



Williamsburg Conservation Commission  
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## **Meeting Minutes – October 10, 2019**

**Commissioners present** - Marci Caplis, Andrew MacLachlan, and Joe Rogers

**Members of the public present** - Linda Gibbon, Kristen McCue, Jim Hyslip, Joshua Hyslip, Gerald Lashway, Roy Beals, Carolyn duBois, Peter LaBarbera, Charlene Nardi, Bill Turner.

### **Meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm**

- 13 and 15 B North Main Street, Linda Gibbon and Kristen McCue. RDA for regrading and regravelling existing driveway. Commissioners reviewed the RDA and requested more information about the project, particularly what the contractor would do to redirect the flow of water off the driveway. Ms. Gibbon and Ms. McCue have not found a contractor to do the work this fall, so there will be temporary patching. Once a contractor for spring has been found, they can return with the requested information. Hearing was continued until November.
- Discussion of unpermitted work done along the Mill River on Main Street. Gerald Lashway reported that the work was done in error by a relative, who did not know that the flagging indicated wetlands. The commissioners' primary concerns were the disruption of leaf litter affecting amphibians and opening up the land to invasives. They asked that Mr. Lashway keep an eye on any invasives moving in.
- Depot Road culvert work, Town of Williamsburg: Engineer Jim Hyslip and his intern Joshua Hyslip presented plans for widening the culvert at the crossing Wright Brook on Depot Road. The current

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

culvert is narrow and undersized, causing some backup and making the stream appear wider than it would naturally be at that point. Mr. Hyslip has taken 3 measurements of the stream width, and the commissioners suggested they take a few more to get a better estimate of actual stream width. The replacement culvert will be sized based on this average, or bankfull width. A site visit was planned for Monday, October 14th, and the hearing was continued until the November meeting. Construction will not begin until spring.

- 3 Buttonshop Road, Roy Beales. Preliminary discussion about a proposed concrete pad to be constructed on a narrow strip of land between the West Branch of the Mill River and the street. The pad would create an impervious surface, but no loss of vegetation. This is a Riverfront Project, and would therefore need a NOI. Commissioners discussed the calculations for percent of the area impacted, and drainage questions that Mr. Beales will need to include in the NOI.
- 12 High Street. Peter LaBarbera, an engineer from Environmental Planning Associates in South Deerfield, is working with the property owners to deal with water encroaching on the house. A culvert is dumping water into a vegetated wetland, which is expanding and moving closer to the northeast corner of the house. The wetland channelizes farther downstream, and the flow is undercutting trees which are subsequently falling along the stream. In addition, slash and trash have been dumped into the wetland. Most of the filling and blockage is on a neighbor's property, and the neighbor is in agreement with the need for clearing. The initial proposal is to open up the channel by pulling out debris and dredging the channel. The initial clean out could be done without a permit as part of normal maintenance as long as the work is done by hand, and only dead trees are removed. The Conservation Commission could do a site visit before, during, and/or after the work. The owners would also like to put in an underground channel with gravel and perforated pipe. This work would require a NOI. The NOI should include a plan for operations and maintenance of the channel. A site visit was planned for October 14.

- 92 Ashfield Road, Carolyn duBois. Ms. duBois asked for advice as to how to get permitted to stabilize the bank of the section of the East Branch of the Mill River on her property. The bank was damaged during Hurricane Irene in 2011. Ms. duBois had temporary permission from DEP to move boulders back in place to stabilize the bank, but the water level was too high, so she couldn't do the repairs then. Now the bank continues to erode and trees and gravel are falling into the stream. Mr. Rogers explained that bank stabilization is generally a complex project that required an engineering plan. For the NOI, she will need to present the hazards of continuing erosion and changes in the volume of the stream bed. She was advised to get professional help on calculations and plans.
- 10 River Road solar array. The hearing for the NOI was continued.

**Meeting was adjourned at 9:20 pm**

Respectfully submitted,  
Melinda McCall  
Secretary - Williamsburg Conservation Commission