

NORTHFIELD CONSERVATION COMMISSION

MEETING DEC. 20, 2023 MINUTES

Present: Bill Llewelyn (phone), Mike Barry, Charlie Blanker, Robin Conley, Sarah Kerns, Tori Luksha
Guests: Adrian Richmond, Nancy Billings, Bill & Jill Crooker

Charlie opened the meeting at 7:15.

Adrian Richmond represented **MassDOT** and presented the Request for Determination of Applicability (RDA) for an **embankment stabilization and minor roadway repairs** along the northbound lane of Rt 63 situated at Roaring Brook culvert crossing. We discussed at length the bank/slope washout, installation of gravel for regrading and stabilization, erosion control, a new asphalt berm, and adjustment of drainage structures. Motion made (Tori/Sarah) and carried to accept the RDA with conditions. Mike will complete the necessary Form 2.

Temporary stabilization of the embankment along the disturbed **brook at 15 Millers Falls Road** was completed according to the wetlands specialist report. Mark Stinson of MassDEP approved the work. We thanked the landowner for the timely stabilization. Permanent stabilization will be completed in the spring.

Motion made (Tori/Mike) and carried to approve Charlie as acting chair to sign the letter to Mass Land Management acknowledging that the owners of the **Mill Brook property** have withdrawn their interest in selling the land to Town of Northfield.

Bill L. reported that Northfield Zoning Board of Appeals (**ZBA**) **completed their annual inspection of the gravel pit on Old Bernardston Road**. He suggested that we have a springtime site visit to determine if and where a new storm water runoff has occurred. Motion made (Tori/Sarah) that Charlie draft a letter to Selectboard informing them of a planned springtime site visit on King Philip's Hill to address the storm water runoff issue; that we will contact the gravel pit owners; and request to be on Selectboard agenda for Jan. 23. Motion carried. Bill Crooker suggested a visit during or shortly after a heavy rain event would be conducive to a finding.

A site visit to the **Santana property** on 4-Mie Brook Road was planned for Saturday, Jan. 6 at 10 am.

We discussed the 3rd year **monitoring report of First Light's Pine Meadow Rd Embankment Erosion control**. Bill reported that a couple of minor repairs were needed; otherwise the embankment is "fine and holding."

We discussed FRCOG's **Key Up Brook Watershed Plan**. Apparently, **E-Coli** has been found in Erving and FRCOG requested any input from us. Only a small portion of the watershed is in Northfield. We have no input at this time but will request that we be kept informed of new developments.

ConsCom's **annual budget** has been rolled over to next year. Robin agreed to write the **annual report**. We agreed to have an informal training with the new **mapping software**. Nov. minutes were accepted as written. Meeting adjourned at 9:10 pm.

*Approved 2.21.24
Submitted by
Robin Conley*