## **Conservation Commission Meeting Minutes**

November 2<sup>nd</sup> 2016 7:30pm Town Hall

Members:

Guests:

Documents:

Bill Llewelyn Joan Deely

Kathy Bridges Steve Wiggin Robert MacEwen

Nick Fleck

Charles Blanker Michael Barry

Leslie Powers

Charles Eiseman Admin. Assistant

## 7:34 Bill Llewelyn called the meeting to order

## Formal Hearings, WPA Filings & Follow-ups

New Business: Kathy Bridges Septic RDA

Kathy Bridges showed her map to the board and stated there is a failed septic pool about 70 feet away, the new system will be closer to 80 feet away with a stone wall barrier. The RDA was filed and reviewed. Don Matthews will be doing the construction, first making sure he has the access to get the 1,500-gallon tank in. The current system has to be pumped every 11-12 days. They will fill in the old tank. The second stage will be putting the poly barrier and stone wall in place. The leach filed is going 50' from the well. The water test has been done, Blanker stated this would be invalid to say it is going to be safe after the leach field is placed. The well will be tested every year for five years, it is safe to have this close to the well as long as the well was installed properly. The poly barrier is a system situation, if the commission would like hay bales put up as well then they will do that. The wall is going to be installed by digging a little deeper. Blanker mentions on the RDA the work description is needed to state how deep you will be digging for the septic hole and where the dirt will be going as well. Kathy states the plan spells it out, most of the work will be done above ground since it is on a ledge and will be filled. Blanker states it needs to be on the RDA as well. The soil being brought in needs to be outlined if they are building around the tank and leach field. Robert MacEwen from the board of health has stated his issues, the board of health has approved the plans and this has been a long process, he is frustrated that it was not clear on how to fill this form out properly. Blanker responded that the guidelines for filling out RDA's are online. Blanker mentions that he would be willing to approve these plans as long as the RDA is amended within two weeks with work description filled out more properly. Blanker is confused why this is considered a repair rather than new construction. It is considered replacement and repair because there is a current septic in place, it is not the first septic being installed. Robert MacEwen would like to clear up what is needed: amount of fill being brought in, preventative erosion, how it will be anchored, volume removed. Blanker motions to close the hearing, Leslie seconds, all in favor motion passed. Blanker makes a motion for Negative determination with amended RDA in two weeks further describing the work performed and evidence of how erosion of new soil will be stopped, Leslie seconds, all in favor motion passed.

# New Business: Winchester Road Forest Cutting

There was a site visit conducted on Winchester Road for Forest Cutting. Eiseman stated he doesn't think that it is jurisdictional to wetland. Leslie mentioned there is an isolated jurisdiction for standing water with average depth of 6 inches, therefor this land is in jurisdiction. There is debate on the size of the cattails area, 50x50 or 200x200. Steve Wiggin states behind the gym has always been mowed in the past. Nick Fleck states there is a stream that comes down through the ridge, Steve states it does dry up. That location is further north from where Steve cuts brush. Nick Fleck states the water is present 10-11 months of the year and at the cattails there is typically standing water as well. Nick Fleck states there used to be a bridge there, it is no longer present. Nick Fleck

reasoning for coming is because that area is filled with wildlife and breading area for birds. By cutting all of that, it changes from a wetland to dryland and this will change the quality of the habitat for wildlife. Leslie asked if this was in fact jurisdictional, Bill stated the buffer zone will be flagged to prevent cutting within. Conscom will go out to determine this buffer zone. The lower drain can be finished so it works, seed it down so it will not erode but do not do any further action. Nick Fleck requests that when these projects are performed they would appreciate abutters being notified. Mowing can be done within buffer zone as long as it is an existing lawn (within last five years). Leslie asks is there will be a time frame, by early spring is acceptable. Payment will be taken out of revolving fund for hiring individual to mark buffer zone.

#### **Old Business**

Should we make a rule of who we use for consulting? Post so people can submit bids? There can be appeals for who is selected from the applicant as well. Discussion will be continued.

Last Minute Additions (Topics Not Reasonably Anticipated by the Chair 48 Hrs in Advance of the Meeting)

**Budget** 

Reading and approval of previous minutes

**Forest Cutting Plans** 

**Emails, Mail & Announcements** 

Letter from DEP and Fuss & O'Neill are read and discussed.

#### 8:51 Adjourn

Eiseman made a motion to close the meeting. Leslie seconded, four out of four VOTED in favor. Motion carried.

William Llewelyn, Chairman

Bullflunch