

Montague Conservation Commission

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MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, July 30, 2015 – 6:30 pm

Upstairs Meeting Room, Town Hall, One Avenue A, Turners Falls, MA

Commissioners Present: Mark Fairbrother - Chair, Alex Peterkin, Sean Werle, Deb Picking

Commissioners Absent: Addie Rose Holland, Justin Fermann and Donna Francis

Staff Absent: Walter Ramsey - Agent

Mark Fairbrother called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM

6:30 PM Public Meeting: Request for Determination of Applicability #2015-03 filed by Linda Ackerman of 86 Taylor Hill Road for the reconstruction of a single family home and installation of a new septic system after a fire at the property. (Assessors Map 47 Lot 26). Work will occur in the buffer zone of bordering vegetated wetlands.

Guests:

Ward W. Smith – Wendell Wetland Services

Ward Smith gave an overview of the project: This is a fire destroyed home and the footprint of the house is going to be oriented a little differently with the total area of the home being 924 square feet not including the garage.

Ward has flagged the wetlands and there is an intermittent stream in the front with a rock wall. There is red maple and jewel weed with bordering vegetative wetlands that have also been delineated. All disturbed ground will be stabilized with grass before removal of the erosion control.

Doug McLeay will do what is called a septic system “repair” since one existed before; even though it will be a new system. The system will be done by McLeay Engineering and is designed raised with a curtain foundation drain.

Ward W. Smith requests a negative determination due to no alteration will be done to the surrounding resource areas.

Mark Fairbrother read aloud Walter Ramsey’s memo stating that this is a redevelopment project. Given the resource areas on the site, the house and septic layout is designed to minimize impact to the extent practical. There is no new work within 50 feet of wetlands. Adequate erosion control is proposed (silt fence with staked hay bales). Walter recommended a Negative Determination Box 3 due to the fact that the work is within the buffer zone but will not alter the resource area.

Motion made by Sean Werle for a Negative Determination Box 3 with no special conditions. Seconded by Alex Peterkin. **Motion passed unanimously.**

Meeting adjourned at approximately 6:42 PM.

Approved by: _____ Date: _____