February 10, 2020

Chairman Jim Krissel called the regular meeting to order at 6:30 PM with the following members in attendance: Mike Dudek, Harvey Hayden, Sharon Tingley, William Trowbridge and Alternate Robin Zitter. Also in attendance: Chairman Emeritus Kirby, Nikki Blass, Lisa Coon Pedersen, AI Rabasco, John Imholz and Tate Begley. Krissel, Schreiber, Hayden, Trowbridge, Tingley, Dudek and Zitter conducted site visits this past Saturday with no action taken. Kirby, Chairman Krissel and Land Use Administrator Casey conducted various visits during the month. The Agenda was reviewed, and amended with the correction to Four Maples Farm and change of next month’s site visit to March 7 via motions of Tingley/Dudek with all in favor. The minutes of the previous meeting stood approved as submitted.

2. Communications: None

3. Old Business:
   a) 11 Dug Road: This previously approved application and project has been downscaled. Lisa Coon Pedersen presented the site plan and noted the changes. With a reminder to install double staked haybales for run off, motions of Dudek/Tingley approved the amended application with all in favor.

4. New Business:
   a) 90 Sharon Mountain Road: AI Rabasco was in attendance to address any questions. The owner was not able to be present on Saturday, probably due to the weather. This was a previous application with requested wetland flagging of the property – which has been submitted. Mr. Rabasco noted the needed grading and swale creation to eliminate ponding on site. The water will go where is has been going, just more directly. The owner also wishes to construct a lean to shed on the side of the existing barn. Due to questions and the need for a site visit, this application was tabled until next month via motions of Tingley/Dudek with all in favor. Mr. Rabasco stated he would be available to attend the site visit when scheduled.

   b) 121 Mudge Pond Road – Owner John Imholz was in attendance to present the application and answer questions. This was a site visit. The property has been neglected for many years – there is a parcel, which is lakefront with an existing screened cabin (no utilities). The owner wishes to cut and level out the lakefront area for access to the lake and the placement of a recreational dock. The access
way exists and has been maintained. The area is very wet and any work proposed needs to be done in the driest of weather. The only work to the existing cabin is to replace screens and repair the building as needed. On the house side of the property, he wishes to remove and grind the stump of a dead maple tree. Both sides require removal of brush. It was suggested that the existing vegetative buffer be enhanced to approximately 8' with native plantings to protect the lake—allowing an opening for the recreational dock. Motions of Dudek/Tingley approved the mowing—in dry weather—as long as there is a vegetative buffer placed, removal of dead trees as requested and the removal of an existing fence. The owner needs to decide on a material for the recreational dock and return that information to the Commission. All were in favor. The new brochure was provided to the owner for assistance with the buffer and plantings and he can also call the office at any time for assistance.

c) 26 Dawn Hill Road: Owner Tate Begley was in attendance to answer any questions and present the application for removal of invasive plants. This was a site visit. Jim Krissel, as an adjoining property owner recused himself and left the room. Mike Dudek took over the meeting. Much of the work is within 200' of the existing stream—and some within 6-12' of the existing stream. The plan is to remove barberry and dead trees with a mini excavator. The process is to “pluck”, mulch and seed in sections. Concerns regarding the germination and seed distribution were discussed. Motions of Tingley/Hayden approved the application with the stipulation that near the steep grades to the stream, staked haybales be placed, each section to be completed with seed and mulch and ash tree stumps to be left in place. All were in favor.

Mr. Krissel rejoined and took over the meeting.

d) 264 Amenia Union Road: Four Maples Farm—discussion on bridge replacement and removal of compost piles. This is under Agriculture and for information only. The existing bridge decking has been replaced in the past. Mr. Krissel will present a full plan when he has it ready. There is no action required.

5. Budget Review 2020-2021: The budget information was reviewed. Motions of Tingley/Dudek moved to keep Line item 19a the same figure. The Chairman will meet with the Selectman to discuss a possible increase to Line Item 19.a-1—more than the standard increase offered to all employees. All were in favor.

Other Business: There was discussion on changes to site visit procedures. The applications should be reviewed prior to the meeting—and the history of the property may be available in other files. The procedure for Significant Activity as well as the ability to table an application for an additional site visit was reviewed.
It was noted that the erosion control measures at 85 Sharon Mountain Road need to be checked. Chairman Krissel will speak with Ralph Hohlfeld (Contractor). With no other business, motions of Dudek/Tingley adjourned the meeting at 6:55 PM with all in favor.

Respectfully,

Jamie Casey, Land Use Administrator/Clerk

Next Meeting: Monday, March 9, 2020  6:30 PM

Site visits: March 6-8th