Town of SHELBURNE

Conservation Commission

MINUTES

Additional Meeting ~ October 27, 2020

Present: Norman Davenport, John Richardson, Steve McCormick, Ellen Jenkins, Allan Smith

Absent: None

Administrative Assistant: Faye Whitney

Guests: Paula Popoli, Don Cote, Jeff Bellino

Chair Norm Davenport opened the meeting at 7:05 p.m. A quorum was present. The meeting was held via Zoom.

**Beaver Dam**

John and Ellen have done a site visit at a beaver dam near North South Road, that could soon be causing an impact on a nearby bridge. Highway Superintendent Mark Shippee feels the presence of the dam is an emergency, since if the bridge becomes unsafe, the road will be inaccessible. Discussion followed as to whether this was an emergency or whether an RDA should be submitted. It was decided that this was an emergency and the Chair ordered that the beaver dam be removed and the debris be promptly removed from the site.

**RDA Meeting – Matthew and Paula Popoli, Patten Road – 7:15 p.m.**

The Popolis want to install a Title 5 compliant septic system, which they said would be more than 50 feet away from wetlands. The Commissioners felt it was somewhat unclear where the wetlands were. The septic plans had been drawn by Sean Kimberly with assistance from wetlands scientist Ward Smith. It was felt that the system was within the 50-foot buffer zone. The Commission felt they need to make a site visit. A motion was made by Allan and seconded by Steve to continue the RDA meeting for Matthew and Paula Popoli until 9:30 a.m. on Saturday October 31. Roll call vote: Norm – yes; John – yes; Ellen – yes; Steve – yes; Allan – yes. Motion passed 5-0-0.

The Popolis had also requested a Certificate of Compliance for an earlier project. The site visit for that will also be conducted on October 31.

**Minutes**

A motion was made by Steve to approve the minutes of October 13. This was seconded by Ellen. Roll call vote: Norm – yes; John – yes; Ellen – yes; Steve – yes; Allan – yes. Motion passed 5-0-0.

**RDA Meeting – Jeff Bellino, Bardwells Ferry Road – 7:45 p.m.**

Mr. Bellino plans to purchase property at what is now called 0 Bardwells Ferry Road. He plans to install a gravel driveway and wants to be sure that would be allowed before making the purchase. The access to the property would be via Barnard Road. A brook runs through the property and by Mr. Bellino’s measurement the driveway would be 75 feet from the brook. Due to the topography of the property, Mr. Bellino said there was no other place for the driveway to be located. The wetlands on the property have not been delineated. The Boar decided to do a site visit. A motion was made by Allan, seconded by Steve to continue the RDA meeting for Jeff Bellino to 8:45 a.m. on October 31. Roll call vote: Norm – yes; John – yes; Ellen – yes; Steve – yes; Allan – yes. Motion passed 5-0-0.

**Municipal Certificate – Franklin Land Trust**

The Patten Hill Farm Trustees are selling 64 acres to Mass Audubon and a Conservation Restriction is to be put on the property. Mass Audubon will own the land, FLT will hold the CR. The Commission was asked to sign a municipal certificate. This had been discussed at an earlier meeting. A motion was made by Steve, seconded by John, to sign the municipal certificate for the proposed conservation restriction for 64 acres located between 286 and 336 Patten Road, previously owned by Patten Hill Farm Trustees. Roll call vote: Norm – abstain; John – yes; Ellen – yes; Steve – yes; Allan – yes. Motion passed 4-0-1.

The next meeting will be on November 10.

At 8:20 p.m. John, seconded by Ellen, made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Roll call vote: Norm – yes; John – yes; Ellen – yes; Steve – yes; Allan – yes. Motion passed 5-0-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Faye Whitney

Administrative Assistant

**Document List**

Minutes of October 13

RDA Application from Matthew and Paula Popoli

RDA Application from Jeff Bellino

Request for Certificate of Compliance from Matthew and Paula Popoli

Municipal Certification for Patten Road property