



Williamsburg Conservation Commission
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Meeting Minutes – September 10, 2020

Meeting via Zoom

Commissioners present - Marci Caplis, Andrew MacLachlan, and Joe Rogers.

Members of the public present - Chris Chamberland, Heidi Johnson and Geoff LeBaron,

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm

Follow up on Berkshire Design's proposal for restoration work responding to the Enforcement Order for the bridge at 86 Ashfield Road: Proposed corrective actions include:

1. Clear debris under the bridge. The Commission requires removal of debris without entering the stream, most likely from the bridge.
2. Excavate the old stream crossing. This would require permitting beyond the Enforcement Order.
3. Remove invasive species and plant native plants in areas disturbed by mitigation work and within the Site.

Commissioners agreed to accept parts 1 and 3 of the proposed restoration. Part 2 was rejected because of the level of river bed disturbance.

Additional points of clarification;

- The magnitude of the invasives removal work. The site has a lot of multiflora rose. The Commissioners added a specification for hand pulling or cutting stems and stem painting herbicide where appropriate.
- A timeline for the work. Debris clearing should take place this fall by the end of October as long as flow conditions are favorable. Invasives clearing should be done in the spring to midsummer of 2021 to

Marcianna Caplis C. Todd Lynch Joseph Rogers Mary Dudek Andrew MacLachlan
Williamsburg Conservation Commissioners
Melinda McCall, Commission Secretary

- minimize seed dispersal, with cutting and painting taking place midsummer to mid September of 2021.
- Work will not start until an updated Enforcement memo from the Conservation Commission is received.
 - Monitoring by a wetlands consultant will continue for two full seasons.
 - If any bare ground is created, the contractor will plant a native seed mix.

The Commissioners agreed to allow the work to go forward to increase the flow potential of the stream. The enforcement order will be amended with a new one that moves forward from the previous one.

13 North Main Street, Johnson and LeBaron, RDA for gas line trench: The oil tank failed at this property and there is no way to get a new tank in. The owners have chosen to convert to propane heat. The plan calls for installing a propane tank behind the barn and adjacent to the river. A trench will be dug from there to the house to a depth of 18 inches, and will run between two large pines. There is no concern about erosion, and the work would be completed in one day. The Commission gave conditional approval, with a negative 2 determination, so that work could begin as soon as possible due to impending cold weather. Conditions are as follows:

- The contractor submits a drawing with descriptions and measurements.
- Notify the Commission when work begins and ends.
- Notify the Commission if work is not completed in one day.

35 Village Hill Road, Johnson and LeBaron, follow up on NOI: The owners notified the Commission that the grass has grown in on disturbed area between the new driveway to the abutters. They plan to remove the silt sock by cutting open the sock and letting the mulch spill out to cover poison ivy.

Water Removal from Mill River: Mark Stinson, DEP is concerned about water being removed from the river along Ashfield Road.

Follow up On 40 Goshen Road information request: The potential buyer never got back to Mr. Rogers about a site visit.

72 Depot Road, Rosenmiller, request for information: Mr. Rosenmiller did not make it onto the call, though he was on the agenda. The Commission discussed the proposed project, maintenance on a common driveway for four houses. Only a small part of the project is in the buffer zone, but Mr. Rosenmiller will need to submit an RDA because the extension of an earlier OOC has expired.

Soil boring tests for proposed Safety Complex: This project is exempt.

Discussion about scanning old files: The Commission decided not to scan old files, but to create a data system to store new files digitally.

Minutes from August 13, 2020 were approved.

Next meeting was scheduled for October 8 at 7:00 pm

Meeting was adjourned at 8:10 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Melinda McCall
Secretary - Williamsburg Conservation Commission