

**APPROVED**

**ADAMS CONSERVATION COMMISSION  
MEETING MINUTES  
THURSDAY, August 18th, 2022  
6:00 P.M.**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Chairman James Fassell, and Commission members Steve Melito, David Lipinski, Erica Deane, Jeff Randal, Natasha Bordeaux and Matt Burdick

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Brian Rhodes, iBerkshires.com; Carrie Burnett, Applicants; Josh Chittenden, Diana Smith, Kennan Smith, Greg Vigna, Applicant Representative; and Isaiah Moore, Administrative Assistant

**CALL TO ORDER:** Chairman Fassell called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** The board members need to approve the minutes of June 9th, 2022.

Administrative assistant Moore explained that the board did not receive adequate time to read the minutes as they were not included in the packets and recommended that the board table the minutes to the next meeting.

A motion by member David Lipinski seconded by Chair Fassell to table the minutes of the June 9th, 2022 meeting until next meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

**REQUEST FOR DETERMINATION:** Filed by Heather Linscott on behalf of Thunderbolts Ski Runners, is requesting determination of whether the work depicted on the plan(s) referenced is subject to the Wetlands Protection Act. The proposed project involves improving various trails throughout the Greylock Glen to make them more resistant to stormwater flooding.

Chair Fassell introduced the first agenda item and opened the floor to Mr. Chittenden to speak on behalf of the project.

Mr. Chittenden explained that he had been a part of the Thunderbolt Ski Runners for a long time and that while he wasn't as familiar on this particular project that he supported it and then introduced the representatives the Thunderbolt Ski Runners were working with.

Ms. Smith explained that the goal of the project was to make the trails more sustainable and less susceptible to runoff, erosion, and possible impacts on the natural environment.

Chair Fassell suggested that the goal was to be hardening the trail, Ms. Smith responded that that was one way to describe it.

Chair Fassell clarified that the trails are not being changed in terms of path or location but that the path would be made of different materials.

Member Lipinski asked what the material of the trails would be.

Ms. Smith responded that the trails would be made of sustainable, sturdy

Chair Fassell asked what the grant paying for the project was worth.

Mr. Chittenden responded that this grant was worth about sixty-five thousand dollars and that to date the Thunderbolt Ski Runners over one hundred and ten thousand dollars for trail improvements to the Glen.

Chair Fassell asked Member Randall for his input on the project.

Member Randall explained that he had walked 8 of the 9 paths and that there were only two locations that were jurisdictional, he stated that he would recommend a silt fence to take care of the intermittent stream that would be near the two locations to protect the area.

Chair Fassell commended the applicants for how much care they put into protecting the environment.

Member Melito asked what the plan is to build awareness for the trails.

Ms. Smith answered that the trails get a lot of positive feedback and that they do a good job building awareness for themselves.

Chair Fassell asked if there any other questions.

Member Bordeaux asked what equipment was planned to be used.

Mr. Smith responded that they have small machinery that is able to comfortably fit on the trails and that they will use human power as well.

The board had no more questions.

Chair Fassell asked if there was a recommendation for a motion.

***A motion by member Randall, seconded by member Lipinski, to grant a negative determination two for the application filed by Heather Linscott on behalf of Thunderbolts Ski Runners, requesting determination of whether the work depicted on the plan(s) referenced is***

*subject to the Wetlands Protection Act with the condition that the locations three and five as detailed on the application have silt fence erected to protect the local area and that the silt fence stay until the next spring. Vote was unanimous. Motion passed.*

**REQUEST FOR DETERMINATION:** Filed by Trinity Engineering and Technical Services, LLC, on behalf of Carrie Burnett (315 East Road), is requesting determination of whether the work depicted on the plan(s) referenced is subject to the Wetlands Protection Act. The proposed project involves replacement of a title 5 system.

Chair Fassell introduced the next item on the agenda and then opened the floor to Mr. Vigna for comment.

Mr. Vigna explained that the old system is old, small, and no longer fills the needs of the property. Mr. Vigna explained the process for moving the materials to the location. Mr. Vigna explained that the streams were both intermittent.

Mr. Vigna explained that there was the plan to use the silt fence and that while it was going to be a tight fit that it would indeed fit.

Chair Fassell asked what the plan was with the old septic.

Mr. Vigna responded that the plan was to empty the tank and then leave it in the ground.

Chair Fassell asked Ms. Burnett how many tenants lived in the building, and Ms. Burnett responded that there is currently one person with who has a partner that will at times stay over.

Member Lipinski asked member Randall what his thoughts on the matter were.

Member Randall thought that the applicants were exempt and that he recommended a negative two as is.

Chair Fassell asked if the board had any more questions, there were none.

*A motion made by member Randall, seconded by Member Deane, to grant a negative determination two for the application filed by Trinity Engineering and Technical Services, LLC, on behalf of Carrie Burnett (315 East Road), requesting determination of whether the work depicted on the plan(s) referenced is subject to the Wetlands Protection Act with no conditions. Vote was unanimous. Motion passed.*

## **OLD BUSINESS/NEW BUSINESS:**

### **-Reorganization of the board**

Mr. Moore explained that the board needed to reelect the board positions for the next year.

*A motion made by member Lipinski, seconded by member Bordeaux, to appoint member Fassell to be the chair of the Conservation Commission.*

**Member Fassell accepted the nomination.**

There were no other nominations.

**Vote was unanimous. Motion passed.**

*A motion made by chair Fassell, seconded by member Deane, to appoint member Lipinski as the Vice Chair of the Conservation Commission.*

**Member Lipinski accepted the nomination.**

There were no other nominations.

**Vote was unanimous. Motion passed.**

**-Classes offered by MACC coming up**

Mr. Moore let the board know that there was going to be a number of classes available for the board to learn the various aspects of the board.

Member Melito shared that he had recently taken a class and that he found it very informative.

**REVIEW MAIL:**

- **Forest cutting plans**

Mr. Moore shared letters that explained plans to do forest cutting with the board.

**ADJOURN:**

Member Melito motioned to adjourn at 7:00 pm, seconded by Member Lipinski, passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,



**Isaiah Moore, Recording Secretary**



**Date**