

March 4, 2024

Hybrid Meeting: Live portion at the Town Hall; ^{Con Com members} 3 attended via Zoom

Present: Chris Dinesen, Chair (on line); Vice-Chair, Greg Bradley (on line)
 Mary Williamson, ^{in person} Secretary; Jim Abels (in person); Kai Marti-Woodson
 (on line). On Line: Ken and Ginger Kelly, Bob Paquet (in person)

Meeting called to order at 6:38 pm

Reviewed the Agenda and added items.

Minutes of the February 5, 2024 Meeting

On motion by Jim, seconded by Bob, the minutes were accepted unanimously as read.

MACC Conference - March 2, 2024

Con Com members who attended:

Chris, Greg, Bob, and Nancy

Reviewed the subjects of classes members attended.

Stream Crossings - can no longer replace in kind.

There are new standards, taking into consideration climate change.

Division of Ecological Restoration gives out grants to help towns upgrade their stream crossings.

Workshop on By Laws + effective wetland enforcement. (Chris)

Taught about the importance of having a Wetland By Law.

(Try to work with individuals before go to Enforcement Orders.)

Site Visits and Plan Review (Chris)

Discussed Con Com members' evaluation of the MACC Conference.

Greg spoke to a company that does Dam inspection.

Tighe + Bond

Meet at Town Hall to carpool.

Vernal Pool Day 2024 - Saturday, April 20 in the afternoon, 1:00 pm

Discussed possibilities for 2024 day. [Rain date Sat. April 27].

Could choose a pool for educational purposes instead of trying to find an un-certified pool (as so many already certified). Suggest one on New Town Forest Parcel on Beech Hill Road.

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Forest Cutting Plans (David Young - Old Winchester Rd.)

The Con Com received an approved cutting plan for David Young's ^{land}, and we never received the draft cutting plan for review. Kaila will reach out to Andrew Rawcliffe to ask why we did not get the draft. Suggest that Andrew e-mail the cutting plans to Kai. There an updated NOI encouraging the senior Forester to work with the local Con Coms. When Kai gets an e-mailed cutting plan, she will print it and bring it to the meetings.

Public Hearing Opened at 7:17 pm - Re An Amended NOIRe Proposed Solar Shed at 647 Northfield Rd

Ken and Grger reviewed the "changes" to their original NOI, describing the size and details of the structure they are adding. They will use current grade, but a little more fill will need to be added once the septic system is installed.

The current silt fence is being overwhelmed in some places, the Con Com noted. The only top soil being brought in is over the septic field.

The silt fence has needed to be repaired. Don Matthews is trying to keep up with it. Don has put in rip rap (with fabric under it) to try to stop erosion. (This is what Don Matthews recommended).

[The Notice of Intent should have specified the details of how the slope was intended to be stabilized.]

Discussed the erosion controls and ~~whether~~ they were working.

There are problems with silt filling in behind the silt fence and potentially overflowing - it needs to be removed by hand.

(But this is difficult in winter.)

The Chair suggests that there be better and more regular communications with the Con Com.

The Kellys sent an e-mail to Don Matthews this evening requesting that he repair the overwhelmed silt fences, as soon as possible.

(The Kellys pulled tires out of the wetland. They will be removed not buried.)

The current soil level is 6" below final grade (to allow for driveway material). There's a concern that the driveway may increase the amount of water flowing

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toward the wetland. And any rise in the level of grading around the Solar Shed will likely make the ~~grading~~ erosion worse. Discuss with the Contractor the possibility of a retaining wall. Suggestion that the Kellys ~~get the opinion~~ consult with a licensed engineer.

Don Matthews brought in very permeable fill for gravel under the driveway.
 Comment: the site needs to be brought into compliance before more grading is undertaken.

Ward Smith ^{took} confirmed that he received ^{a copy of} the December 8, 2023 Con Com request ~~that~~ a restoration plan, and according to Mr. Kelly, ~~that~~ Ward is working on it.

Motion: Nancy moves that ~~sediment~~ we continue the request for ^{the} amendment ^{of the NOI} until the next meeting in April.

~~because~~ We are requesting additional ~~remediation~~ ^{sedimentation and that} of ~~the~~ current erosion and sediment controls be repaired and corrected

under the supervision of a wetland scientist; and

that a revised restoration plan be submitted ^{to the Con Com in} ~~plan~~ accordance ^{with} the December 8 letter.

Gregory seconds.

Vote: unanimous continued to our next meeting on April 2.

The public hearing was closed at 8:50 p.m.

The soil is not very stable behind the house, which is a concern. Since the roof is large it reduces the water infiltration on the site. The Solar shed roof slopes toward the road. But the house roof slopes toward the wetland. The Con Com is concerned about increased de-stabilizing run-off and erosion once the recycled asphalt driveway is installed.

Forest Cutting Plans (Brian Gale - Rt. 78 / ATFAB LLC)

Brian Gale's cutting plan showed a large exclusion area, but Chris noticed that it looked as though the area had been cut. If it impacted wetlands, it becomes a Con Com issue. (Not sure what is true if buffer zone.)

Fire Pond On Flower Hill Near Buzzell Place

Ed Matthews asked the Con Com about dredging the fire Pond.

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There does not seem to be a general approval for dredging fireponds.
So we need to ask them to come to our April meeting.

Annual Report

Chris and Greg will work on it jointly. It is due by April 1.

Route 78 (The Gulf) Emergency Certification Tree Removal

Chris visited the area and surveyed the stream, which seemed ok.

Discussed concerns re the potential for more erosion ^{on the slopes} in the spring.

The tree removal seemed to have been done well.

The guard rails are beginning to be installed.

~~Because the guard rails are for safety we cannot control to~~

Discussed erosion controls for the guard rail project. Con Com will request an RDA for guard rail installation work to be filed for our April meeting.

Adjournment: On motion by Greg, seconded by Bob.
the meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Next Meeting: April 2, 2024 at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary S. Williams
Secretary

Kelly Site Visit

3/11/24 Chris Duerring, Nancy Putnam and Ward Smith met
at 637 Northfield Rd. to discuss erosion concerns
and the restoration plan.