



TOWN OF NORTHBRIDGE CONSERVATION COMMISSION

**7 MAIN STREET
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Meeting Minutes Monday, February 10, 2014

Andrew Chagnon, John Brown, Jeremy Deorsey and Justin Arbuckle were present. Terry Bradley, Joy Anderson and Bill Dausey were absent. Barbara Kinney, Administrative Assistant was also present.

Motion made by Mr. Deorsey and seconded by Mr. Arbuckle. The Conservation Commission (NCC) voted 4-0 to open the meeting at 6:05PM. The roll call vote is Mr. Brown . yes; Mr. Chagnon . yes; Mr. Deorsey . yes; and Mr. Arbuckle . yes.

Response to Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) comments to discuss the requested changes to the floodplain boundaries along the Mumford River.

Mark Anderson of Heritage Design Group explained that over the last two years a flood study has been done to change the floodplain from Douglas Road to the dam that is located about halfway down the Shop+building(s). The study will drop the floodplain from 312 feet to 310 feet. Most of the buildings along the river are in the flood zone now and this will take them out of the flood zone. The flood study has been completed and Mr. Anderson has a verbal agreement from FEMA that they are in agreement with the numbers. The Board of Selectmen are looking for a recommendation that the NCC agrees with what is being changed. There will be eight to nine acres between the shop and North Main Street that could be developed. Mr. Anderson is close to having this done. If the floodplain changes occur, Core Mark will stay in the building and will put an addition onto it. The dam on Douglas Road (Lackey Dam) has better control of the Mumford River now than it has in the past.

Mr. Deorsey stated that the NCC needs clarification on the Tighe & Bond comment that the Town is waiting for FEMA to finish their technical review before signing off on the application. In general, the NCC is in agreement with reassessing the floodplain.

Mr. Chagnon stated that the NCC is part of the process. He is not sure if there has been any public participation. The comments have been sent back from FEMA and the BOS has asked the NCC for their recommendation. Mr. Chagnon wanted to know what the community of Northbridge floodplain requirements are and Mr. Anderson did not know. Mr. Chagnon stated that the NCC does not feel any concerns from the last review have been addressed.

The last review's biggest concern was with the language that states in part ~~we~~ we have determined that the land and any existing or proposed structures to be removed from the SFHA are or will be reasonably safe from flooding and that we have available upon request by FEMA, all analyses and documentation used to make this determination.+ If the

Town signs this and then someone comes back and says their house flooded, the Town could be liable because they signed off on this. Mr. Chagnon stated that the NCC agrees that if the property should be out of the floodplain then that is a good thing for the community.

Motion made by Mr. Chagnon and seconded by Mr. Arbuckle. The NCC voted Mr. Arbuckle . yes; Mr. Brown . yes; Mr. Chagnon . yes; and Mr. Deorsey . yes; that due to the fact the Town has not determined %As the community official responsible for floodplain management, I hereby acknowledge that we have received and reviewed this letter of Map Revision (LOMR) or conditional LOMR request. Based upon the community\$ review, we find the completed or proposed project meets or is designed to meet all of the community floodplain management requirements, including the requirements for when fill is placed in the regulatory floodway, and that all necessary Federal, State, and local permits have been, or in the case of a conditional LOMR, will be obtained. For Conditional LOMR requests, the applicant has documented Endangered Species Act (ESA) compliance to FEMA prior to FEMA\$ review of the Conditional LOMR application. For LOMR requests, I acknowledge that compliance with Sections 9 and 10 of the ESA have been achieved independently of FEMA\$ process. For actions authorized, funded, or being carried out by Federal or State agencies, documentation from the agency showing its compliance with Section 7(a)(2) of the ESA will be submitted. In addition, we have determined that the land and any existing or proposed structures to be removed from the SFHA are or will be reasonably safe from flooding as defined in 44CFR 65.2(c), and that we have available upon request by FEMA, all analyses and documentation used to make this determination.+ that the NCC recommends that the Board of Selectmen do not sign the application.

Motion made by Mr. Chagnon and seconded by Mr. Arbuckle. The NCC voted 4-0 to adjourn the meeting at 6:35PM.

Respectfully submitted,

DATE APPROVED:

Barbara A. Kinney
Conservation Administrative Assistant