Town of SHELBURNE

Conservation Commission

MINUTES

Regular Meeting ~ July 10, 2018

Present: Norman Davenport, Ellen Jenkins, John Richardson, Steve McCormick

Absent: Allan Smith

Administrative Assistant: Faye Whitney

Guests: Gretchen Gerstner, Emily Boss, John Payne, Helen Watt, Jesse Watt

Chairman Norm Davenport convened the meeting at 7 p.m. A quorum was present.

**Minutes**

A motion was made by Steve, seconded by John, to approve the minutes of June 19, 2018.

Voting to approve: Norm, John, Ellen, Steve

 Opposed: None

 Abstaining: None

**Organizational Matters**

The Commission seems to be using several different mailboxes in the back room and it is causing confusion. Faye has purchased a box of file folders and is working on getting paperwork sorted.

**Upcoming Hearings/Meetings**

Norm has met with Highway Superintendent Mark Shippee concerning upcoming drainage work near the intersection of Frank Williams and Skinner Roads. The work will be done within 200 feet of a wetland and an RDA will be needed. Mark will come to the next Commission meeting.

John has been in contact with a South Maple Street resident who will need an RDA for working on the bank of an intermittent stream.

**RDA Meeting – Gretchen Gerstner – 7:15 p.m.**

Gretchen is the owner of Baked on Deerfield Avenue. She would like to construct a 10 x 25-foot deck on the second-floor rear of the building. The deck would be accessed through the second-floor dining room. This will ensure that under age customers cannot enter without having IDs checked. To access the proposed deck an existing window will be converted to a door. The deck will be supported by 6 x 6 pressure-treated posts on concrete piers. The area under the deck is currently grass and will remain so after construction. A motion was made by Steve to accept the plan presented by Gretchen under a Negative 2 determination. This was seconded by John and unanimously approved.

**Franklin Land Trust**

The FLT is working with the Payne family to conserve some land, known as the Dragon Hill property, through the Scenic Bylaw Program, funded by Mass DOT. This property meets all of the funding requirements. One requirement is that a public entity become the holder of the conservation restriction. The town of Shelburne would be the holder of the restriction and would have a MOU with the FLT. State regulations say that the Conservation Commission is the holder of CR for the town. Emily provided copies of a typical CR and MOU. The town has no liability. FLT will do the long-term monitoring of the property. The land may be posted and will be gated at Route 2. If the Commission is agreeable, the FLT will get approval for the actual CR and MOU from the Commission and the Selectboard. It will then be signed by the Paynes and the state, and the CR will get recorded along with the MOU. The Payne family is receptive to the suggestion that a hiking trail could be located on the property. John and Steve expressed the opinion that they saw no downside to this plan. Emily will come to the Commission’s September meeting with the necessary paperwork.

The next meeting was scheduled for August 14 (later rescheduled for September 11).

At 8:05 p.m. John, seconded by Ellen, made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Faye Whitney

Administrative Assistant