

**TOWN OF SHEFFIELD  
CONSERVATION COMMISSION  
SEPTEMBER 14, 2015  
DOWNSTAIRS MEETING ROOM  
7:00 PM**

Board Members Present: Don Ward, Chairman  
Cheryl Blackburn  
Jeff Collingwood

Board Members Not Present: Ted Pitman  
Peter Stiglin

Others Present: Jill Hughes, Clerk  
Members of the public (see sign in sheet)

Chairman Don Ward called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

**Housatonic Valley Association presentation on Housatonic River Assessment:** Dennis Regan was present to speak to the Commission and copies of the 2014 Sheffield Assessment Report & Recommended Action Plan were handed out. Mr. Regan explained that the plan was an updated version of the one completed 10 years ago. He stated that overall the river was in great shape, but erosion is an issue. He also spoke about looking into more official access sites along the river and that they are currently looking on Maple Avenue. A discussion ensued about the report. The Commission thanked Mr. Regan for his presentation.

**Proposal for Public Trail:** Sean Smith from Boy Scout Troop #28 was present to speak to the Commission about making a public trail that borders the Town Park. A map of the proposed trail was presented to the Commission and a discussion ensued. The Commission asked Sean to submit a Request for Determination of Applicability and to mark the trail with flags.

John Cromwell was present in the audience and asked about the Request for Determination of Applicability he submitted on behalf of Paul Collins for property on 500 Foley Road. Mr. Cromwell was informed that it would be on the September 28<sup>th</sup> meeting agenda. A discussion ensued about setting a date and time for a site visit. **D. Ward motioned, with a second from C. Blackburn to conduct a site visit on 9/28/15 @ 5PM for 500 Foley Road. The motion passed 3-0.**

**Approval of Minutes:** The Commission reviewed draft minutes from August 24, 2015. **C. Blackburn motioned, with a second from J. Collingwood to approve the August 24, 2015 minutes as written. The motion passed 3-0.**

**October Meeting Schedule:** The Commission's next meeting is October 12<sup>th</sup>, which is Columbus Day. Since Town Hall is closed for the holiday it was the consensus of the Commission to have their meeting on October 26<sup>th</sup>.

**Bills Pending:** The Commission reviewed and signed a bills payable.

**Review of Forest Cutting Plans:** There were no cutting plans to review.

**Upcoming Conferences and Mail:** The Commission discussed upcoming seminars being offered by the Berkshire Regional Planning Commission.

The Commission reviewed an email from The Nature Conservancy regarding vista pruning on their Drury Trail. Their Order of Conditions requires prior approval from the Commission. Chairman Ward walked the site earlier in the day. **D. Ward motioned, with a second from J. Collingwood to approve the request from The Nature Conservancy for vista pruning on the Drury Trail. The motion passed 3-0.** The Commission's secretary will notify them via email.

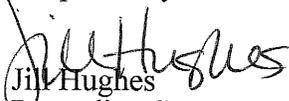
Jeff Collingwood recused himself from the Commission to speak on behalf of George Soudant who owns property at 1375 North Main Street (former Pine Tree Restaurant). The owner would like to grind the pine tree stumps and fill in the cellar hole using onsite soils. Chairman Ward asked that the owner fill out a Request for Determination of Applicability.

**Adjournment:** There being no further business before the Commission this evening, **D. Ward motioned, with a second from C. Blackburn to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed 3-0.**

The meeting adjourned at 8:12 pm.

The following documents were reviewed during the Board's meeting and have been retained as required by the Massachusetts Public Retention Policy: Meeting Agenda, Sign in sheet, Draft meeting minutes 8/24/15; Housatonic Valley Association's 2014 Sheffield Assessment Report & Recommended Action Plan; Proposed map for Town Park public trail; 9/14/15 email from The Nature Conservancy.

Respectively submitted by:

  
Jill Hughes  
Recording Secretary