

**TOWN OF HAMPDEN  
MASSACHUSETTS**

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**Conservation Commission**  
Bonnie Geromini  
Judy McKinley Brewer  
Philip Grant  
Ted Zebert  
Andrew Netherwood  
Tim Hanley

**HAMPDEN CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

**CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEETING**

**April 19, 2017**

Attendance: Chairman, Bonnie Geromini, and Conservation Board Members Judy McKinley Brewer, Phil Grant, Ted Zebert, Andrew Netherwood and Branden Garvey were in attendance.

Not in attendance: Board member Tim Hanley was not in attendance.

Bonnie Geromini made a motion to open the meeting at 7:00p.m. Phil Grant seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Minutes from the 3/29/17 special meeting were reviewed and accepted with amendments.

New Business:

- Eversource (proposed solar site @ 227 Mill Rd.) – Request for Determination of Applicability Andrew Netherwood has abstained from discussing this matter. The board had unanimously voted to continue this RDA at the meeting on 3/29/2017, as the Commission was waiting for Eversource to file a request for determination from NHESP. Steve Wiehe from Weston & Sampson and Mark Kasinskas from Burns & McDonnell were in attendance representing Eversource for this project.

Mr. Wiehe came forward to update the board of their current status with NHESP. He informed the board that the request had been filed with NHESP on 4/10/2017 however they have not yet received the official determination letter from them.

Mr. Wiehe provided the board with copies of emails back and forth between Weston & Sampson and NHESP regarding the determination letter and a copy of the UPS tracking information showing that NHESP had received the Hampden Project Checklist for the box turtle habitat on 4/13/2017. He also provided the board with certified mail return receipts from all of the abutters, showing they have been notified of an upcoming planning board meeting. Mr. Wiehe requested that the Commission issue a determination on the RDA at tonight's meeting. He stated that he had attended tonight's meeting hopeful that all of the information provided would be sufficient enough for a determination without the official letter from NHESP that they are still waiting on.

Bonnie informed him that a determination could not be made until the letter was received from NHESP and reviewed by the Conservation Commission. Mr. Wiehe asked if it would be possible to receive a determination with conditions contingent upon receiving the letter from NHESP. Judy informed Mr. Wiehe that the reason the Commission has to wait for the letter from NHESP before making a determination is due to there being no way to include conditions after the fact. She informed him that once he has the official letter in hand, it can be scanned and emailed to Kelly in the office. The clerk can then notify the Commission and a special meeting can be scheduled to issue a determination. Bonnie agreed and stated that the conditions from NHESP must be received by Conservation in order for a determination to be made.

This matter will be continued once Eversource notifies the Conservation office once the letter they are waiting on is received. Mr. Wiehe & Mr. Kasinskas thanked the Commission for their time and also for being willing to schedule a special meeting if needed for a determination.

Before leaving there was some brief discussion regarding the status of the planning board meeting for the proposed solar site. Mr. Wiehe then explained to the Commission that all entitlements must be in hand before they begin breaking ground. This includes NHESP, Conservation Commission, Planning Board (for a special permit application), a contractor must be chosen and they must also submit a 10 day Notice of Intent for Storm water. He informed the board that they are hoping to break ground by June 1<sup>st</sup> to meet their deadline.

- Gallant (Lot #4 Glendale Rd.) – Request for Amendment to Order of Conditions  
David Gallant had requested to come before the board tonight to discuss a few possible changes to the Order of Conditions that were issued by the board following the 3/29/2017 meeting for the Notice of Intent Mr. Gallant filed to build a single family home.

Mr. Gallant presented himself to the Commission asking if a couple of changes could be made to the Orders that were issued. He asked if the silt barriers were needed along the upper portion of his property. Mr. Gallant stated that the only thing the barriers would do in that area is prevent water from flowing into his building site. The board briefly discussed and agreed that the silt barriers should still be installed along the upper portion to contain the work area, however it did not need to be dug into the ground as required along the other perimeters with a lower elevation.

Mr. Gallant also informed the Commission that after the Orders of Conditions had been issued and filed, we had several days of heavy rain. He noticed that there was quite a bit of water coming onto his property from the neighbor's property that lives on the other side of the rock ledge. Mr. Gallant informed the board that the heavy rain caused water to pool up in the area where his new driveway will be. After seeing what was happening, he discussed it with his engineer Pete Masuch from R. Levesque Associates. He has decided he would like to install 2 culverts, one on each side of the driveway, to prevent the new driveway from becoming a dam.

Mr. Gallant provided the board with a small sketch to show the board where he would like to have the 2 culverts put in. Judy informed the applicant that the change is minor enough and can be added as an amendment to the previous Notice of Intent. Andrew suggested that the applicant get a larger detailed sketch to be able to clearly see the culverts, stone, road grade, etc.

In addition Mr. Gallant asked the board if he could use large stone markers instead of lolly columns as permanent monuments to mark the buffer zone. The Commission informed Mr. Gallant that he is able to use large stones as permanent markers.

- D'Angelo (10 Riverside Dr.) – Notice of Intent

Will and Joanne D'Angelo presented themselves to the board and explained that they have filed a Notice of Intent to extend a porch and a deck on the back of their home. Bonnie reviewed the Notice of Intent application. She explained that the porch is not exempt as the applicants thought, because it is being built out larger than the original footprint. However the shed that they discussed during the site visit is considered exempt from MESA. During the site inspection, the Commission informed the applicants that a Request for Determination of Applicability needs to be filed for the shed on their property, as the forms were not filled out with Conservation prior to getting it.

Bonnie informed Mr. and Mrs. D'Angelo that their property is under Natural Heritage, so they will need to file with them. Phil explained that the determination from Natural Heritage will depend on the amount of disturbance it creates. She informed the applicants to bring their paperwork from NHESP back to the Conservation office along with proof of mailing the Notice of Intent to DEP. Bonnie stated that the office should hear back from DEP by the time Mr. and Mrs. D'Angelo are scheduled for another meeting. She informed them that a formal DEP # will be issued.

The Commission agreed that Mr. and Mrs. D'Angelo need to complete a Request for Determination of Applicability (WPA form 1) for their shed. Bonnie informed them not to include the electrical trench on that form because it should be included in the Notice of Intent for the porch.

- Review

At approximately 8:12pm Bonnie stated she would like to do a quick recap of tonight's meeting.

- Eversource (proposed solar site @ 227 Mill Rd) - waiting on the official letter from NHESP before a determination can be made.
- Mr. Gallant (Lot #4 Glendale Rd) – A site inspection will be completed once the silt barriers and permanent monuments are in place. A plan for the 2 culverts will be given to the Conservation Commission so the Orders of Condition can be amended to include them.
- D'Angelo (10 Riverside Dr) - The applicants must provide the Commission with proof of filing the Notice of Intent for the porch with NHESP and DEP. They must also complete a Request for Determination of Applicability for their shed.

Phil made a motion to close the meeting at approximately 8:18pm. Judy seconded the motion. The board was unanimously in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Kelly McCormick

Conservation Clerk