

Warwick Conservation Commission

January 14th, 2025

Warwick Town Hall

Commissioners Present: C. Duerring, Chair, B. Paquette, M. Williamson, J. Abels, N. Putnam

Meeting called to order at 6:40 PM

Review and Approval of Meeting Minutes from November meeting.

Athol Road Crossing, Updates on beaver wetland

Matt from Warwick DPW, contracted with Gill Engineering for reconstruction & upgrade of the road crossing.

7 PM, Public Hearing, NOI for 40 Dusty Road, House demolition and reconstruction

Jess S. of Berkshire Design Group, Rachael, and Bob Gaultette, engineer, representing the owner.

Ruth Potee, owner, explained the background of buying the property. The rains in 2021 caused damage to the existing house.

Jess, BDG, representative: Explained that the ORAD was Approved in 2023 and that they are working with architects from Amherst.

Contacted NHESP, project is not within Estimated Habitat and will not impact rare wetlands wildlife, letter included in the NOI.

Property is 0.41 A, on a private way.

Jess described the resource areas and existing conditions. Site has a tight tank and well at top of slope, a steep slope. Explained proposal for replacement of house, driveway, and grading. 805 ft. elevation to walk into rear of new house. Steps down to existing 770 ft. elevation. Tight tank will be removed and moved to a new parking area. Erosion Control Plan was described. Jute netting along slope with seed and straw wattles to be added. Annual seeding initially and they are flexible for remaining plantings.

Owner introduced neighbor, Keith Poulin from 42 Dusty Rd. He is supportive of the project as it is designed to reduce the erosion on his property.

Swales to be added and out letting into a 3 ft. x 2 ft. small basin

Duerring: How will demo be handled? Bob Gullette: First we will bring in a dumpster, asbestos also needs to be removed, a different company will take care of disposal. Wet demo to control the dust. 2026 is being planned to build the new house.

Temporary soils will be seeded with rye. Erosion to be controlled. Straw mulch is being considered.

Putnam: Concerns with removing trees and adding the steps so close to the lake.

Public Hearing closed.

Commission: Motion to approve by C. Duerring, B. Paquette 2nd the motion, all approved.

N. Putnam offered the following Special Conditions: Replace number of trees that are removed from the 50 ft. buffer to Bank of Laurel Lake with native trees. Native trees and/or shrubs shall be added to areas within 50 ft. of the lake, outside of specified lawn area shown on plan.

Forest Cutting Plans:

1. Alden FCP, Hastings Pond Road, three commissioners did a site visit. Three stream crossings proposed. C. Duerring sent comments with concerns about the stream crossings to DCR Service Forester. Putnam recommends steel sheeting to be placed over the culvert on Hastings Pond Road over Hodges Brook to protect the culvert from the logging trucks.
2. Lance and Andy Mallet, owners. Orange Road, 17 acres, stream on edge.

National Grid: Emily Alderton from BSC Group requested information about our meeting dates, and requirements, as they are preparing for submittal of an NOI. Commission discussed tentative dates of future meetings.

Motion to adjourn by C. Duerring, B. Paquette 2nd, all approved. Meeting Adjourned at 9 PM