



Williamsburg Conservation Commission  
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**Meeting Minutes – April 17, 2020**  
**Meeting via Zoom**

**Commissioners present** - Marci Caplis, Mary Dudek, Todd Lynch, Andrew MacLachlan, and Joe Rogers

**Members of the public present** - Jason Cooney

**Meeting was called to order at 3:00 pm**

RDA 59 South Street, Jason Cooney: The plan calls for installation of an in-ground pool between the garden and the house. There's a question about the proximity to the wetland, which is not flagged. There is a skirt drain that flows into a wet area planted with willows. Mr Cooney plans to plant more. Straw wattles were staked down between the wet area and the disturbance area. Commissioners issued a Negative 3 with conditions. Conditions include:

Erosion control remains until the grass is stabilized. Temporary sump pump from the pool outlet gets dumped within the wattle zone.

Violation at 86 Ashfield Road: Commissioners discussed their thoughts and concerns about the altered bridge.

- The wetland consultant Ward Smith, is very experienced and Mr. Rogers feels comfortable with his work.
- How much do the enlarged abutments restrict water flow?
- Will mitigation increase disturbance along the stream bed?
- Ms. Caplis will contact the building inspector concerning structural safety issues, as well as Amy Bisbee, the planning board chair, who is also a civil engineer.
- What is the surface face of the new piers and how do they block flow?
- What are the plans for clearing out logs and other debris that block stream flow?
- If there is an excess build up after a major storm event, should the Conservation Commission contact the owner?
- Would like to see the wetlands officially flagged for the formal record.
- Would like to see a table showing up and down stream MAHW widths compared with the current bridge location. How constricted is the crossing with the new footers. What is the openness ratio?

Marcianna Caplis   C. Todd Lynch   Joseph Rogers   Mary Dudek   Andrew MacLachlan  
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- Quantify the square footage of alteration to LUWW caused by encasing the footers as well as the change in volume or amount of fill. This will be the basis for mitigation.
- Based on preliminary discussions at the meeting, some commissioners would like to see a restoration or mitigation plan that would potentially maximize the flow capacity in the vicinity of the bridge while not risking any destabilization of the abutments. Are there bank stability issues up/downstream that could be addressed as a mitigation measure?
- We may want to consult Mark Stinson about correctly amending an enforcement order. Mr. Rogers received one recently and we could borrow the legal language from that one.
- In general, at this point we would like to work toward doing what can be done to keep that structure safe. We don't think that we should retroactively ask for an NOI.

**Meeting was adjourned at 3:38 pm**

Respectfully submitted,  
Melinda McCall  
Secretary - Williamsburg Conservation Commission

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