

September 12, 2023

Present: Chris Duerring, Chair; Greg Bradski, Vice-Chair; Mary Williamson, Secretary; Bob Paquet, Kai ~~Woodson~~ Marti-Woodson
(Absent: Jim Abels and Nancy Putman)

Joe and Kristine Delfosse, 125 Hastings Pond Rd. (re RDA)

Chris Stoddard, Stoddard Engineering re Astrella NOI on Wheeler Rd. re new single house construction.

Mary Humphries, White Rd. (re Stevens Swamp Beaver habitat)

Meeting called to Order at 6:43 p.m.

- RDA • RDA For 125 Hastings Pond Rd. - Removal of Broken Tree Trunk Growing at the edge of the Pond (70" from corner of the house).
The stump will stay in place to keep the soil ^{and bank} at the edge of the pond ~~will not be~~ ^{un}disturbed.

Can lay a tarp under the trunk to collect any woodchips and sawdust to keep it from entering the Pond.

The trunk will be pulled away with a come along as there is no room for mechanized equipment to operate in the area.

~~It is~~ a broken hollow trunk approximately 7' tall ^{whose top} ~~that~~ broke off during a winter storm in the winter of 2022-2023.

Motion: ~~On motion by~~ Greg moves that we make a negative determination #3 with the condition that a tarp be utilized to collect sawdust and wood chips, and the work not be done in the rain.
seconded by Bob

Vote: Unanimous in favor

[Agreed no "contact person" is needed.]

- Minutes of The August 7, 2023 Meeting

On motion by Greg, seconded by Chris, the minutes were accepted unanimously as read.

- Forest Legacy Monitoring - Update

Report
8/20/23 - Manning Monitoring completed. Mailed to DCR today 9/12/23.
Monitoring done by Chris and Greg. (Due date of report was today.)
Ralph Jay Property - Chris will try to monitor this week. Kai may be able to help.

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NOI

- NOI For Astrella Single Family House on Wheeler Rd.

Continuance

Public Hearing re-opened at 7:15 pm for the continuance of the 8/07/23 hearing. Chris^{Stoddard} reviewed his revised plan with the Con. Com, which showed^a clearly designated native plant area as a buffer^{protect} to the Pond. (Chris Stoddard suggested slice-seeding new^{native} grasses in to take over current lawn grasses.) The native planting buffer^{area} is at least 10' ~~from~~^{wide along} the Pond ~~on all sides~~ and includes high bush blueberries, spice bush, and Ilex verticillata and ^{native} grasses and sedges. Condition: no mowing to the edge at the back of the Pond. (near the Forest)

Motion: Bob moves to approve the NOI subject to the Plan dated 9/04/23 with the following conditions:
not mowing to the edge on the northern side of the Pond, and notify the contact person to inspect the soft fence.

Second: Chris seconded.

~~Vote~~

~~Soft fence to be inspected~~

Motion: Chris moves that we close the hearing.

Seconded by Greg

Vote: unanimous in favor to close the hearing.

Vote re NOI: unanimous in favor of the motion.

Contact Person: Gregory Brodsky

- Emergency Certificate Request To Remove A Beaver Dam at Stevens Swamp.

The request was submitted by email at 9:00 am Monday 9/11/23.

The request was submitted by Integrated Wildlife Control out of Florence, MA, claiming to be acting on behalf of DCR.

To qualify for an Emergency Certificate it must be a

Public health and or public safety emergency. Part of the request is

~~Be~~ the installation of a Pond leveller at the dam at Stevens Swamp.

And also they requested a permit to remove the Beavers.

They did not specify what the Emergency was at the dam.

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There is no evidence that Integrated Wildlife Control (IWC) contacted Fish and Wildlife. There are endangered species in the area.

There is no emergency that we can discern.

The Warwick Board of Health has already reviewed this and the Warwick BPH authorized the breaching of the dam on 9/12/23.

(They were responding to the requirement of a response within 24 hours.)

The Con Com finds there is no emergency, and we will notify IWC of our decision. We recommend that if they want to install a pond leveller they should file with the Con Com in the usual way, not as an Emergency request.

- Moriarty Logging Wetland Violation

Chris read a draft of a letter to send to ~~Bernice~~ Forester Andrew Rawcliffe and his supervisor, and his supervisor, ^{expressing dissatisfaction in how the violation was handled by Rawcliffe.}

The work was done before the amended Cutting plan was submitted.

Andrew Rawcliffe did not fulfill our request to meet him on the lands, nor did he respond satisfactorily to wetland ~~concerns~~ ^{concerns the Con Com raised.}

Andrew said he gave a verbal stop order, which is not viable according to State

Con Com site visit was on 8/17/23, (Dueny, Brodski, Paquet, ^{Williamson} and Putnam).

We walked the area with Chris Pirner, the logger, and Margaret Moriarty's son in law.

- Con Com Mail Management - discussed how to check mail more frequently.

Bob committed to checking the Con Com mail box at least twice a week.*

- Kelly Restoration Plan

An e-mail version was sent Sunday evening 9/10/23 and some additional material was sent on Monday 9/11.

Con Com members will review the documents and send comments to Chris. We will allow 2 weeks for all to get comments to Chris.

(The Restoration Plan failed to show the other wetland areas on the property.)

- Call From Janet Thompson Re The 9 acre Radinsky Property on Orange Rd.

Chris as chair has received several inquiries about the buildability of this parcel given how much wetlands are on it. There are also endangered species on it. The Con Com needs a plan/proposal to respond to, and then we can schedule a site visit.

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- Ralph Jay Bridge Repair

Discussed possible dates to work on the bridge.

Discussed possible dates: Sept. 24, Sept. 30, 2nd weekend in October.

Gregory will coordinate and will pursue getting the funds from the Trust to purchase the materials.

- Sarah Wasserman Presentation - Bio Map Presentation

Her schedule is free in November. It would be a Zoom presentation.

Suggesting our usual first Monday meeting date in November, Nov. 6.

We will invite other boards. It will probably be held at the Town Hall since the School is no longer so available.

- Next Meeting: 6:30 pm on October 10 (Tuesday) [October 9 = Columbus Day]

- Adjournment: On motion by Greg, seconded by Kai,
the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 pm.

Respectfully Submitted
Mary S. Williamson
Secretary.

- * Con Com Mail Management, continued

If Bob finds a cutting plan in the mail box, he will put it in Kai's mail box, and Kai will review it and discern on behalf of the Con Com whether she thinks it is important to have a Con Com site visit for the project.