

**Conservation Commission
Meeting Minutes of July 13, 2011**

Present: Lester Garvin, Chair (LG)
Will Thayer (WT)
Brian Clark (BC)
Phil Lussier (PL)

Others Present: Representative from Jacob Engineering
The meeting is called to order at 7:35 pm.

1. Commission reviews and accepts the June 22, 2011 meeting minutes.
2. Discussion regarding the new Franklin County on-line building, plumbing, and electrical permitting process. PL offers to investigate this new process as well as seek an email for the Ashfield Conservation Commission. He will contact members of the Website Committee for information about this. LG reports that he has signed a building permit for an applicant on Sampson Rd; there are no wetland issues.
3. Review of mail (various newsletters).
4. PL is interested in coordinating a workshop, possibly with the help of HCI, to educate landowners about the Emerald Ash Borer and the Hemlock Woolly Adelgid. The question is brought up if HCI has mapping for invasives.
5. WT reports that he recently spoken to a landowner who wants to remove trees and build a new garage. The proposed garage site is 150 feet from the lake. The Commission agrees that it is not in an area subject to jurisdiction.
6. Continuation of the Mass DOT NOI hearing. The representative from Jacobs Engineering provides an outline and explains the newest elements of the project which were incorporated after a series of field meetings with Ashfield residents, DEP, Natural Heritage, and Fish and Wildlife. Per suggestion of Natural Heritage, a recharge trench with stilling basin (25' long x 12' wide) will be installed. LG asks if this feature will require maintenance. Some sediment may collect, so it should be inspected yearly and may require cleaning in the spring. Letter dated May 11, 2011 from Natural Heritage is submitted for the file. Mass DOT is still awaiting letters from EPA, Corp of Engineers, MEPA and the water quality certification from DEP. LG also notes that in current documents the location of the Bement-Guilford Mill complex is incorrectly labeled. The Applicant takes note of this and will make the necessary corrections. A Microsoft Word file of the Order of Conditions draft will be emailed to the Commission. PL moves to close the hearing, WT seconds it, and all vote in favor.

Meeting adjourns at 8:30 pm.
Respectfully submitted,
Barb Sussbauer