

**Ashfield Conservation Commission
September 9, 2015**

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| <p>Members Present: Lester Garvin, Chair (LG) Brian Clark (BC) Janet Clark (JC) Anne Madocks (AM)</p> | <p>Members Absent: Phil Lussier (PL)</p> |
| <p>Others Present: Ron Coler</p> | |

1. LG called the meeting to order at 7:33 PM.
2. Reviewed minutes from 8/26/15. JC moved to accept minutes with corrections as noted; LG seconded. Unanimous.
3. DOA for Cordeli Barn: LG read conditions for erosion and sediment control listed. Signed by members present.
4. Coler RDA – Ron Coler has had a phone conversation with Mark Stinson about water chestnut pulling. He amended the RDA to correctly identify that the chestnut will be hand pulled under the DCR specifications.

Mark Stinson at DEP stated that fanwort removal via vacuum and hand pulling requires an NOI, possibly. The Commission was confused by Stinson’s comments at a previous meeting that aquatic invasives could be removed via an RDA. BC will contact Stinson and determine whether there is a method that would be appropriate for an RDA rather than an NOI. Ron Coler expressed concerns that an RDA needs to be renewed annually, with a fee. A NOI is valid for three years. Ron and Nina would like to have volunteers to help remove the chestnut.

5. TTOR RDA – Chapel Brook Falls Trail – Seeking trail reconstruction to help manage heavy use. Stinson suggested rather than B.1.e, the appropriate would be B.1.c. In the Riverfront Area, there is an exempt activity for trail work on conservation land. Unpaved pedestrian walkways less than 30 inches wide for private use and less than three feet wide for public access on conservation property.
6. Richard Prye, 16 Bird Hill Road, Building Permit for deck and steps reconstruction – Wife stepped off stairs in winter where ice forms and slipped and broke her ankle. Seeking to reconstruct the deck and steps in same general footprint, with an 8’ extension off the deck to bridge the low spot where ice forms. This location is maintained as lawn. Site is approximately 176’ from the brook. No significant impact in the buffer. Building permit approved.
7. Alan Rice, 230A South Street – Residential building permit issued in December 2014 for hoop house. Inquiring about constructing another structure next to hoop house. No building permit pending to respond to on FRCOG system found via online search engine. Finally located permit through search by date. Proposing a turned-down slab, 12x14’ wood structure next to hoop house. Site appears to be outside of resource area. Due to uphill location from brook, recommend silt fence.
8. Michael Williams, 170 March Road – new garage 40x40 metal pre-fab, concrete foundation. MassGIS OLIVER appears to show resource areas 300’ away. Signed off on building permit.
9. JC motion to adjourn, BC seconded at 8:53 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Anne Madocks