



Bolton Conservation Commission

Meeting Minutes



Date:	Tuesday, March 16 th 2021
Time/Location	7:00 p.m. Zoom (remote participation)
Commissioners Present:	Chair Brian Berube, Emily Winner, William Payne, Lori Stephenson (joined at 7:30) (Conservation Agent, Rebecca Longvall)
Guests:	Jim Geraghty, Richard Davis, Lynn Dischler, Lisa Shepple, Ed Sterling, Seth Donohoe, Peter Given
Next Meeting:	Tuesday, April 6th 2021 7:00pm, Zoom Remote Participation

	<p>7:00pm Request for Determination of Applicability – 19 Mill Pond Road Map 3D Parcel 75 – proposed single family home and associated driveway</p> <p>Property owner Peter Given and Representative Seth Donohoe of Dillis and Roy were present. Conservation Commission members who went out to view the site provided a brief summary of their observations. Chair Brian inquired then requested that the applicant have the Conservation Agent inspect the erosion controls prior to construction.</p> <p>Chair Brian made a motion to close the public hearing for 19 Mill Pond Road 3D Parcel 75. Jeff seconded; all unanimously AYE. Roll Call: BB, WP, EW, JB.</p> <p>Chair Brian made a motion to issue a Negative three determination with one condition as discussed previously during this public hearing. Emily seconded; all unanimously AYE. Roll Call: BB, WP, EW, JB.</p>
2.	<p>7:00pm 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</p> <p>The applicant's representative Kyle M. of Goddard Consulting requested a continuation via email prior to the public meeting.</p> <p>Chair Brian made a motion to continue the public hearing until Tuesday, April 6th 2021 at 7:15 pm for the proposed project to be located at Map 3D Parcel 75. Emily seconded; all unanimously AYE. Roll call vote to continue: EW, WP, JB, BB; unanimous, Aye</p>
3.	<p>Minutes – Chair Brian made a motion to accept the minutes as drafted from the March 2nd 2021 public meeting of the conservation commission. Bill seconded; all unanimously agree. Roll call vote on motion to continue: BB, EW, WP, JB; unanimous, AYE</p>
4.	<p>The Oaks Conservation Area will be reviewed and monitored along with updating property boundary making and trails. Contact the Conservation Office with questions. This will occur March – April 2021.</p>

5	<p>OM Plan review for Parks and Recreation properties:</p> <p>Ed Sterling and Lisa Sheppple of Parks and Recreation were present.</p> <p>Ed presented a summary of progress from the last meeting regarding the operation and maintenance of the Parks and Recreation properties. Emily shared her concerns regarding the properties that have fields within close proximity to the resource areas; Forbush Mill fields adjacent to Still River for instance. Her concerns revolved around the use of chemicals to treat the fields. She highlighted an individual who has expertise in natural turf maintenance options that include encouraging the healthy of soil microbes through aeration, composting, and some fertilizing to promote a healthy soil ecosystem that benefits the turf. This process may also reduce the use and amount of chemicals necessary to maintain the fields thus creating a cost savings to the town or rather the sports organizations long term. Ed stated the information that they have from the companies, but noted that Parks and Recreation does not pay for this maintenance rather the sports teams/organizations fund and coordinate the maintenance of the fields. The Conservation Agent noted that Parks and Recreation should then be handing the associated documentation issued by the commission for the jurisdictional areas to the sports organizations in charge of maintenance and request the contractor's plan. Then parks and recreation put the responsibility on the contracted party to be within the parameters of the permits issued by the commission and can hold them accountable if they are not. The Conservation Agent also stated that the Forbush Mill Fields have an order of conditions that prohibits the use of hazardous materials, herbicide and pesticide but its silent in mentioning fertilizer directly. Parks and Recreation will need to fill out a Request for Certificate of Compliance for this OOC to ensure the conditions remain ongoing until such a time comes when alterations need to be made and they can file a Notice of Intent at that point. Memorial field has been addressed through multiple Determinations of Applicability. These have included an Operation and Maintenance Plan along with the list of improvement projects that were proposed and are most likely completed at this time. A Request for Determination of Applicability will be required to be filed for Memorial Field which could include an updated OM Plan. Emily stated that for the natural field management approach requires soil testing to understand what is necessary to create a healthier field. Therefore, she is curious if soil testing is conducted now, and if not, how can the field be treated if it is not being reviewed for success of the treatment through testing.</p> <p>Action items from this discussion are:</p> <p>The Conservation Commission will work on draft language to incorporate into decisions.</p> <p>Conservation Agent will send the correct Request for Determination of Applicability and Request for Certificate of Compliance to Parks and Recreation. She will also schedule related site visits and meetings with Parks and Recreation.</p> <p>Parks and Recreation will file appropriate documents to close out expired orders and encourage ongoing maintenance.</p>
6	<p>Conservation Property Maintenance:</p> <p>Emily noted a resource for native plants and landscaping</p> <p>Jeff inquired about Earth Day events; Conservation Agent stated that is an item on the next public meeting agenda. World Water Day is Monday and there will be a new story walk at Fyfeshire</p> <p>Taggart document hardcopies should be received by Thursday and the Town may continue with the closing at that time. OM Plan review for Conservation properties:</p> <p>Conservation Agent provided brief summary of updates including the invasive species management practices. She noted that she had to confirm a couple of the invasive on properties and will do so before the next Public Meeting. Jeff stated he would like a little more time to review the document to provide feedback. After the next public meeting the Conservation Agent will include a "draft" watermark on the document and language reminding the public these documents are in their draft form, but place them for public comment on the "Current Projects" page on the Town Website under Conservation.</p>
7	<p>Chair Brian made a motion to close the public meeting of the Conservation Commission Tuesday, March 16th 2021. Jeff seconded; all unanimously AYE.</p> <p>Roll Call Vote on motion: BB, EW, JB, WP; unanimous, AYE</p>

