

**Ashfield Conservation Commission  
November 9, 2016**

**Members Present:**

Lester Garvin, Chair (LG)  
Brian Clark (BC)  
Janet Clark (JC)  
Phil Lussier (PL)  
Anne Capra (AC)

1. LG called the meeting to order at 7:35 PM.
2. Reviewed minutes of 10/26/16. PL moved to accept the minutes; JC seconded; approved unanimous.
3. Spruce Corner Road RDA – LG circulated the RDA Scope of Alternatives. JC read the permit as drafted by LG. Work described is within the Buffer Zone but does not alter a Resource Area. Therefore, any work does not require a NOI. Buyers of Lots 1, 6 and 7 may be required to file NOIs for their individual lots for future work. Applicant attempted to minimize impacts through the configuration of the lots which offers the potential for driveways and buildings to be constructed outside of Resource Area. Conservation Commission members present signed the RDA.
4. PL Phone call with Mark Stinson about the Eversource request for review on Hawley Road. DEP Western Regional Office will be taking on the case as an enforcement, which will include sites in Northfield and possibly other towns. It has become an enforcement issue not because it was an exempt activity under the Wetland Protection Act (WPA), but because it violated ACOE Section 401. DEP has visited the site three times. There is nothing further the Commission needs to do. Swamp mats would have been exempt under the WPA. DEP recommends we learn what utility right-of-ways exist now and call DEP when work is proposed. PL suggested that we send a letter to Eversource noting this outcome, and for future reference, request that the Commission be notified of future work. PL will draft the letter.
5. LG Should we change our meeting time? PL stated it would be difficult for him to meet earlier for work obligations. AC stated 7pm would be the earliest she could attend.
6. PL stated that Mark Stinson also provided info about the Emergency Order issued for the Ford Pond Dam. The Commission should have gone to our Emergency Manager or Office of Dam Safety and have them issue an emergency order. Once that was in place, the Commission could have then issued the Emergency Permit.
7. Mark Ladd (builder) and John Pylant (owner), 586 Pfersick Road – Online Building Permit Structure was 69 feet from a wetland according to OLIVER. JC read a letter from the landowner explaining the site and a site plan, with design plans for construction of the portion of the garage building to be re-built. PL expressed concern that the house is within the buffer zone and that any work requiring a building permit needs to consult the Commission. JC suggested a site visit and meeting with property owner to see if a RDA is needed. PL called Mr. Pylant and left a message.
8. LG needs to provide an updated phone list for the Commission to the Town.
9. JC moved to adjourn; PL seconded; unanimous 8:30pm.