Town of SHELBURNE

Conservation Commission

MINUTES

Regular Meeting ~ August 11, 2022

Present: John Richardson, Norm Davenport, Steve McCormick, Susan Berger

Absent: None

Administrative Assistant: Faye Whitney

Guests: Andrew Nolan

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

**Minutes**

There were no minutes due to the broken wrist of the Administrative Assistant.

**Mail**

There was an email from Mark Stinson announcing a class he was teaching. Susie plans to attend.

**Building Permits**

None

**Organizational Matters**

If anyone takes the Fundamentals courses they will be reimbursed for the fees.

Steve has been reappointed to the Commission, Susie has been appointed. One more member is still needed.

A motion was made by John, seconded by Steve, to raise the filing fee for RDAs to $150 to cover the costs of advertising.

 Voting in favor: Norm, Steve, John, Susan

 Opposed: None

 Abstentions: None

**RDA Meeting for Andrew Nolan/Homestead Inc., 247 Zerah Fiske Road – 7:15 p.m.**

The RDA asks to repair an existing septic system. The work order, submitted by Homestead, Inc. is very complete. Steve noted that the stream shown on the map is perennial, not intermittent and wondered why the system was not placed further from the stream. The system is more than 50 feet, but less than 100 feet from the stream. Andrew said the septic system was sited in the only place that would perc. A motion was made by John, seconded by Steve, to approve the application of Andrew Nolan/Homestead Inc. as a Negative 3 determination with the following condition: all work to be done in accordance with best practices, including placement of siltation control devices.

Voting in favor: Norm, Steve, John, Susan

 Opposed: None

 Abstentions: None

**RDA Meeting for Susan Berger, 94 Main Street – 7:30 p.m.**

Susan recused herself from this meeting.

The entire property at 94 Main Street is within 200 feet of the Deerfield River. Susan would like to remove several trees, remove invasives, direct water away from the foundation of her house, and build a deck. The trees are three pines and a dying maple. All are on the level ground, not on the river bank. The Commission said the critical thing would be to leave the stumps, but otherwise they could agree to allow the tree removal. The invasives are on the river bank. Susan does not intend to use glyphosates. She hopes to replace the invasives with native plants. The Commission suggested that she consult with the DEP about the use of glyphosates as digging up the invasives would disturb the bank. Susan would like to landscape her yard to direct the flow of water away from her house foundation. There is no flow of water just seeping and trickling. She would also like to put in permeable pavers where her vehicle is parked. The area is already a managed area, there will be no digging, only surface work and no drains will be installed. Susan withdrew her plan to add a deck. Feeling the need to get information about the use of glyphosates from DEP, a motion was made by Steve, seconded by John, to table the decision on the application of Susan Berger until information is received from the DEP.

 Voting in favor: Norm, Steve, John

 Opposed: None

 Abstentions: Susan

The next meeting will be September 8, 2022.

 At 8:11 p.m. Steve, seconded by John, made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Roll call vote: Norm – yes; Steve – yes; John – yes; Susan – yes. Motion passed 4-0-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Faye Whitney, Administrative Assistant