

Conservation Commission
Meeting Minutes of October 23, 2013
Ashfield Town Hall

Present: Lester Garvin, Chair (LG)
Brian Clark (BC)
Dave Fessenden (DF)
Phil Lussier (PL)
Janet Clark (JC)
Brittany Martin, Scribe (BM)
Duncan Colter, Guest (DC)
Meredith Raftotoulos, Guest (MR)

1. The meeting is called to order at 7:35pm.
2. Board reviews the October 9, 2013 minutes. PL moves to accept the amended minutes, DF seconds and all vote in favor.
3. JC reports that she hasn't visited the Pieropan property and is worried about the stumps which are holding a lot of sediment. LG states that he thinks the stumps are as stable as they are going to get and that the possibility of them moving anywhere during a heavy rainfall is unlikely. PL states that the sediment that is on the stumps and the stumps themselves will slowly disintegrate and he doesn't think that the organic material will move much. PL further states that he doesn't expect the sediment to be a threat to the stream.
4. Board signs the Pieropan Negative Determination to work in buffer zone.
5. Board discusses beaver flooding on 116 near Double Edge Theater, endangering traffic on this public road. Beavers are blocking the culvert on the upper side. A group whose name is Beaver Solutions Inc. is requesting a ten day emergency work order to remove the blockage. Beaver Solutions Inc. is contracted by the state through massDOT. LG and DC will prepare the emergency certification and LG will contact Beaver Solutions Inc. to issue it to them.
6. PL emails Mark Stinson to invite him to the meeting to be held on November 13, 2013 to open a more direct line of communication regarding wetlands issues (stream crossings, etc).
7. Board discusses the hearing for a septic system upgrade for Cynthia Clark. Cynthia Clark did not appear. DF moves to continue the hearing, PL seconds and all vote in favor.
8. Board discusses beaver flooding on Bray Road. MR is here to speak to the Board because the flooding is affecting the pasture near her home. MR states that the dam that the beavers have built is large enough to walk on and there are even trees growing on it. She further states that she has contacted Beaver Solutions Inc. and Mike Callihan, told her that he could reduce the

water table by six inches by using a flow device. PL states that the Conservation Commission cannot submit an emergency certification unless the damage that is being caused is a threat to human life. PL thinks that MR may have to submit an RDA. LG states that he will be speaking with Mike Callihan tomorrow about the 116 flooding and will ask him about this project as well.

9. Board reviews pending on-line building permits:
 - a. 278 Watson-Spruce Corner Road, Christian Chandler, screened in porch off existing residence 14' x 21'. JC doesn't think that we should made a determination until we are clear as to where it is exactly.
 - b. 669 Creamery Road, Ramon Sears, 16' x 14' storage shed. PL states he would be safe to fill out an RDA. BC will mark incomplete and PL will make a site visit.

10. PL motions to adjourn the meeting, JC seconds and all vote in favor.

Meeting adjourns at 8:55pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Brittany Martin, Scribe

Documents and Exhibits (filed at Ashfield Town hall):

1. Bray Road Beaver Problem aerial map