



Town of Ashland

MASSACHUSETTS

MEETING MINUTES
ASHLAND CONSERVATION COMMISSION
April 9, 2018

1
2 Present: Gene Crouch (Chair)
3 William Moulton (Vice Chair)
4 Carl Hakansson
5 K.G. Narayana
6 Jeff Lingham (left at 7:45 p.m.)
7 Cathy Van Lancker
8 Greg Wands
9
10 Maeghan Dos Anjos (Agent)

11
12 **Call to order: 7:13 P.M.**

13
14 **7:13 Review of the March 26, 2018, Meeting Minutes**

15 Mr. Lingham made a motion, seconded by Ms. Van Lancker to accept the March 26, 2018,
16 Meeting Minutes as amended. Motion passed 7-0-0.

17
18 **7:16 Request for COC, 95-867, Kimberly Baron, 1 Blossom Lane, yard scape**
19 **improvements**

20 Ms. Kimberly Baron (Applicant and Owner) was present for the meeting. The Agent
21 explained that work seemed to conform to the plans. The Agent stated that Ms. Baron had
22 expressed drainage concerns on her property, and that she may address it through the
23 development of a rain garden. The Agent stated that this work would take place out of the 100
24 foot Buffer Zone.

25
26 Mr. Lingham made a motion, seconded by Mr. Narayana to issue the Certificate of
27 Compliance. Motion passed 7-0-0.

28
29 **7:25 Informal Discussion on Wetlands Protection Bylaw**

30 The Commission briefly summarized the Stormwater Management Bylaw and the associated
31 regulations.

32
33 The Commission discussed what changes the Wetlands Protection Bylaw needs and the best
34 method to get this done. The Commission spoke about the possibility of having a sub-
35 committee look into the bylaw. The Commission also discussed past discrepancies regarding
36 application procedures and Bylaw requirements. The following items were identified:

- 37 • Abutter notification needs to be clarified and updated to reflect recent changes to the
38 Wetlands Protection Act.
- 39 • Policies should be implemented to address certain topics like hazard trees, and beaver
40 dam removal.
- 41 • Clarification in the bylaw regarding septic systems and soil borings is necessary.

- 42 • Emergency work should be further clarified in the bylaw. The bylaw should provide
43 waivers for work resulting in storm damage.
44 • Sewer exemptions should be explored as it was added as an exemption in the State Act.
45 • The definitions section of the bylaw should be revised to include language on isolated
46 wetlands, streams, and watershed.
47 • Vernal pool protection in the bylaw should be reviewed.
48

49 The Commission would like to see a list of deficiencies between the Bylaw and situations that
50 arise as it relates to wetlands protection.
51

52 The Agent offered to sit with a Commission member on a Wednesday evening to go over some
53 further information between the Bylaw and the Wetlands Protection Act.
54

55 **8:15 Conservation Land Inventory—Approve Appendix A (Conservation Land Deeds),**
56 **and Appendix B (CR deeds)**

57 The Agent stated that Appendix A and B of the Conservation Land Inventory has been
58 completed. The Agent also stated that she is satisfied with the information found and believes
59 the appendices contain all information as it relates to Conservation Land and Conservation
60 Restrictions within the Town of Ashland.
61

62 The Commission asked about tax title properties, and suggested investigating certain tax titles
63 properties that could be transferred to the Conservation Commission.
64

65 **8:29 Updates on Ongoing Projects**

66 The Agent explained 14 Wesson Road (95-913), 54-58 Union Street, and 270 Cordaville Road.
67

68 There is a change of plans for 14 Wesson Road, which includes changing the foundation
69 elevation above grade and steps will be added. The foundation of the addition will change
70 from a slab to a crawl space. The Commission considered this a minor modification.
71

72 The Agent said that 54-58 Union Street is getting ready to file the NOI. The Agent stated that
73 270 Cordaville is on hold for warmer weather to evaluate the beaver dams behind the home.
74

75 **Documents Reviewed by the Conservation Commission on 4/9/2018**

- 76 • Conservation Commission Agenda 04-09-2018
77 • Conservation Commission Meeting Minutes 03-26-2018
78 • Letter and photographs regarding 1 Blossom Lane (Request for COC 95-867)
79 • Document entitled, “*Conservation Land Inventory, Appendix A: Conservation Land*
80 *Deeds*”
81 • Document entitled, “*Conservation Land Inventory, Appendix B: Conservation*
82 *Restrictions Deeds*”
83

84 **8:49 Adjournment**

85 Mr. Moulton made a motion, seconded by Ms. Van Lancker to adjourn the meeting.

86 Motion passed 6-0-0.