

**Lenox Conservation Commission
Land Use Meeting Room
March 7, 2019
Minutes**

Members present: Chair Neal Carpenter, (NC); Joseph Strauch, (JS); Dick Ferren, (DF); Vince Ammendola, (VA); David Lane, (DL); and Mark Smith, (MS); Rose Fitzgerald Casey, (RFC)
Staff present: Peggy Ammendola, Land Use Clerk, (PA)

Post Farm Grant discussion- Earlier this year, the Commission was advised that a grant for clear cutting, thinning, field improvements etc. for which Jess Toro of Native Habitat Restoration had applied was not granted to the Town. (Ms. Toro had appeared before the Commission on September 20, 2018 to discuss this.) On February 26th, the Commission received an email from Patrick Conlin, Private Lands Habitat Biologist with Massachusetts Division of Fisheries & Wildlife in which he stated that even though the Town's application did not rank high enough to meet the threshold for an award, he believes that with some modifications to the application, it could be more competitive this year. After discussion, it was agreed that a good time to have Mr. Conlin meet the Commission at Post Farm and have a discussion on what information the Commission should submit in another grant application. NC will contact Mr. Conlin to see if he can meet in mid-April.

Other Business:

Ed Merritt, 139 Lime Kiln Rd., Map 27 Parcel18-NC said that he had a complaint that Mr. Merritt had cut down some extra trees on his property. He had asked to take down some behind his garage by his sister's property, but he also took some down in the northeast corner. Rob Akroyd and Mr. Merritt have spoken to NC and it was explained that before doing anything, Mr. Merritt checks with Mr. Akroyd. Mr. Akroyd claims that at a site visit, the northeast corner was discussed and removing the trees was approved. The area is within the 100 foot buffer zone and not within the conservation restriction. It was agreed he could finish running his septic line through this area and then he would have to plant 6 new white pines.

Edith Wharton Park-DL said that there needs to be a gate or chain at this property as people are driving out onto the field to go ice fishing. This is at the field before the house. NC will purchase 25 feet of chain. Posts are already in place.

Affordable housing- Recently JS attended an Affordable Housing meeting in which he made the participants aware of the problems with wetlands and salamander at the proposed location of Routes 7 & 20 and Housatonic.

Minutes: *February 21, 2019*-MS made a motion to approve the minutes with a minor edit and JS seconded the motion. The minutes were approved with a vote of 6-0-1. RFC abstained as she was not at the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15.

Respectfully submitted,

Peggy Ammendola