

Town of Wales

Conservation Commission



3 Hollow Road, P.O. Box 834, Wales, MA 01081 Tel. (413) 245-7571 Ext. 108 conservation@townofwales.net

Meeting Minutes – July 15, 2021

<u>Present:</u> Norma Thompson (**Norma T**.) – *Chair,* Hugh Brower (**Hugh B.**) – *Board Member,* Robert Herbert (**Rob H.**) – *Board Member,* Sarah Ryan (**Sarah R.**) - *Clerk*

In Person & Virtual Participation: Leis Phinney (43 Monson Rd.), Kelly Youngberg (43 Stafford Rd.), Bob Reidy & Bill Terry (Lake Association), Elizabeth Dickinson

Norma T. opened the public meeting at 6:07 PM.

New Business:

43 Monson Rd. – Leis Phinney was unsure if this property was a buildable lot, she had concerns about this property being the old town dump and possibly having a vernal pool on the property. Hugh B. suggests a possible easement being placed on the property, which would prohibit a future buyer from being able to build on the property.

43 Stafford Rd. – The owner is requesting a certificate of compliance. Hugh B. reads through the history of this property as it pertains to the commission. Once the commission receives the signed site visit permission form and conducts a site visit on this property, then they can confirm that the owners are in compliance with the 2006 Order of Conditions. The certificate of compliance will be issued, pending the results of the site visit.

Motion 071521-01 by Rob H. to approve a Certificate of Compliance, pending the results of the site visit, Seconded by Norma T. No discussion, all in favor.

40 Hollow Rd. – Hugh B. reviews the timeline of the changing of homeowners, the original and amended Forest Cutting Plan. Hugh B. has been working with the DEP to generate an enforcement order, since major changes were made to the Forest Cutting Plan and the Commission was not notified. Restoration order of conditions will be generated

Motion 071521-02 by Rob H. to authorize the Conservation Agent to sign an enforcement order upon completion, Seconded by Norma T. No discussion, all in favor.

Lake George – The commission is working with the Lake Association on informing residents of what best management practices on the Lake look like. Bob Reidy will be reaching out to those residents that did hydro-raking, advising them that the spoil from the hydro-raking needs to be disposed of to avoid run off back into the lake. Hugh B. points out that the Order of Conditions expires in May 2022, the commission would like to hold a public hearing as part of the renewal process for the Lake Management Plan's notice of intent.

22 Hollow Rd. – The commission received a Forest Cutting Plan for this address. The commission would like to walk the property, permission is needed from the homeowner. The commission will be in contact with the owner of 22 Hollow Rd.

214 & 216 Union Rd. – An enforcement order was issued to the previous owner of this property, along with the current owner. The enforcement order was issued to correct the altered wetland area. The commission is requesting a restoration plan be submitted. Hugh B. will contact the owner about the restorations.

Rob H. opens the public hearing for 33 Barney Rd.

Some work has taken place to clean up the property. The commission will continue to monitor the property for compliance with the conditions placed on the owner. The owner has still not submitted a restoration plan as required. The commission is concerned over an apparent hazmat spill on the driveway from a disassembled skid-steer, and the continued leaching of slurry and stormwater from the barn area down into the nearby brook. The commission will update the other town boards and departments that have been involved in enforcement activities against this property. Restoration order of conditions will be generated

The commission discuss the Conservation webpage on the town's website. The board would like all forms related to Conservation to be accessible on the site to include NOI form, RDA form, Tree Cutting form and site visit permission form.

The commission sets the next meeting to be held on August 19, 2021, at 6:00 PM at the Wales Senior Center.

Motion 071521-03 by Hugh B. to accept the amended minutes 6/17/21, Seconded by Rob. H. No discussion all in favor.

Motion 071521-04 by Rob H. to continue the public hearings for 33 Barney Rd., 40 Sizer Dr. and 40 Hollow Rd. Seconded by Norma T. No discussion, all in favor.

Rob H. made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:43 PM, Seconded by Hugh B. Meeting adjourned.