**Lenox Conservation Commission**

**Landuse Meeting Room**

**September 20, 2018**

**Minutes**

**Members present:** Chair Neal Carpenter, (NC); Joseph Strauch, (JS); Vince Ammendola, (VA); David Lane, (DL); Dick Ferren, (DF); and Mark Smith, (MS)

**Absent with notification:** Rose Fitzgerald Casey, (RFC)

**Staff present:** Peggy Ammendola, Land Use Clerk, (PA)

The meeting was recorded.

**Request for Determination of Applicability, Jane and Douglas Warnock, 188 East Dugway Rd., Map 18 Parcel 14.** The proposed project is the replacement of a failed septic system.

Presenting the application was Fatjon Rabiaj of Berkshire Engineering. Mr. Rabiaj described the new type of septic system which is a subsurface sewage disposal system upgrade.

DF made a motion to issue a Negative 4 Determination. JS seconded the motion and the Commission voted to agree 6-0.

On September 13th, a site visit was attended by Mike Kulig of Berkshire Engineering and Commissioners NC, VA, JS DL and MS.

**Request for Determination of Applicability, Town of Lenox, West Dugway Rd., Kennedy Park, (Baker’s Pond), Map 22 Parcels 4 & 21.** The proposed project is the placement of a pre-fabricated gazebo on an existing stone foundation.

Presenting the RDA was Gwen Miller, Land Use Director/Town Planner.

DF made a motion to issue a Negative 3 Determination. VA seconded the motion and the Commission voted to agree 6-0.

NC said that the dead trees which had been planted previously, will be replaced and after the gazebo is in place the large rocks will be placed on the path in order to prevent vehicular traffic.

**Approve Minutes:** *September 6, 2018-*DF made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. MS seconded the motion and the Commission voted to approve 6-0.

**Other Business:**

***Sarah Hatch, 183 Housatonic St., Map 44 Parcel 64*-**Ken Lawton, contractor for Ms. Hatch, contacted NC to let him know that they wished to make a slight change in the positioning of the garage which will now be further away from the two wetlands. The Commissioners agreed that it is a minor change and would not require further review by the Commission.

***Jess Toro of Native Habitat Restoration-***Ms. Toro has worked with the Town in securing state grant money for three years for controlling the invasive Hardy Kiwi in Kennedy Park. After a year or two she will return to survey the seed source which is in the ground.

She said that the Town has an opportunity to secure additional grant money for municipal properties to eradicate invasive plants. She asked the Commission for suggestions for properties that would meet the eligibility requirements. One requirement discussed was that the property must be opened for hunting. Post Farm was mentioned as hunting is permitted there. Discussion ensued on the different types of grants that are available and what work the Commission would want to be done e.g. clear cutting, thinning, field improvements etc.

DL talked about mowing after the hunting season is over. Ms. Toro said that the Habitat Management Grant pays for work that is done from January to June. This time frame would work. Ms. Toro said that the Town would be notified in December or January if the grant is awarded.

The deadline for applying for this grant is October 18th. The next meeting is October 4th.

Ms. Toro said that she writes about 25 to 30 grants a year and she tries to match the property with the criteria required for grants. She feels that Post Farm “rises really well with the criteria”.

Ms. Toro asked to be placed on the October 4th agenda at 7:30 PM. She will return with a map and a proposal at that time.

MS made a motion to adjourn at 8:40 PM. VA seconded the motion and the Commissioners voted to agree 6-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Peggy Ammendola