

## **Bolton Conservation Commission Meeting Minutes**



| Date:                         | Tuesday, January 2 <sup>nd</sup> 2024                 |
|-------------------------------|---|
| Time/Location                 | 7:00 p.m. Zoom (remote participation)                 |
| <b>Commissioners Present:</b> | Chair Brian Berube, James Geraghty, Paal Brandvold    |
| Guests:                       | Glenn Gleason and Anne Hart                           |
| Next Meeting:                 | Tuesday, January 2 <sup>nd</sup> 2024 7:00pm via Zoom |

- 1. Notice of Intent 137 Green Road Map 6.B Parcel 165 DEP File#112-0738 Submitted by Greg Roy of Dillis & Roy on behalf of the applicant, Drew Burdick of Green Road Common Driveway Covenant and Homeowner's Association for the proposed replacement of an existing deteriorating culvert underneath a common driveway. Chair Brian Berube and Jim Geraghty attended a site visit earlier in the afternoon to inspect the limit of work markings. Chair Brian and Jim noted they did not have any questions on what they considered stream bank; it goes right up to the driveway and was marked as such. They noted they could see that the need for a culvert replacement was necessary. The applicant had requested a continuation of the hearing to the next meeting to allow for more time to respond to DEP's comments. Chair Brian made a motion to continue the public hearing for the 137 Green Road project until the Tuesday, January 16<sup>nd</sup> 2024 meeting of the conservation commission at 7:00pm via Zoom. Paal seconded, all unanimously, AYE. Roll call vote: PB, JG, BB, AYE.
- 2. Continued Notice of Intent 36 East End Road Map 5.E Parcel 16 DEP File#112-0739 Submitted by property owner, Glenn Gleason, for the proposed demolition of the existing garage, and building a replacement 2-car garage, farmer's porch, and connection to the house. The applicant received the DEP file number and comments. Comments from DEP were: (1) An additional filing fee (\$28 each to both DEP and Bolton) is required for work within Riverfront Area; (2) Erosion controls should be installed prior to construction along the downgradient limit of work; and (3) Any soil excavated from the location of the proposed work should be removed from the property and not placed within the downgradient floodplain.

Chair Brian made a motion to close the public hearing for the 36 East End Road project. Paal seconded, all unanimously, AYE. Roll call vote: PB, JG, BB, AYE.

Chair Brian made a motion to issue an Order of Conditions for 36 East End Road as drafted and submitted with the following conditions that (1) the proposed erosion controls be in place before any of the construction or project begins; and (2) that any soil excavated during the project be removed from the property and not used to fill any down gradient areas. Jim seconded, all unanimously, AYE. Roll call vote: PB, JG, BB, AYE.

- 3. Minutes Chair Brian made a motion to approve minutes from the December 19<sup>th</sup> 2023 meeting. Paal seconded, all AYE. Roll call vote: PB, JG, BB, AYE.
- 4. Continued Discussion regarding removal of a metal tank from the ground off trail at Bowers Springs. Chair Brian said that it would be best to not remove the metal tank at this time, and that a wetland biologist and/or the Conservation Agent could take a look at it at a later date to determine if a removal could be possible during a specific time of the year. All Commission members agreed with these thoughts.

- **5. Enforcement Orders** 100 East End Road, Century Mill Estates. Chair Brian noted he has no update on these enforcement orders.
- **6. Discussion regarding DRAFT Bylaw Regulation Revisions** Draft bylaw regulation revisions need to be submitted by February 26, 2024 for the Select Board's meeting on March 2, 2024. The Conservation Administrative Assistant noted that Jim Geraghty compiled about 15-20 open questions and comments redlined on the draft revisions, which were forwarded to all Commission members. She also noted that it would be best to wait for the Conservation Agent's comments when she returns from leave, as she may have updates on some of these questions and comments.
- 7. Discussion The Bolton Conservation Trust is seeking permission to hold the Tom Denney Nature Camp at Bowers Springs in 2024. The request was submitted via email by Ellie Vinacco, Administrator of the Bolton Conservation Trust. No changes are being proposed from last year's camp. Chair Brian noted that he is fine with the proposed plan, and other Commission members had no further questions or comments. Chair Brian made a roll call vote to approve permission for the Bolton Conservation Trust to hold the Tom Denney Nature Camp at Bowers Springs in 2024 as proposed via an email submitted by Ellie Vinacco on 11/14/2023. Roll call vote: PB, JG, BB, AYE.
- **8. Conservation Land** *updates*

Forest Legacy Project - has been fully funded.

**Bolton Trails Connectivity Improvement Project:** Ongoing.

## Trail Stewardship Authorized Projects:

Vaughn Hill Woodside Drive Trail Head – removal of post, sand trail sign, repaint trail sign, install water bars utilizing material from site as previously approved locations.

Vaughn Hill - re-route steep section with restoration work to include switchback

Ongoing Bowers Spring Flanagan Road Trail Head – *Invasive Species removal, maintenance of Norway spruce line/removal of invasives and encroachments, maintenance of tree islands within field areas.* 

Welch Pond – Trail extension to Sawyer Road

BTC Extension – Trail from Horse Ring Field to Berlin Road

## **Opportunity:**

**Volunteer Land Steward position** – available

**Conservation Commission** – available

For all inquiries regarding these opportunities please contact the Conservation Department, call 978-779-3307 or email landuseadmin@townofbolton.com

9. Chair Brian made a motion to adjourn the Tuesday, January 2nd 2024 meeting of the Bolton Conservation Commission at 7:24 pm. Paal seconded, all unanimously, AYE. Roll call vote: PB, JG, BB, AYE.