**APPROVED**

**ADAMS CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

**MEETING MINUTES**

**THURSDAY, MARCH 21, 2019**

**MEMBERS PRESENT**: Chairman James Fassell, Vice-Chairman Corey Bishop and Commission members Brian Bishop, Tom Robinson and David Lipinski

**MEMBER ABSENT**: Tammie Shafer

**OTHERS PRESENT**: Joseph Nowak, Adams Selectboard; Emily Stockman, Stockman Associates; Jeff Cohen and Recording Secretary Pam Gerry

**CALL TO ORDER**: Chairman Fassell called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** A motion made by Member Lipinski, seconded by Member Bishop to accept the minutes of February 28, 2019. Vice-Chairman Corey Bishop abstained from voting.

**CONTINUANCE OF REQUEST FOR DETERMINATION: filed by Spinning Mill LLC. Applicant is requesting whether the boundaries of resource area(s) depicted on plan(s) and/or map(s) referenced are accurately delineated; whether the work depicted on plan(s) is subject to the Wetlands Protection Act; whether the area and/or work depicted on plan(s) referenced is subject to the jurisdiction of any municipal wetlands ordinance or bylaw for demolition of existing structures within the property and subsequent stabilization of the areas on property located on 7 Hoosac Street.**

Emily Stockman, Stockman Associates representing the applicant addressed the Commission members by introducing them to Jeff Cohen, owner of the property. Ms. Stockman began by reviewing various aspects of the project that were discussed at the Conservation Commission’s last meeting. She stated to the members that the historic mill located at 7 Hoosac Street was within the riverfront area of the Hoosic River and Hoxie Brook. She told them that the area contained bordering vegetative wetlands and that it was surrounded by a concrete wall and bordering land near the flood plain. Ms. Stockman reviewed the areas of the proposed demolition to the west, noting that work would be performed away from the Hoosic River. She stated that the area of debris collected from the demolition of the structure would be in a gravel parking area. Ms. Stockman told the members that they would also be removing an existing garbage chute. Member Robinson asked Ms. Stockman if she could notify the Commission members when they were ready to remove the chute, adding that his main concern was focused on the east side of the building near the river. Mr. Cohen seated in the audience wanted the members to know that they may not be allowed to remove the chute as it may have historical value. Ms. Stockman informed the members that any concerns they may have involving asbestos removal in the building would be addressed during the demolition permitting process. Ms. Stockman addressed further concerns regarding the elevation of the flood plain which was brought to their attention by Mark Stinson, MA DEP. She explained to them that the Commission had been provided information by SK Design explaining that the flood plain “was an issue.” She told them that MA DEP was interested in additional information on the elevations. Ms. Stockman stated that the flood plain elevations vary throughout the site, quoting the figures to the members by letting them know that the flood plain was contained within the chute but would encroach into the wetland area during times when the elevations varied.

Chairman Fassell read the recommendations made by Bill Lattrell, ecological consultant for the Town of Adams. He let them know that the material was “legal and accurate as stated by Mr. Lattrell.” Mr. Fassell wanted the applicant to know that a Notice of Intent would be required for their proposed project. Mr. Cohen addressed him by stating that he anticipated filing a Notice of Intent with the Conservation Commission.

A motion made by Vice-Chairman Corey Bishop, seconded by Member Brian Bishop to issue a Positive 2A and Negative 5 & 6 Determinations to Spinning Mill LLC for property located at 7 Hoosac Street, passed unanimously.

**OLD BUSINESS/NEW BUSINESS:**

Member Bishop stated to the Commission that he had a concern with the foot bridge located on Gavin Avenue. He mentioned to them that the bridge appeared as though it had the possibility of falling into the Hoosic River or posing a potential threat to the general public. Joe Nowak, Adams Selectboard seated in the audience addressed the Commission members to let them know that the town was aware of the situation and he would also be communicating with the building commissioner.

Chairman Fassell wanted to let the members know that MA DOT would be presenting a Request for Determination to resurface and reconstruct the Ashuwilticook Rail Trail. Member Robinson stated that the town should not have any financial responsibility for the upkeep of the trail. Mr. Nowak stated to the members that the town did “not have the economic means” to address these issues, adding that it would be a good idea for the members to voice their concerns to the MA DOT when they come before the Conservation Commission. In closing, Mr. Nowak stated to the members that they would be extending the rail trail, adding that Ms. Burnette, owner of property on East Road agreed to allow the trail to be accessed through her property.

Conservation Commission members requested a representative from Specialty Minerals to appear at their next meeting to review the quarterly reports that are submitted to them. Chairman Fassell stated to the members that Sharon Burke would be representing them, adding that she intended to address any concerns they would have with various correspondences from Specialty Minerals. Member Robinson expressed they he would like to address a report submitted by Specialty Minerals to the Commission regarding lime waste and dredging from the blue ponds. He would like to request that they be prepared to address any documentation that has been presented to the members over the course of time at their next meeting.

**REVIEW MAIL:**

**ADJOURN:**

A motion made by Member Lipinski, seconded by Vice-Chairman Corey Bishop to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 P.M., passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Pamela Gerry Date