



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

Meeting Minutes – June 11, 2020
Meeting via Zoom

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

Members of the public present - Jonathan Flagg

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm

Introduction to new Building Inspector, Jonathon Flagg: The Conservation Commission invited Mr. Flagg to join the meeting for introductions, and to discuss ways to support the Commission in enforcing the Wetlands Protection Act, and to review progress on the Ashfield Road bridge enforcement order. Mr. Flagg is quite knowledgeable and experienced in wetlands regulations, and is committed to communicating with the Commission. He also declared that the Building Inspector does not have jurisdiction over bridges, as bridges are unique.

Update on NOI for 3 Buttonshop Road: Despite this project being a very small paving project, it is in the riverfront area and subject to extra regulation and fees. In addition, it is in a Natural Heritage area. DEP wants any work in the riverfront to include environmental improvements, so the plan is to have runoff run into a swale planted with conservation mix.

11 East Main Street: Owners built a deck and did other work in the resource area without getting a permit. Commissioners discussed options for enforcement. Requiring a retroactive NOI does not make sense, but there needs to be some accountability out of fairness to the people who do follow the rules. One idea was to ask the owners to clear invasives. Ms. Caplis asked for more ideas to be sent to her, and she will send out a letter to the owners.

Email about water withdrawal from the river: A concerned citizen notified the Commission of a pipe withdrawing water out of the Mill River. This pipe seems to be part of Valley View Farm and their agricultural operations. Ms. Caplis will reply to the sender.

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

Zoom Account: The Commission discussed whether to keep its private account or share an account with the Town. There was unanimous agreement to keep a dedicated ConComm account.

Beaver Brook Golf Club update: Mr. Rogers raised the question as to whether mowing is being done closer to the brook than allowed in the NOI and the status of other proposed projects. The Commission has not heard from Jeff Smith about work starting at Beaver Brook. Ms. Caplis will send a message.

Ashfield Road Bridge update: The Commission has not heard from anyone involved with the bridge. Ms Caplis will send a letter to Chris Chamberland, the consultant.

Sinkhole at 18 Williams Street, Seabright : Mr. Lynch visited the site, and reported that Ms. Seabright plans to fill in the hole with gravel.

Minutes from May 28th, 2020 were approved.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:00 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Melinda McCall
Secretary - Williamsburg Conservation Commission