

Northfield Conservation Commission
August 1, 2018

Present: Bill Llewelyn, Adam Senser, Joan Deely, Charlie Blanker
Absent: Charley Eiseman, Mike Barry
Guests: Tom Walker
Colin Duncan
Brooke Kenline-Nyman

Call to Order @7:40 pm

Hearings

NOI

Town of Northfield - culvert replacement on Gulf Rd.; continued from July 18 meeting.
File #249-0110

Reviewed comments from DEP's Mark Stinson. DPW will comply with all comments, including burying 25% of the culvert.

Work to take place end of August – 2 day project.

CB makes motion to close hearing. AS seconds, passed unanimously.

CB to write OOC – will include Stinson's comments in addition to standard NCC OOC language.

CB makes motion to make negative decision with conditions (above). JD seconds, carried unanimously.

Town of Northfield – Road stabilization, Warwick Rd.
File # 249-0111

DEP's Mark Stinson's comments included a request for the riverfront impact to Mill Brook be quantified in the OOC. Project to include stabilizing section of Warwick Rd. that is being washed out due to overland flow. Erosion control will be installed as part of project.

DPW anticipates that this will be a two-day project, hoping for 3rd week of August. Scheduling is weather-dependent, needs stretch of dry time. After repair road will be repaved. DPW prefers to close the road during construction activities both for safety and for efficiency.

JD makes a motion to close hearing. CB seconds. Carried unanimously.

CB will write OOC; will include riverfront impact of +/- 150'.

CB makes a motion to issue negative determination with standard NCC OOC and impact. AS seconds, carried unanimously.

RDA

First Light – archeological testing, continued from July 18 meeting.

Bill Llewelyn excuses self from hearing due to conflict of interest as affected landowner. CB takes over as temporary chair.

Duncan recaps reason for filing. CB wanted to know specific locations of the digging. As this is proprietary information, NCC may view the sites but maps cannot enter the public record.

Kenline-Nyman recaps testing protocol, mentions that a botanist will also be on hand to scout for protected plant species in the vicinity of the test pits.

Discussion about NHESP letter – not needed for RDA, other towns have not requested this. Could be provided as a courtesy.

Discussion about maintaining confidentiality while digging is underway.

Question from BL as a member of the public – If artifacts are found on someone's land, what is the affect of this on the use of the land? Kenline-Nyman explained that artifacts are considered property of the land owner who may donate them, if they are significant, to the state for archiving. Most such sites in our area don't rise to that level of significance – if they do, any work needs to be permitted if such work would destroy the site.

JD makes motion to close hearing. AS seconds, carried unanimously.

AS makes motion to issue negative determination under Section 2 of WPA Form 2, JD seconds, carried unanimously.

NCC requests 24-48 hour notification of start of work – CB provides his phone # to K-N.

Llewellyn as member of public requests that he and Tom Shearer receive 48-hour notification of start of work. K-N mentions that there will be no driving of vehicles on cropland – crew will only walk.

JD to complete negative determination paperwork.

BL returns as chair.

Other Business

BL followed up on a complaint from July 18 meeting about a pipe discharging water in West Northfield. The pond in question has been certified by the NFD as a fire pond. To test if the pond could be so designated, it had to be pumped to NFD standards – that's what the water was from. This activity has been completed, the pipe is no longer there.

CB will check mail while BL is on vacation. If urgent business comes up we will meet again on the third Wednesday of the month. Otherwise we will meet again on the third Wednesday in September (9/19).

NEXT CC MEETING: August 15, 2018 @ 7:30 if needed only.

CB makes a motion to adjourn, AS seconds, carried unanimously. Meeting ends at 8:42 pm.

Bill Flinch
Ando J. Banks
Joanna