**CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

**MINUTES**

**August 29th 2017 at 7:00pm**

**Houghton Building, 667 Main Street**

**PUBLIC HEARINGS AND APPOINTMENTS**

REQUEST FOR A DETERMINATION OF APPLICABILITY (RDA); NOTICE OF INTENT (NOI), ABBREVIATED NOTICE OF RESOURCE AREA DELINEATION (ANRAD), ORDER OF CONDITIONS (OOC)

7:00pm The Chair opened the Public meeting following a role call: Brian Berube, Jeff Larence, Jeff Bryan, Lori Stephenson and Rebecca Longvall (Conservation Agent).

Chair Brian opened the public hearing for 670 Main Street for a Request for Determination filed by the home owner for placement of a shed. Rebecca gave a brief summary of the project and site visit that included both Jeff L and Chair Brian. Chair Brian explained that although the work had ceased when requested, the work is not allowable where the structure currently resides. The structure is within the BVW and noted other sites throughout the property that may be possibilities to re-locate the structure. The structure currently resides within the resource and furthermore in the 25 foot “no disturbance” buffer area regulated by Chapter 233 Wetland Bylaw for the Town of Bolton. Jeff L agrees with Brian. Martha Remington spoke on behalf of the abutter Patricia Bensetler expressing the proximity to resource areas on the property. Chair Brian makes a motion to make a Positive one determination; “The area described on the referenced plan(s) is an area subject to protection under the Act. Removing, filling, dredging, or altering of the area requires filing of a Notice of Intent. Jeff B seconded, all unanimously approve.

Chair Brian continued the public hearing for 649 Main Street for a 4 lot FOSPRD residential subdivision. Brandon from Ducharme & Dillis was in attendance to give a summary of revised plans addressing concerns noted at the last meeting specific to planting of back lot adjacent to the kettle pond. Rebecca relayed a concern of the commission regarding the impact to the current stone culvert that is in place and the necessary notation of making the reinforcement of this structure a priority in the construction sequence. Lori inquired if there would be any bonds required. Chair Brian addressed this question with information regarding the commission’s policy on private vs. commercial property. Martha Remington was present and inquired about the process for extensions of Orders of Conditions. Martha also inquired about the culvert regarding the use of pre-existing stones. Brandon addressed this concern stating the commission members present at the site visit had addressed this concern as well and the natural bottom culvert will include the use of these stones from the site. The commission discussed wording relative to contingencies to properly condition the project. Chair Brian makes a motion to approve the Order of Conditions contingent upon the culvert to be fortified or reinforced possibly by steel plating to insure its integrity until replacement with the proposed culvert structure as described on the submitted plans. Jeff L Seconded, all unanimously approve.

Chair Brian makes a motion to approve minutes from the August 15th meeting. Jeff B second, all unanimously approve.

Chair Brian opens the public hearing for the Request for Determination filed in regards to the project proposed at 104 Spectacle Hill Road involving an upgrade to the current septic system along with an addition to the currently existing home. The exemption expressed under Wetlands Protection Act 10.58 expressed the repair and replacement of existing septic systems. Brandon Ducharme represented the applicant expressing the plans and septic design which is an improvement to the current cess pool. Jeff L inquiries about hydrology and potential basement flooding. Chair Brian makes a motion to make a negative five determination based upon regulations expressed under Wetland Protection Act 10.58 and Local Wetland Bylaw Chapter 233 § C. (1) contingent upon if water mitigation is necessary (i.e. sump pump, French drain), water will be expelled away from resource areas. Jeff L Seconds, all unanimously approve.

Chair Brian opens the public hearing regarding the Abbreviated Notice of Resource Area Delineation for the property located at 258 Hudson Road. Brandon represented the applicant to explain the resource areas. Rebecca explained the physical confirmations of delineation that were observed on site (present Rebecca, Brian and Brandon). Jeff L inquiries about resources and suggests a third party delineation. Chair Brian discusses the site. Brandon Ducharme explains the resource areas and physical confirmation of resource areas through the hydrology, vegetation and hydric soils. The bordering vegetated wetlands along with the isolated wetlands are all identified and delineated accurately. Chair Brian makes a motion to issue an accurate order of resource delineation for the proposed ANRAD for 258 Hudson Road. Jeff B seconds, all unanimously approve.

Chair Brian opens the hearing for a request for a certificate of compliance for 137 Nashaway Road. Rebecca explains everything is in compliance after following up with a site visit and documentation review from past agents. Chair Brian makes a motion to issue a Certificate of Compliance. Jeff B seconded, all unanimously approve.

The commission discusses the letter regarding the shed to be placed at Bowers Springs Conservation Property. Jeff L addresses some spelling errors to be corrected.

The Commission discusses the draft of dogs on conservation land rules & regulations along with draft bylaw. There were concerns differentiating regulations for domestic animals including horses and dogs. Also the total fine and commercial dog walking permit cost was addressed. The commission discusses the concerns around parking areas and whether to request commercial dog walkers park further away from trail heads. The commission saw the draft as agreeable and allows the public to comment through forums and focus groups scheduled by its agent.

Chair Brian inquired about the proposed donation of a granite bench at Bowers Springs conservation area. Jeff B reminds the commission of the request. Jeff L explains an installation plan is necessary. Chair Brian states in theory the idea is positive but it is necessary to have a plan that the commission can review regarding install without impacting the immediate area over short and long term.

Chair Brian notes it will be beneficial to put in place a process for monument/memorial structures on conservation properties.

Chair Brian moves to close the public meeting for August 29th 2017. Jeff B seconds, all unanimously approve.