

**Ashfield Conservation Commission
September 23, 2015**

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

1. LG called the meeting to order at 7:35 PM. Reviewed minutes of 9/9/15. JC moved to accept minutes as corrected; BC seconded. PL abstained.
2. 1484 Hawley Road, Proposed Goat Barn, Mary Quigley builder– A 24x24' barn is proposed for the site. Consulted MassGIS online mapping tool and determined no resource areas present within several hundred feet of the proposed construction site. A pond exists 1000'+ on neighboring property.
3. Ray Gray, 1379 Cape Street – Mr. Gray is seeking to install a solar array in the back yard of his property. An 18" ADS culvert exists, and he is proposing to install two 4" sleeved conduits under the culvert. A shallow flow through culvert exists now, approximately 12" wide and 1" deep. The Commission believes the project is appropriate for a RDA submittal.
4. Nina Coler, Invasive Species Removal RDA Hearing – The project involves diver assisted suction harvesting for fanwort. Ron Coler communicated with staff at DCR and DEP regarding the technical details of the process. DEP stated the process could be covered under a RDA this year. PL moved to close hearing; JC seconded. Commission members signed the RDA – Negative #2 Determination – work occurring within resource area but will not alter it in any way.
5. The Planning Board shared a letter with the Commission that they had submitted to AECOM stating that the information they had requested was not readily available via public record, and that a consultant would need to be hired and paid for at industry norm rates. The PB recommended that TGP seek that information through request for permission to survey property from individual property owners.
6. Jim Caffrey, The Trustees of Reservations (TTOR), Chapel Brook Falls – Jim described the problem of trails eroding due to extremely heavy use. The Falls were declared one of the top ten swimming holes in United States by Conde Nast. Jim and Emmet created a map of existing foot paths from the road to the pools. The design approach is to adopt the trails that have been created by users and formalize them with stone dust paths and some stone steps in some areas. The project meets the criteria of B1C exempt activity for unpaved trails within conservation areas. Commission signed off on Negative Determination.
7. Online Building Permits
1424 Cape Street, Renee Southwick – 20x30' barn. Consulted MassGIS online mapping tool and determined no resource areas within project area. Signed off on building permit.
143 Buckland Road, Doug and Todd Pease – Application incomplete. Not clear where site is relative to lake. Request a RDA.
8. PL motion to adjourn; JC seconded. Meeting adjourned at 9:13pm.

Approved 10/28/15

Respectfully Submitted by Anne Madocks

Document List:

Map of Ray Gray's property at 1379 Cape Street