

Town House
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Bonnie Geromini, Conservation Agent

TOWN OF HAMPDEN MASSACHUSETTS



Conservation Commission
Judy McKinley Brewer, Chair
Ted Zebert, Co-Chair
Andrew Netherwood
John Cushman
Thom Page
Cindi Connors, Assoc. Member

HAMPDEN CONSERVATION COMMISSION Public Hearing and Regular Meeting Minutes October 21, 2020 Town House

Approved: 11/04/2020

Meeting called to order: 10/21/2020 @ 7:00pm

Members Present Bonnie Geromini, Chair, Ted Zebert, Judy McKinley-Brewer, Andrew Netherwood, John Cushman and Thom Page

Members Absent: None

Invited Guests: Emily Stockman, Stockman and Associates, Ryan Nelson, R Levesque

Also Present: Cindi Connors

Public Comment: None prior to start of meeting

Agenda Items:

7:00pm PUBLIC HEARING on ANRAD* submitted by Ryan Nelson, R Levesque & Associates, 0 Bennett Rd:
(*Abbreviated Notice of Resource Area Delineation, ANRAD) Emily Stockman stated that the review of the ANRAD was a multi day project due to the property being substantial in size with field changes being made during the visits. The stream that had been challenged as intermittent is no longer being challenged and will remain perennial with all parties in agreement and the 200 ft river front areas associated with that have been delineated. The vernal pool depression boundary has been flagged out to 100 ft to match the Commissions by law and the alpha numeric sequencing issues match from the plans to the field. There is also a strong delineation with the two isolated wetlands that had been identified as well as offsite wetlands on abutting property that is posted. Ted asked the approximate acreage, (92.7 acres), Bonnie asked that the percentage of resource area versus upland and Ryan responded (50%), with Emily adding that the entire parcel was in Natural Heritage and Endangered Species, (NHESP). Ryan informed the Commission that the vernal pool certification has not been processed yet and Judy added that the polygon shows 5 species. Ryan stated that the entire parcel has been delineated and the NHESP is interested in protecting the upland area, not just the wetland area. Bonnie asked the Commission for any comments and Judy asked how many feet of river front there were, (Ryan will provide this.) Emily also noted that it was her professional opinion that the Mean Annual High Water line flags are equal to/interchangeable verbiage with the bank flagging. Emily suggested the response to the ANRAD be on the ORAD form and to call out the Commissions bylaw on vernal pool.

Specifications for Abbreviated Notice of Resource Area Delineation

MA DEP File # **173-0225**
0 Bennett Road
Hampden, MA 01036
Map 19 Parcels 55 and 62

The Hampden Conservation Commission has accepted the Resource Area Delineation with the following specifications:

- 1) It is understood that *Certification of the Vernal Pool* will continue to be pursued, and that the Applicants will pursue any building in consultation with Natural Heritage, due to the overwhelming *presence of NHESP polygon habitats*.
- 2) The *Vernal Pool Boundary* (rather than buffer) is defined by the 100-foot black dashed lines on the presented maps, whether or not the Pool is certified, in accordance with Hampden Wetlands By-laws.

- 3) The four (4) *Isolated Wetlands*, as designated and revised per consult with Emily Stockman, are accepted as being too small (less than 1/8 acre) under Hampden By-laws to be subject to jurisdiction. (-The IVW-100 series is 4,130 square feet in area
-The IVW-200 series is 2,400 square feet in area per follow-up note from Ryan Nelson)
- 4) The *Riverfront* is accepted, as depicted on the Plans, with the request that an approximate *quantification of riverfront footage* be added to the Plans. (Follow-Up note from Ryan Nelson: -As part of this ANRAD we are requesting the determination of Riverfront Area. There is 5,580 linear feet of the 200' Riverfront Area boundary on the subject properties.)
- 5) The *Stream Channel denoted by E- and D-series flagging*, is acknowledged to be perennial, not intermittent, and has been revised to designate the 200-foot Riverfront Resource Area. The flags coded for "Bank" are acknowledged as equivalent to "Mean Annual High Water" markers in this instance.
- 6) The limit of jurisdiction of Riverfront Area by Pond rerouting is perpendicular to the River at the inlet-outlet line.
- 7) Storm water Review would be initiated with any planned construction.

Judy made a motion to accept the delineations with the above specifications. Andrew seconded, all in favor 6-0
With that the public hearing for 0 Bennett Road was closed.

Robert Firenz 108 Mill Road:

A tree fell on and destroyed the residents shed and he would like to rebuild a larger shed with garages ad pellet storage in place of the shed. The home was built before the Riverfront Protection Act and the Commission has agreed to issue a negative determination the work will not remove, fill dredge ot alter anything significant in the area.

West Brook II:

Mt Marcy and Mt Vision trails being remarked and signage is being added. A foot bridge was built and constructed bridging West Brook I and West Brook II. This will be on the Commissions agenda for their meeting on November 18, 2020.

Minutes: *Bonnie motioned to accept the September 16, 2020 minutes as written, Ted seconded, all in favor, 6-0.*
Judy motioned to accept the September 23, 2020 minutes as presented, Andrew seconded, all in favor, 6-0.

Commission Staffing and Appointments:

The Commission has individually reviewed Massachusetts General Laws PT 1, Title V11, Chap. 40, Sec. 8C. and the following statement contained within: The commission may appoint a director, clerks, consultants and other employees;

Based on this *Bonnie made a motion to appoint Cindi Connors as an associate Conservation Commission Member, John seconded, all members voting in favor 6-0.*

Bonnie informed the Conservation Commission that she was stepping down as chair and would like to work in the office Tuesdays/Wednesday/Thursdays.

John made a motion to hire/appoint Bonnie Geromini to the Conservation Assistant position with Thom seconding, all members voting in favor 5-0.

Andrew made a motion to appoint Judy as chair and Ted as co-chair, both Commissioners accepted these nominations and both John and Thom seconded the nominations. All members voted in favor, 5-0.

General Discussion:

Check with Emily Stockman for storm water consultants.

Andrew made a motion to close the meeting at approximately 8:30pm, Ted seconded the motion which was then approved by a unanimous vote of 5-0

/clc