CONSERVATION COMMISSION – TOWN OF STOCKBRIDGE TUESDAY 23 May 2023 7:00pm, Stockbridge, MA – Town Hall & Remote via Zoom

Present: Ron Brouker [presiding], Lisa Bozzuto, Chuck Kohrer, Joe DeGiorgis, Bill Loutrel, Sally Underwood-Miller

Also present: Anthony Damiano, Tom Lewis, Marie Raftery, Jess Toro, Brian Siter, Michael Mullin, Gail Jacobson, David Cameron, Rob Akroyd

Lisa Bozzuto made a motion to approve minutes from Tuesday, 9 May. Chuck Kohrer seconded. Unanimous.

Request for Certificate of Compliance – Bernard Haan, 16 Beachwood Drive. Map 104, Lot 102. DEP#296-0457. (Creative Building Solutions) Continued pending resolution of violation. Review in June.

Anthony Damiano (GZA) reviewed the plans included in the Notice of Intent for National Grid, Clark Road. The proposal is for the Installation/replacement of phone and electric poles. 42 trees will be removed. Since there cannot be planting on Clark Road, 40 replacement trees will be made available at the Town's discretion. Jess Toro suggested that trees be planted along the Housatonic – possibly cottonwoods and sycamores among others. Park Street and the Golf Club would be other potential locations. The planting will take place in the fall. A spread sheet will be developed outlining the planting plan and location. Ron Brouker made a motion to approve the plans pending receipt of the planting plan and close the hearing. Unanimous.

Ron Brouker made a motion to continue the hearing for the Request for Determination of Applicability for TEC Associates (Housatonic RR) to 13 June. The project is for ROW maintenance. Chuck Kohrer will review the site of discarded railroad ties. Commissioners were alarmed to discover that the toxic wood preservative creosote is still being used in railroad ties. Much of the railroad line is proximate to the river and other resource areas. This poison can leach into the water table, as well as nearby waters. Lisa Bozzuto seconded. Unanimous.

Rob Akroyd (Greylock) presented a new plan for the Notice of Intent for Sarah Downie, 322 Old Stockbridge Road. (Map 209, lot 15) The proposal is for a stream crossing for future pasture access. Currently, the property is wooded. There will be a 1:1 replacement of lost trees (17). They will also remove invasive species. The majority of the disturbance will be remediated. The 12' bridge and gravel drive are for farm equipment crossing. Ron Brouker made a motion to accept the new plans and close the hearing. Chuck Kohrer seconded. Unanimous.

Brian Siter apprised the commission of plans to replace any trees 1:1 that need to be removed. Big rocks will be placed along the bank for the driveway repair.to hold it in place. Ron Brouker made a motion to approve the plans submitted with the Request for Determination of Applicability for Craig Moffatt, 2 Dugway Road. (Map 222, lot 24) Chuck Kohrer seconded. Unanimous.

Brian Siter asked the Commission to perform a site visit at 3 Ice Glen to review ongoing work in restoring the pond. A site visit was scheduled for 25 May at 10am.

Jess Toro (Native Habitat Restoration) presented the plans included in the Notice of Intent for the Stockbridge Bowl Association, Hawthorne Rd. The plans are for Bullard Woods invasive plant control. They are proposing to use herbicide on the invasive kiwi. Ron Brouker made a motion to approve the plan and close the hearing. Lisa Bozzuto and Sally Underwood-Miller voted not to approve, objecting to the use of herbicides. Chuck Kohrer seconded. Motion passed. 4-2-0

A site visit was scheduled to review the Request for Determination of Applicability for Michael Mullin, 10 East Street at 10:30am on Friday 6/25. (map 226, lot 12) The plan is for invasive plant removal. Continued to 6-13.

Sally Underwood-Miller made a motion to approve the latest version of the Performance Standards with formatting edits. Chuck Kohrer seconded the motion. Unanimous.

The Commission proposes to undertake a tree inventory of undeveloped areas in order to track changes to the canopy.

Ron Brouker made a motion to adjourn the hearing at 8:54. Chuck Kohrer seconded. Unanimous.

Respectfully submitted, Sally Underwood-Miller, Secretary/Member