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TOWN OF HAMPDEN MASSACHUSETTS



Conservation Commission
Judy McKinley Brewer, Chair
Ted Zebert, Co-Chair
Andrew Netherwood
John Cushman
Thom Page
Greg D'Agostino

Cindi Connors, Assoc. Member

HAMPDEN CONSERVATION COMMISSION Meeting Minutes – March 20, 2024

Members Present: Judy McKinley Brewer, Thomas Page, Greg D'Agostino

Judy Brewer McKinley opened the meeting at 6:04 pm

Projects discussed:

1. 335 Wilbraham Rd. – The Conservation Commission conducted a site inspection on the property March 2, 2024. The purpose was to evaluate the back area for installation of an above ground pool. There is a perennial stream in the rear of the property. This stream is protected by a 200 ft Riverfront Area. The Commission decided the pool can be installed as planned without any further paperwork as long as the attached conditions are followed : Refer to attached page.
2. Team Sunshine – 77 Glendale Rd. The Commission reviewed the final plans submitted for a private solar array on this site. The array will be situated beyond the 200 ft Riverfront Area. Greg made a motion to accept the plans. Thomas seconded. All in favor.
3. Forest cutting plan – Howlett Hill Rd. – The plan is regarding the Sweitzer property. It entails removing dead wood including felled trees and some standing. No further forestry activities are planned at this time.
4. RDA – This was filed by the BSC group for MECO. The plan is to install two new poles, and two pole replacements within the 100 ft buffer.. A total of eight square feet within the buffer will be disturbed. Overhead work on pole 73.6 is also planned. Judy made a motion to issue a Negative Determination, that poles 73.6, 76.50, and 72.50 cannot be installed and/or worked on until Glendale Solar LLC is approved by all boards. This was 2nd by Greg. All in favor
5. Letters regarding three other utility maintenance projects were read and accepted by the Commission. Utility maintenance is allowed under the Massachusetts Wetland Bylaws and Regulations as well as the Town of Hampden Wetland Bylaw and Regulations.
6. Sherry Himmelstein – The Minnechaug Land Trust has the opportunity to purchase four acres from Mr. Beaumier. Purchase of this land would allow off street parking for Mt. Vision Conservation Area. Presently, hikers must park in the narrow street. If this project is approved at Town Meeting, the Land Trust plans to sell 1.5 acres as a building lot. That money would help replenish the money spent on the four acres. Thomas made a motion to support the purchase. Greg seconded. All in favor. * Judy recused herself because of her involvement with Minnechaug Land Trust.
7. The Commission received a letter from Rory Walker (Glendale Solar) requesting the Special Meeting on Glendale Solar LLC be moved from April 3rd to May 1st. Judy made a motion to agree with the change. Greg 2nd. All in favor.
8. 7:11pm – Thomas made a motion to close the hearing. Greg 2nd. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,
Bonnie Geromini
Administrative Assistant