



Williamsburg Conservation Commission
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Meeting Minutes
February 8, 2024
via Zoom

Commissioners present – Mary Dudek, Andrew MacLachlan, Melinda McCall

Members of the public present – Jeff Ovitt, Bruce Hart

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm.

NOI: 9 Goshen Road, Jeff Ovitt, new driveway. Mr. Ovitt plans to demolish an existing house and rebuild it 10 feet farther from the road. This work is outside of the riverfront area. However, a new driveway to access the truck parking area and garage crosses a small section at the edge of the 200 foot riverfront zone. Minimal excavation of topsoil will be needed and the removed soil will be spread behind the house. About a foot of gravel will be laid down. Straw wattle is in place for erosion control. To compensate for the loss of riverfront, Mr. Ovitt will plant 10 native shrubs in the field near the river. Minimizing mowing in the resource areas was encouraged.

A motion was made and approved unanimously to accept the plan as presented with the following conditions: The applicant shall notify the Williamsburg Conservation Commission for a pre-construction site visit and to review these Special Conditions.

- The Williamsburg Conservation Commission reserves the right to visit the site throughout the duration of the project.
- Any equipment will be used during appropriate conditions: frozen or dry ground.
- Erosion Controls will remain in place until construction is complete.
- Stockpiled soil and building materials will be stored outside of the buffer zone. Any work in the buffer zone will be minimized.
- The Commission will be notified when all work is completed.
- Restoration plantings will be located within the lawn space closest to the river. Monitoring of the restoration plantings will be conducted for a period of two (2) additional years after completion to ensure 80% survival. The Commission should be notified about the results of the annual plant review.
- The applicant is urged to minimize mowing in the riverfront area.

RDA: none

Members of the Public: Bruce Hart appeared as a member of the Town Commons Committee with questions about work being done along the stream behind the Public Safety Complex. It was explained that work there is for removing a fence and invasive plants and is being overseen by the town. It has been permitted through the NOI process. This work is tied in with the original NOI for the Complex which requires improvements be made along the stream.

COC: none

Enforcements: none

Discussions:

- Update on shared Conservation Agent: The Select Board wrote a letter of support to include in the grant proposal.
- Next steps for Wetlands Bylaw. Commissioners MacLachlan and Dudek will review the latest draft.
- Other discussion items from the agenda were tabled until the March meeting.

Minutes from December 2023 and January 2024 were approved.

Next Meeting: March 14, 2024.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:43.

Respectfully submitted,

Melinda McCall

Secretary - Williamsburg Conservation Commission