



Williamsburg Conservation Commission
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Meeting Minutes
July 13, 2023
via Zoom

Commissioners present – Mary Dudek, Melinda McCall, Joe Rogers

Members of the public present – Jeff Smith

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm.

Upcoming work at 92 Main Street, Martha Arnold:

Jeff Smith discussed initial plans for reshaping the stream bed to stabilize it and add volume for higher stream flow. Commissioners had visited the site earlier and noticed that the restrictive channel formed by stone walls was collapsing and flooding from heavy storms could damage the house. Cliff Clark plans to do the work from the yard side of the stream. Jeff Smith will oversee the permitting. The site is near but not in priority habitat and filing as an ecological limited restoration will negate the need for a wildlife notification. It was suggested that Mark Stinson from DEP would be helpful on constructing a plan using the restoration approach.

Update on the Hyde Hill wetland replication:

Mr. Smith has been checking on the replication and has seen good vegetative growth. The driveway held up well through the heavy rain.

Upcoming site visits:

- 7 N. Main Street, Andrew Erwin, emergency repair of river wall
- 15 Main Street Margaret Leonard for Iva Leibart, drainage improvements
- 92 Ashfield Road, Carolyn Dubois, erosion around bridge footings

Discussion of possible emergency repairs due to flooding:

There was a great deal of flooding, erosion, and damage to bridges on Ashfield Road. Landowners need to document damage and any work done. An emergency declaration has a time limit, so action must be taken quickly. However, no such declaration had been made at the time of this meeting. If a new or better bridge is needed, landowners must get an engineer to stamp a design. This is usually for construction of a foundation for a pre-fabricated bridge. If the bridge is on a major road, Mass DOT would have to sign off on it. There will only be state funding if an Emergency Declaration is made.

COC, 2 Clay Road, Snow:

Commissioners visited the site and discussed this at the June meeting. The site was well maintained and fully vegetated. A motion was made and accepted unanimously to issue a COC for the repair of the septic system.

Minutes from June 2023 were not reviewed.

Next Meeting: August 10.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:54.

Respectfully submitted,
Melinda McCall
Secretary - Williamsburg Conservation Commission