

HAMPDEN CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEETING
OCTOBER 19, 2005
Minutes approved on November 16, 2005

Present: Charlie Schmitt, Phil Grant, Bonnie Geromini and Jeff Liquori

Meeting opened by Charlie Schmitt at 7:00 pm.

Minutes from September 21, 2005 meeting were approved.

Reimbursement of \$1,432 for unspent Consultant fees for Ed Speight was approved.
Expenses and clerk's salary was approved.

7:30 PUBLIC HEARING – SPRING HOUSE RD. – GLEASON REALTY

Keith Terry from Sherman and Woods and Keith Morris, Environmental Consultant were present to provide information on soil conditions at Spring House Rd. Mr. Morris stated that he and Mr. Michael Gragnolati conducted an inspection at the site to see if areas might be regulated under the Mass. Wetlands Protection Act. The property is dominated by spicebush with little or no other wetland vegetation present. The remainder of the lot is dominated by honeysuckle, poplar and staghorn sumac. Borings were performed to determine the drainage classification of soils on site. The borings classified the majority of the soils on site as Woodbridge soil. Although there is an area of wetland vegetation, there is no connection to resource areas, which would make it bordering vegetated wetlands, no evidence of hydric soil. Therefore, it is an isolated area and in their opinion not protected under the Wetlands Protection Act.

Charlie Schmitt recommended giving a Negative Determination based on information provided. A formal vote to be taken at next meeting when Pat Cote will be present. Meeting closed.

Charlie Schmitt received a call from Huck House, member of the Parks and Rec Committee. The stream banks under the wooden bridge have eroded due to the heavy water flow from the storm on Oct. 15. Charlie has contacted the DEP to see what latitude the Commission may have. This situation may qualify as an Emergency condition. He would like other members to take a look at the site and provide input. A site visit will be done on Saturday, October 22, 2005.

Mike Ford's application for approval of Septic design at 412 Main Street is still in progress. Charlie has contacted Cafferelli and is awaiting a reply from them. Charlie did some research and found that Commission cannot or certify the pollution from the septic system but the placement of the system is a matter for our purview. There are four questions that need to be answered: (1) What did the original site look like? (2) Is the well new? (3) How high is the retaining wall? and (4) Where is the placement of the original septic system? Jeff Liquori stated that the retaining wall is being used to stop breakout from leach fields. Charlie Schmitt will call Cafferelli to ask these questions. A site visit will be done on Nov. 22.

Tall Pines- Fish and Wildlife are requiring the developer to move the driveway as proposed on the existing plan. Planning Board voted not to allow them to use Greenleaf Drive, but it was agreed to have driveway go off Allen Street. Charlie did not have plan but it is his understanding that they may be able to driveway in and still stay 100 feet away from the Vernal pool. If that is the case, the whole plan may be outside of our jurisdiction.

Fire Dept.-Charles Schmitt received letter from Fire Dept. in regards to level of water in Scantic River near the Chapin Road bridge. Letter was received prior to the Oct. 15th storm and

conditions have changed. We will have to wait until the water recedes to determine what may need to be done.

Lot 3- Bennett Road- Information regarding proposed house lot but there was nothing that pertained to the Conservation Commission at this time.

Gendreau property- Mountain Road- Notice of Intent received for a proposed home. Bonnie Geromini has visited the site as a member of Hillside-Ridgeline and noticed there is a brook and wetlands on the property. This is an estate lot and an existing driveway with 60 foot frontage and steep topography. More information is needed regarding culverts to handle potential runoff and the possibility of running his driveway away from the wetlands. Site visit to be done on Saturday, the 22nd. Schedule for hearing.

Notice to be put in the paper regarding storm damage repairs to residents property. Many residents suffered property damage due to the flood of October 15th. Discussion was held in regards to the fee for a Request for Determination. Phil Grant stated that the fee should be waived in this instance. Other members felt that some type of fee was necessary as this is the only way the Commission has to get funds to work with. It was agreed to ask the Selectmen for a temporary waiver to lower the fee to \$10.00 for storm related issues.

Discussion was held regarding site visits. Bonnie Geromini stated that you must do a site visit and attend all meetings regarding proposed projects in order to vote on them. Site visits do not need to be done with all members present at the same time but you must do them in order to vote.

42 Evergreen Terrace – Makuch- Request for Certificate of Compliance. Copy of Notice of Intent will be requested.

PUBLIC HEARING -300 Glendale Road- Desmarias – Site visit to be done on Saturday, Oct. 22nd.

123 South Road – Phil Grant recused himself from meeting. Phil Grant showed pictures and reviewed the damage along the stream due to the storm. On the west side of small bridge the stream bank has eroded. He would like to replace some of the rocks and refill in the area around the bridge. Site visit to take place on Saturday, Oct. 22nd.

Jeff Liquori asked what procedure the VFW needs to take to fix the bridge on their property? Bridge was destroyed by the storm of Oct. 15th. Charlie Schmitt stated a Request for Determination would need to be submitted telling the Commission what and how they proposed to fix it. Jeff Liquori to get application to Art Booth.

Meeting adjourned.

Submitted by Judy Mikkola, Clerk