

# Richmond Conservation Commission

Tuesday, February 13, 2024

## MINUTES

### ZOOM MEETING

Conservation Members Present: Chair Ernie Smith (ES), Ron Veillette (RV), Pat Seckler (PS), Karen O'Donnell (KO), Rebecca Lord (RL).

Absent: Tom Porter, Adam Weinberg

Public: Rob Akroyd (Greylock/EDM), Cliff Hanson, Mark Lessner, John Dupras (Trinity Eng.), Phyliss Regis, Peter Killeen, Sean Regnier (R.P. Marzilli), Jonna Gaberman, Laura Rosenthal, Ken Kelly

RV opened the meeting at 6:36. Chair ES had difficulty logging on. Chair ES logged on a couple minutes after meeting opened. Meeting is being recorded by the Chair.

1. Review and approve previous minutes

*Minutes were approved. KO/RL MSV*

#### **New:**

2. WPA NOI – DEP File #271-0238 -210 East Slope Rd., Map 402, Lot 030 – Proposed Demo and construction of existing pool house/shed, existing pool terrace, and associated site work. Proposed project is within the WPA and SMA.

*Ron brought to everyone's attention that both projects being heard at the meeting are river front areas and reminded the members the importance for flood control and buffer zones to river resource areas.*

*R. Akroyd briefed the members on the proposed project using site plans. The new pool area will be reconstructed is of semi pervious material.*

*RL questioned type of foundation the current pool house is on. Bathroom will be connected to an existing sewer system. RV commented that erosion control is not noted on the plan and limit of project flagging should be on the plan. R. Akroyd agreed to add erosion control and limit of work on plan. RV questioned the proposed pervious terrace around pool. RV requested to add plantings between pool house and 200 ft riparian of brook. RL agreed to plantings and type of. ES asked for confirmation on location of sewer line.*

*The NOI was approved. Proposed NOI was approved with standard and special conditions (work limits, erosion control, planting list, revised plan) RV/RL MSV*

3. SMA COC – File# 05-01 – 494 Dean Hill Rd, Map 407, Lot 015

*ES briefed the members on the COC request. A site visit was conducted prior to the meeting by ES and the agent. The COC was approved ES/PS MSV*

#### **Continued:**

4. WPA RDA – 65 Summit Rd, Map 405, Lot 046 – Proposed replacement of Title 5 Subsurface system and associated Site Work

*J. Dupras of Trinity briefed members on the proposed design. A liner over the leaching field will be installed to further protect the riparian zone. Proposed design has been approved by BOH ES questioned the removal of a pine tree being possibly removed? C. Hanson has intentions of saving the tree and advised that a tree well will be installed for protection. RL advised that silt fencing should be reinforced with wattles. KO agreed that every effort should be made to save the tree. A liner would be used on field. KO would like to see the tree saved. RL/KO MSV The request was approved with standard and special conditions (wattles will be used to further enforce the silt fencing for erosion control). RL/KO MSV RV recused as an abutter*

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### Misc:

5. 264 Branch Farm Rd – Review with contractor and discussion on proposed site work.

*M. Lessner briefed the members on his intention of submitting an application for approval for a project that was previously given a positive DOA. M. Lessner explained that he and his contractor have scaled back the previous requested work and to limit the work to within the footprint of the existing home and/or within a few feet. S. Regnier of R.P. Marzilli presented draft plans of the proposed and listened to comments from the members. M. Lessner thanked the members for their time and hopes to submit an RDA next month for the Commission to consider.*

### Other Discussions:

6. Electronic Signature – Review – Discussion- Vote

*E.S briefed the members on electronic signatures and the ease it will have on the Commission. Members agreed to move forward with electronic signature.*

7. Richmond Pond – Discussion – Drawdown NOI Update

*Jonna Gaberman briefed the members on the current state of Richmond pond. Ken Kelly of the RPA would like to partner with Pittsfield. NHESP has been difficult to work with and will not approve Diquat previously used for the Pond. KO asked the purpose of drawdown. It was explained for maintenance for flood and weed control.*

8. MACC Conference – Review, Discussion, Approve attendance

*E.S asked if everyone is getting emails from MACC. RV is having difficulty. It was agreed that they would contact the agent if they would like to attend any workshops or conference.*

9. Citizen/Commission Discussion Time

*Phyllis Ragusa requested an update on the Haidar property. E.S conducted a site visit and only invasive species are being removed. Ragusa questioned if the restoration project has been complied with. Ben Ragusa commented on the scale of the large pile of brush.*

*Ron commented that the minutes are sparse and would like to see more detail for a member who may have been absent. Agent agreed to add time of each hearing on the minutes so anyone can go back and listen to the recording of a meeting. ES stated that meetings will be hybrid going forward.*

10. Adjournment: *Approved at 8:33 PM PS/ES MSV*

Approved: Ernie Smith, Chair

Date: 3.13.2024