

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 10, 2021 via Zoom

Commissioners present – Marci Caplis, Mary Dudek, Andrew MacLachlan, and Joe Rogers

Members of the public present -none

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm

Site Visit at 89-93 Main Street: After seeing the site, commissioners MacLachlan and Rogers agreed that the site in question is a connected wetland despite the apparent blockage made by the right-of-way crossing it. There are three different property owners involved in the situation: the abutter complaining of flooding, the landowner, and the user/builder of the right of way. There appears to be a clogged culvert which is creating the drainage issue. Steps should be taken to address the issue. The easiest way to do this may be to issue an enforcement order and build a framework that allows the responsible parties to do the maintenance within DEP regulations. The first step is to get the owner and the user to meet to discuss the issue. A letter will be sent to the abutter thanking him for alerting us to this matter.

<u>Update on Hatfield Street Solar Array:</u> Protech Energy Systems sent a letter formally requesting the plan change moving the temporary crossing to the same location as the planned permanent crossing. An agreement letter was sent to Protech. In addition, Robin Casioppo of GZA accepted the offered role as the third party reviewer. This information was sent to DEP, and a request for \$4000 payment was made to Protech.

<u>Maintenance of Commission properties:</u> Trail boundaries need to be marked, blazes refreshed, and some trails cleared at Gere Hill. Commissioners agreed to use the remainder of this year's budget to hire someone to do this work. The funds may need to be incumbered into the next fiscal year beginning July 15.

In addition, the website needs to be updated to include a list of Commission properties, information about hunting, dog policies, and trails, as well as a link to the Woodland trails website.

Next steps for the Wetlands By-Law: Ms. Caplis will finalize a potential fine structure. The current draft of the by-law can be sent to an outside entity for review. Case studies from other towns about how a by-law has been important needs to be gathered. Finding supporters and building momentum was agreed upon as the way forward.

Minutes from May 27 were approved.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:30.

Respectfully submitted, Melinda McCall Secretary - Williamsburg Conservation Commission