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Warwick Conservation Commission Meeting  
Warwick Town Hall July 1, 2024 6:30 PM

Commissioners Present: Chris Duerring, Chair, Jim Abels, Mary Williamson, Bob Paquette, Greg Brodski, Kai Marti Woodson, and Nancy Putnam

Meeting opened at 6:43 pm

C. Duerring: reminder about Ethics Training and a brief discussion about the upcoming CR monitoring.

Meeting minutes from June meeting, read by N. Putnam. Commissioner Duerring made a motion to approve, as revised, 2nd by Commissioner Paquette, all approved.

Request for Determination for Trail Improvements, Laurel Loop Trail at Erving State Forest:

Ale Echandi, DCR Trails Planner, described the proposed maintenance work on the footpath. Older stones may be replaced by wooden steps by an SCA crew. No need for widening the trail, water bars are existing, but need to be maintained and maybe new ones needed. This is a Buffer Zone project. Erosion & sediment controls will be installed at the base of the slope and work may be done in September or October. All hand tools will be used. Stone removed will be re-used elsewhere in the park since it is believed that they are from the CCC.

C. Duerring: Motion to approve RDA with a Negative Determination number 3, with conditions.: Work to be done in the absence of rainfall. Straw wattles will be installed between the small intermittent stream and the work areas. C. Duerring will be the contact person. B. Paquette 2nd, all approved.

Public Hearing: Notice of Intent for DCR Laurel Lake Parking Lot and Drainage Improvements, Erving State Forest. Jessica Marino from AECOM and Tom Valton from DCR Engineering.

Jessica, Wetland Scientist from AE COM, described the project. DCR is proposing drainage upgrades: including removal of a drainage pipe on the beach, installation of a drainage (retention) basin, improving several infiltration/drainage swales, repaving the parking lot, and pipes are being increased in size. Drainage upgrades are within the existing parking lot. 3 plan sheets of existing conditions. One infiltration swale will be cleaned out and pitched away from the current discharge location. Proposed emergency spillway for basin and vegetated swales. Water quality issues from the parking area are currently discharging directly into the lake.

Commissioner Brodsky: Asked about the capacity of the drainage pipes going towards the lake. Are there drainage calculations for this increased runoff proposed to go into this swale?

Tom Valton, Project Manager from DCR: Responded that they would get us an answer to that question.

Commissioner Duerring: Questioned which design storms will the new drainage system handle?

Commissioner Putnam: Asked for clarification and details for the proposed basin design and the existing conditions at the proposed basin location.

Tom Valton responded that the proposed retention basin will be seeded with a native seed mix.

Commissioner Duerring: Asked about the pipe to be removed from the beach, as this appears to be on the bank of the lake. Bank needs to be clarified, as this work appears to be within this resource area. She read the comments from the DEP wetlands program.

Commissioner Marti Woodson: Asked how long will the work take?

Tom Valton: DCR is hoping to do this in the fall to avoid extended closure of the day use area during the peak season.

Commissioners requested clarification of the drainage design for this project.

Commissioner Brodsky made a motion to continue the hearing until August 12th, requesting further information and clarification of the following:

1. Outfall pipe on Laurel Lake beach - clarify location and extent of work to be done within the Bank resource area.
2. Swale on Plan Sheet SP-02 which ends near concrete headwall near INV 771.5. Will existing swale, formerly ending at Laurel Lake, handle the proposed increase in flow? What is the design storm that this is sized for?
3. Need Summary of which storms each drainage improvement BMP will be designed for.
4. Clarification of tree removal, including DBH and Species for all trees impacted by the project.
5. Request that the drainage design engineer describe this existing and proposed drainage system in detail at the next public hearing.
6. Consider groundwater input to the existing and proposed stormwater system.

Motion 2<sup>nd</sup> by Commissioner Paquette, All approved.

Tom Valton of DCR and AE COM agreed to the continuance until the next meeting on August 12th.

Commissioner Duerring received a plan for a septic upgrade for a tight tank at 20 Dusty Road for an existing house. The contractor has asked which application is needed for this project? Brief discussion about the closeness of the work to the lake. Commissioner Putnam made a motion to require a Notice of Intent for the project, due to the extensive work proposed very close to the resource area. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Duerring, all approved. Update - C. Duerring contacted Don Matthews (7/2/24) who will relay this to the applicant.



CR Monitoring Discussion - to be completed by the end of September.

Commissioner Williamson - explained the Conservation Commissioner appointments and terms, adding that Chris Duerring and Greg Brodsky are up for renewal this year.

Northfield Road Beaver Dam Issue: Highway dept employee found removing a beaver dam without a permit on private property on Northfield Road. Activity was stopped by Commissioner Duerring. Highway employee said he was unaware of permit requirements and would not continue to remove the dam. The Commission agreed that it needs to do more outreach with the highway dept. regarding how to manage beaver problems in town as well as other highway maintenance activities involving wetlands. Bob P. will call to set up a meeting with the highway superintendent.

Updates:

Athol Road Culvert

Flagollet Culvert Replacement

Forest Cutting Activities

Kelly Northfield Road Progress

Discussion of Next Meeting date: Commissioners agreed upon August 12th.

Meeting adjourned at 9:28 PM.