



Williamsburg Conservation Commission
141 Main Street, P.O. Box 447
Haydenville, Massachusetts 01039-0447
Phone: 413-268-8416 Fax: 413-268-8409
conservation@burgy.org

Meeting Minutes
September 8, August 11, 2022
via Zoom

Commissioners present – Marci Caplis, Mary Dudek, Andrew MacLachlan, Melinda McCall

Members of the public present – Dan Banister

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm

RDA: reshaping and repaving Adams Road, Williamsburg Highway Department

Dan Banister, Highway Department Superintendent, submitted a RDA for re-shaping and re-paving one mile of Adams Road. The current road is a thirty year old oil and stone road with significant wheel tracks. The repaving is being done in anticipation of increased traffic if and when Mountain Street gets redone by the state. In addition, snow and ice cannot be cleared well in the winter because of the ruts.

The plan is to grind, grade, add calcium to strengthen the materials, roll, add 2.5 inches or coarse asphalt, topped by 1.5 inches of fine asphalt. The road will have a gradual crown and maintain the existing edge, except for one area where the road will be narrowed slightly to slow traffic. All work will be done from the road itself. Stone will be added to the edge to slow runoff and provide a structural edge to the new and relatively elevated surface.

There is an existing black top swale that catches runoff on a steep slope directing water to a catch basin and down the hill directly to a beaver pond. The plan is to add stone to the swale to slow flow, and try to clear out a catch basin that would direct the flow under the road and down a hill through the woods where it will get filtered before reaching a wetlands.

Erosion controls such as straw wattles will be placed at stream crossings. The parking

area at Joe Wright Brook will not be paved, but wattles could be placed there as a precaution. The entire project is expected to take less than two weeks.

Superintendent Banister had provided maps showing the work and erosion control sites, as well as accompanied commissioners on a site visit to further explain the work. Though the road work runs through multiple wetlands, crosses three perennial streams, and abuts an Audubon sanctuary, the project is exempt because it meets the requirements that resource areas are protected. Commissioners issued a Negative 5 finding.

Update on Beaver Brook Golf Course plan to add a campground:

The proposal went to a public hearing of the ZBA. Commissioner Caplis spoke eloquently of the potential impacts to wetlands and the need for permits. Many others spoke with concerns as well. The proposal was withdrawn without prejudice.

Adding alternates to the Conservation Commission:

Commissioners voted in favor of having alternates on the Commission. Kyle Rodd, a town resident with an environmental degree from Antioch College had expressed interest in joining. Commissioner Caplis will reach out to a few other people, as well as MACC to find the typical number of members.

NOI checklist:

The proposed checklist for NOI applicants was reviewed. A few changes were made, and the checklist was accepted.

Minutes from August 11 were approved as amended.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:53.

Respectfully submitted,
Melinda McCall
Secretary - Williamsburg Conservation Commission