

Bolton Conservation Commission Meeting Minutes



Date:	Tuesday, September 7 th 2021
Time/Location	7:00 p.m. Zoom (remote participation)
Commissioners Present:	Chair Brian Berube, William Payne, Emily Winner, Gillian Glassanos, (Conservation Agent, Rebecca Longvall)
Guests:	Chris Anderson (Hannigan Engineering), Jim Geraghty (Century Mill), Richard Davis (Hudson Road), Michelle & Ben Dowd (Sugar Road), Scott Hayes, Karen Yesue (deer path), Jonathan Keep, Scott Erickson
Next Meeting:	Tuesday, September 21st 2021 7:00pm via Zoom

1. **Notice of Intent – 0 Main Street, Map 5.E Parcel 100** – *proposed temporary wetland crossing*Chris Anderson was present. Emily noted to the chair about her absence at the last meeting therefore she would abstain from the vote.

Chair Brian made a motion to issue an Order of Conditions as drafted and discussed regarding 0 Main Street, Map 5.E-100.

William seconded; Brian, William, and Gillian approved. Emily abstained.

Roll Call Vote: EW abstain; BB, WP, GG, AYE

2. **MVP** – Conservation Agent provided information about the recently completed MVP Program Action Grant Project Apple Country Natural Climate Solutions completed information is available via the project website: https://climateresilient.wixsite.com/applecountry/project-data-viewer

Final report may also be found using the project website or this link: https://3673b23c-7171-47f0-b91c-8baa749785c4.filesusr.com/ugd/29afe1_877358fd47e943f793248d84655948e5.pdf

Also highlighting that the town has received a grant just over \$300,000.00 to partner with Clinton on the **Nashua River Communities Resilient Lands Management Project** over the course of two years to define land management practices that strengthen and enhance ecosystems services of lands within the participating municipalities and the region. Water management, carbon sequestration, habitat support, temperature modulation, are examples of ecosystem services that improved management practices can support and enhance. The changing climate of New England and of these municipalities, specifically, have been shown to have a negative impact on how forested, wetlands and grass covered lands provide these ecosystem services. The goal of the project is to strengthen the health of these lands so that they remain resilient in providing ecosystem services, so that the communities can, in turn build strength and resilience.

3. Minutes – Chair Brian made a motion to accept the minutes as drafted from the August 17th 2021 public meeting of the conservation commission. Gillian Seconded; all unanimously agree.

Roll Call Vote: GG, EW, BB, WP, AYE

4. Request for Determination of Applicability – 12 Deer Path, Map 6.B Parcel 152 - proposed pool, landscaping and deck

Scott Hayes (Foresite Engineering) provided a summary of revisions submitted on behalf of the applicant. He expressed the applicant is seeking that the project may be considered minor exempt activity; conversion of lawn to accessory use. The proposed work includes a pool, fence, bluestone patio area and walkway. The commission noted observations from the site visit. Scott addressed these inquiries. Jonathan provided comments regarding the location of the pool equipment placement is due to lower elevation and within an existing mulch bed. This location was established by the pool installation company as preferred. He also suggested planting native shrubs and plantings within the limit of work to create a more naturalized buffer between the proposed equipment location and pool area. Chair Brian noted the commission requested the applicant move items outside of the jurisdictional area or further away from the resource areas further noting the area between the pool patio and fence will be a naturalized area yet there is pool equipment proposed. Conservation Agent reminded the commission regarding regulations. Chair Brian opened the hearing to the public. Richard Davis of Hudson Road was present to inquire about the type and exact filter to be used noting most discharge. Then followed up noting with significant rain even with a salt water filter this has a potential to alter the resource areas downstream. Scott Hayes stated they will be able to move the pool equipment behind the bluestone terrace further away from the resource areas and/or outside of the riverfront area. Chair Brian requested revised plans to be considered at the next meeting to review the location of the equipment. The applicant's representative stated they had time constraints but would be amendable to the continuation.

Chair Brian made a motion to continue the public hearing until Tuesday, September 21st 2021 at 7:45pm for the proposed project located at 12 Deer Path. Emily seconded; all unanimously AYE. Roll Call Vote: EW, BB, WP, GG AYE

5. **Notice of Intent – 231 Sugar Road, Map 5.D Parcel 85 -** proposed construction of a garage structure, attached to the existing single-family home

Michelle and Ben Dowd were present to provide a summary of their proposed project. The proposed work within jurisdictional areas includes the gravel driveway, corner of proposed garage structure and access to rear of home. Chair Brian and others who attended the site visit made notes of the proximity to resource area, specifically concerns about the "turnaround". The commission inquired about ways the applicant may be able to pull work outside of jurisdictional areas.

Chair Brian made a motion to close the public hearing regarding 231 Sugar Road for the proposed construction of a garage structure. Emily seconded; all unanimously, Aye.

Roll Call Vote: GG, EW, BB, WP, AYE

Chair Brian made a motion to issue an Order of Conditions the proposed construction of a garage structure located at 231 Sugar Road. William seconded; all unanimously, Aye.

Roll Call Vote: GG, EW, BB, WP, AYE

6. **Continued Notice of Intent – Century Mill Road Map 3D Parcel 75 –** *proposed construction of three single family homes and widen and pave an existing gravel driveway*

The applicant requested via email to have the conservation commission continue the public hearing until the next meeting of the conservation commission.

Chair Brian made a motion to continue the public hearing until Tuesday, September 21st 2021 at 8:00pm for the proposed project located at Map 3.D Parcel 75. Emily seconded; all unanimously AYE. Roll Call Vote: GG, EW, BB, WP, AYE

7. **Request for Determination of Applicability – Town Common off of Main Street –** *proposed vegetation management plan*

Lisa Shepple Parks and Recreation Coordinator was present to address any inquiries from the commission. The Conservation Agent provided a summary of what was submitted and the jurisdictional areas on site. Chair Brian had no comments.

Chair Brian made a motion to close the public hearing regarding Town Common off of Main Street for the proposed vegetation management plan. Gillian seconded; all unanimously, Aye.

Roll Call Vote: GG, EW, BB, WP, AYE

Chair Brian made a motion to issue Negative 3 Determination for the proposed vegetation management plan located at Town Common off of Main Street. Emily seconded; all unanimously, Aye.

Roll Call Vote: GG, EW, BB, WP, AYE

8. Request for Certificate of Compliance – 147 Long Hill Road Common Driveway DEP file# 112-620 - A request for certificate of compliance is being requested for the project MassDEP File No. 112-0620 Conservation Agent provided summary of the Horsley Witten letter from the Town's wetland scientist Amy Ball. The Applicant's representative Scott Erikson was present noting they were not aware of the meeting this evening and had only just received the review letter, their wetland scientist would be responding. The Conservation Agent noted the agenda including this item was posted in a timely fashion as a place holder in the hopes of receiving this letter prior to the meeting. Additionally, the agenda item was solely for the purpose of providing a summary of the document to the commission.

Chair Brian made a motion to continue the discussion of a request for certificate of compliance regarding the common driveway off of Long Hill Road project referenced in DEP file #112-0620 September 21st 2021 at 8:15pm. Gillian seconded; all unanimously agree.

Roll Call Vote: EW, GG, BB, WP, AYE

9. **Conservation Property Updates:** Maintenance and management items **Still River Trail**

The funding for this opportunity is provided by the Nashua, Squannacook, and Nissitissit Rivers Wild & Scenic Stewardship Council through the National Park Service under CFDA: 15.962 – National Wild and Scenic Rivers System

10. Chair Brian made a motion to adjourn the public meeting of the Conservation Commission Tuesday, September 7th 2021. Emily seconded; all unanimously AYE.

Roll Call Vote: GG, EW, BB, WP, AYE