



Town of Westminster

11 SOUTH STREET
MASSACHUSETTS 01473

FROM THE OFFICE OF THE
CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Phone: (978) 874-7413 * Fax: (978) 874-7411

MINUTES of MEETING February 13, 2020

To: **Selectmen
Board of Health
Building Commissioner
Town Clerk**

Present: Chairman Dan Bartkus, Vice Chairman Gary Smith, Member: Tim Sheehan,
Agent Matt Marro, and Secretary Susan Kalagher

Absent: Carrie Monty, Robert Gendron

Guests: Holly Palmgren, Don Gribbons, Bill Doyle, Patrick S., Jamie Rheault, Ben
Hoenshell, Jill Normandin

Documents, Plans and other Exhibits:

1. Plan – Overlook Road / MA Electric – Withdrawn
2. Plan – 196 South Ashburnham Road / Hoenshell
3. Plan – 33 White Pine Drive / Traditional Con.
4. W9 – Richard Valcourt – Forestry work

Dan Bartkus called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The meeting was not recorded.

Appointment:

Steve Wallace and Tetra Tech were not present.

Matt Pearson discussed the Muddy Pond Forestry Project and the birding habitat program. The project has been completed and he reported that the checks have been turned over to the Town Accountant for a total of \$20,408.95 and requested the Commission approve the voucher for the Forester's invoice in the amount of \$3,995.00. Mr. Pearson also discussed adding \$500.00 to the Town Warrant for the upkeep of the road and \$4,000.00 for harvesting from a site on Roper Road. The Commission thanked Mr. Pearson for his work and made a motion to pay Green Natural Resource Management / Richard Valcourt Jr. & Sr. in the amount of \$3,995.00, with all in favor. The voucher was signed.

Minutes:

The following Minutes were approved and signed:

- January 2, 2020

Certificate of Compliance / MBTA Layover Station #336-0732

Holly Palmgren and Bill Doyle, Civil Engineer from DEI gave the overview of the project. The Wetland Specialist discussed the mortality rate of the plantings and the re-vegetation with a more native mix. Invasive species were removed and replaced with a pollinator habitat. Matt Marro visited the site, found it to be functioning well and recommended that the Commission approve. A motion was made and seconded and the Certificate of Compliance was unanimously approved.

Extension Permit / Paradise Pond & Crow Hill / Solitude Lake Management # 336-0868

DCR Lakes and Ponds Program requested a 3-year Extension for the aquatic management program. The plan was unanimously approved after a motion was made and seconded.

**NOI
196 South Ashburnham Road
Hoenshell**

7:25 pm The public hearing for the Notice of Intent requested by Benjamin Hoenshell for the construction of a 2-car garage and 4-season porch located at 196 South Ashburnham Road was opened. Jamie Rheault gave the overview of the project and discussed the resource area of a brook that had been identified as perennial. Only 1.6% of the riverfront area will be disturbed. Mitigating measures include hay bales and silt fence. A comment from DEP was addressed. Matt Marro recommended approval. Dan Bartkus asked for comments from the audience and in answer to a question, the existing well and location of the garage was pointed out. The plan was unanimously approved upon a motion by Gary Smith with second by Tim Sheehan. The public hearing was closed at 7:34 pm.

**RFD
33 White Pine Drive
Traditional Concepts**

7:35 pm. The public meeting for 33 White Pine Drive was continued. Dan Bartkus would abstain from the vote leaving only two Commissioners – not enough for quorum.

37 Kent Road – Enforcement Order

Matt Marro was notified that Steve Donohue had removed trees and a stop work order was issued. Matt met with Mr. Donohue and a NOI will be filed.

Mail was read and distributed.

Ellis Road Solar Farm – Enforcement Order

Steve Wallace notified Matt Marro that Special Conditions issued by the Planning Board required a decommissioning bond and work had begun without the bond in place. Work was stopped until the bond was in place.

Rowtier Drive – Enforcement Order

Matt Marro explained that in view of the violations all work will be required to be quantified by an engineer. Work had been moved closer to the wetland. Jill Normandin asked if the property had been flagged and the response was that it had been flagged. A new plan will be required. Don Gribbons asked who should be called if violations are observed. Matt Marro requested that he be notified should that happen and asked that a message be left on his cell phone should he not be immediately available and assured everyone that he would follow-up.

The meeting adjourned at 7:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Dan Bartkus
Chairman
(prepared by Susan Kalagher)