

**TOWN OF SHEFFIELD
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
JANUARY 22, 2024
TOWN HALL FIRST FLOOR MEETING ROOM
7:00 PM MEETING**

Commissioners present: Rene Wood, Chair
 Ted Pitman, Vice Chair
 Anya Rosoff
 Don Roeder

Others Present: Pamela Tambourine, Board Administrator

Members of the Public – See Sign-in Sheet

Chair Wood called the meeting to order at 7 PM and introduced all the Commissioners.

Chair Wood opened the public hearing at 7:02 pm on the Request for Determination of Applicability (RDA) from Epsilon Associates for National Grid re: 839 Bow Wow Road Electric Distribution Service Project of MGL, C.131,§40. Three Commissioners had earlier visited the site. MECO plans to install two new electric distribution poles and associated helical ground mounted anchors and two new helical ground anchors at existing electric distribution poles within existing utility easements along Bow Wow Road. Additionally, MECO proposes tree trimming and removal of five trees within the roadway easement to provide safe and reliable clearance to the proposed poles and overhead conductor. The proposed work is required to provide service to a new residence at 839 Bow Wow Road.

D. Roeder motioned to make a Negative Determination, #3, #5 seconded by T. Pitman. The motion passed unanimously, 4 - 0. The Commissioners signed

R. Wood motioned to close the public hearing for Bow Wow Road, seconded by T. Pitman. The motion passed unanimously, 4 - 0.

The Request for Determination of Applicability (RDA) from Epsilon Associates for National Grid re: Cooper Hill Road Electric Distribution Service Project of MGL, C.131,§40. Three Commissioners had earlier visited the site. MECO plans to install the following work: Installation of six new utility poles and associated helical anchors, located within the 100-foot Buffer Zone, four of which are also within the 200' Riverfront Area of Stony Brook. Additional work includes tree trimming & removal of 11 trees within Bordering Vegetated Wetlands and the 200' RFA to Stony Brook.

D. Roeder motioned to make a Negative Determination, #3, #5, Controlling Erosion with Straw Waddles or Straw Bales, as required. No Stumps to be Removed. Seconded by T. Pitman. The motion passed unanimously, 4 - 0. The Commissioners signed.

R. Wood motioned to close the Cooper Hill Road public hearing, seconded by T. Pitman. The motion passed unanimously, 4 - 0.

Public Hearing on Notice of Intent (NOI) from White Engineering re: Site Redevelopment to single family house and associated site work proposal for 290 Bow Wow Road (Lisa Ann Fried), as required under the Wetlands Protection Act. The applicant has requested continuation to 2-12-2024.. A site visit will need to be scheduled. The owner would like to be present for both the site visit and the hearing.

D. Roeder motioned to continue the public hearing to 7 pm on February 12, 2024, per the request from White Engineering, 290 Bow Wow Road (Lisa Ann Fried). T. Pitman seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously, 4-0.

Chair Wood motioned to contact David Cameron regarding an estimate on a peer review for 290 Bow Wow Road, discussed this with White Engineering prior to the February 12th meeting. T. Pitman seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously, 4-0.

Continued Discussion/Possible Action on Complaints: 375 Hewins Street; 635 N. Main Street; 0 Hemlock; and 142 Main Street. Commissioners reviewed drafted letters to 375 Hewins Street, 0 Hemlock, and 142 Main Street

- **375 Hewins Street:**

Letter of Potential violation of the Wetlands Protection Act at 375 Hewins Street, 21-1-5.0, in clearing trees without proper permitting from the Sheffield Conservation Commission

T. Pitman made a motion for Chair Wood to make corrections and send out a letter. The motion was seconded by D. Roeder and passed unanimously, 4 -0.

- **0 Hemlock:**

Letter of potential violations of Wetlands Protection Act at 0 Hemlock, by having fence go into the water of Berkshire Trout Pond and fencing within the Pond's buffer zone

T. Pitman made a motion for Chair Wood to make corrections and send out a letter. The motion was seconded by D. Roeder and passed unanimously, 4 -0.

- **142 Main:**

Letter 2nd Notice of Potential Unpermitted Activity and Potential Violation of the MA Wetlands Protection T. Pitman motioned for Chair Wood to make corrections and send out a letter. The motion was seconded by D. Roeder and passed unanimously, 4 -0.

- **635 N. Main Street:** Concerned about dumping debris in Wetland or Resources. Make a site visit before the next meeting.

Minutes;

1-8-2024 Minutes tabled until 2-12-2024 meeting.

Discussion of Scenic Mountain Act and Next Steps:

- Jim Larkin provided his view and concern about the scenic quality of the face of the mountain and the potential for environmental violations.
- Concerns about preserving natural scenic qualities and watershed resources in a proposed development project.
- Visual aids to demonstrate elevation differences in the area.
- Emphasizes the importance of addressing water quality and wildlife impacts in constructing new homes in Berkshire County, Massachusetts.
- Discussed the need for extra review and parameters to ensure that construction work does not harm the scenic and recreational elements of the area.
- Mentions when the revised regulations are finalized they will be submitted to the Select Board for approval.
- Public hearing will be held soon, and the public has been invited to provide feedback.

Public Inquiries:

Lindy Marcel inquiring about parcels she would like to purchase and before purchasing asking how to get ConCom to look at the wetland area on the property. The Board advised having a professional delineate wetlands if they think they have them on their property and bringing a sketch or RDA to the Conservation Commission for review.

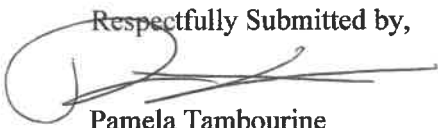
Susan Butler had SMA suggestions and questions. Concerns and comments noted.

Commission Member Items:None

Review Mail: Mail was reviewed.

T. Pitman motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by D. Roeder. The motion passed unanimously. 4-0. The meeting adjourned at 8:00 PM.

Respectfully Submitted by,



Pamela Tambourine
Board Administrator

Documents reviewed at this meeting:

- Agenda
- RDA Bow Wow
- RDA Cooper Hill Road
- Draft Letters 375 Hewins Street; 0 Hemlock; and 142 Main Street
- Kelsey Road Map
- Draft Meeting Minutes
- Scenic Mountain Act Draft Revision
- Letters from Susan Butler