct an auto unloading facility next to Spectacle Pond within the Zone II aquifer.
 - Letter asks Federal Surface Transportation Board (STB) to require PA/NS to meet the environmental protection standards as listed in the Consent Decree.



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- Received information letter about a state grant program for land protection projects.
 - TT will forward to the Open Space/Recreation working group.
- The Willows Subdivision
 - CA conducted site visit 12/19/08 to check on status of erosion controls and cleanup of siltation, on and off the site.
 - CA reported that the newly installed catch basins seem to be working.
 - DB mentioned that Rick Linde of DPW has not heard from The Willows re: cleanup of catch basins along Willow Road.
 - DPW would like to be kept in the loop re: catch basin maintenance.
- Chapter 91 Meeting for residents
 - Rescheduled on Wednesday, January 28, 2009.
- Snow Removal
 - DB reported no major concerns with the DPW's snow piling.
- Permit Tracking
 - DB attended BOS meeting re: new permit tracking software in Town Hall.
 - Problems: There is no IT staff person, and the computers are not on a network server.
 - DB will contact Chris Ryan about how the software can be used.
- Letter from Cowley's re: Lower Long Pond
 - BD asked CA for a copy of the letter from Thomas & Heidi Cowley, and also the letter to Cowley's from DCR.
- **Adjourn (9:30 PM)**
 - GB moved to adjourn; JG 2nd.
 - Motion approved unanimously.