



Bolton Conservation Commission

Meeting Minutes



Date:	Tuesday, June 15 th 2021
Time/Location	7:00 p.m. Zoom (remote participation)
Commissioners Present:	Chair Brian Berube, William Payne, Lori Stephenson (Conservation Agent, Rebecca Longvall)
Guests:	Ellie Vinacco, Jim Geraghty, Richard Davis
Next Meeting:	Tuesday, June 29 th 2021 7:00pm

- Request for Determination of Applicability – 100 Meadow Road Lot #4**
The Conservation Agent provided an update being the applicant's representative has provided a letter confirming the Potential Vernal Pool will be surveyed on site and the limit of work moved outside of the conservation commission's jurisdictional area. Therefore, they allowed via email prior to the meeting a notice to allow the commission to continue the public meeting until the next public meeting of the conservation commission.
Chair Brian made a motion to continue the public hearing for the Request for Determination of Applicability related to the proposed project located at 100 Meadow Road (lot #4) to 7:15pm on June 29th 2021. Bill seconded; all unanimously, Aye.
- Continued Abbreviated Notice of Resource Area Delineation – 159 Ballville Road**
The Conservation Agent provided an update being the applicant is still waiting on the DEP file# and comments. Therefore, the applicant's representative submitted a request via email which requested a continuation until the next public meeting of the conservation commission.
Chair Brian made a motion to continue the public hearing for the ANRAD located at 159 Ballville Road to 7:30pm on June 29th 2021. Lori seconded; all unanimously, Aye.
- 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***
Conservation Agent provided a summary of the applicant's recent request via email to have the conservation commission continue the public hearing until the next meeting of the conservation commission in order to allocate time to review and respond to the peer review report had been received the day prior.
Chair Brian made a motion to continue the public hearing until Tuesday, June 29th 2021 at 7:45pm for the proposed project located at Map 3D Parcel 75. Bill seconded; all unanimously AYE.
- Forbush – Taggart Stewardship Intern**
Conservation Agent provided an update on the new intern: Brianna Carlisle a student of Umass Amherst currently pursuing a degree in Environmental Science will be the Still River Trail Steward Intern, funded by the Nashua River Watershed Association, in collaboration with the Wild and Scenic Stewardship Council. She will be assisting in leading a trail project accompanied by educational materials along the Still River Tributary with a goal of connecting the existing Forbush Mill properties to the newly acquired Taggart Forestland Parcel.

5.	<p>Vote – Conservation Commission to consider vote to approve and sign off on the amendment to the existing “Miskell Conservation Restriction #18” over land currently owned by the Calcagni family. The Conservation Agent provided a summary of the proposed amendment which will result in more of the current parcel being placed under the existing Conservation Restriction located at the corner of Old Bay and Wattaquodock hill road.</p> <p>Chair Brian made a motion to approve and sign off on the amendment to the existing Miskell Conservation Restriction #18. Bill second, all unanimously AYE.</p>
6.	<p>Vote – Conservation Commission to consider vote to establish interest in holding land in fee for Conservation purposes and protections under article 97 for the property currently owned by Deborah Bonazzoli off of Hudson Road/Route 85. This parcel is being applied to the Massachusetts Land Tax Credit Program by property owner. The Conservation Agent provided a summary of the proposal and provided further information about the interests reviewed by the conservation commission when considering land to be held for conservation. This parcel is adjacent to about 140 acres of existing conservation land within the town of Bolton. This land also is across the street from additional conservation land and just south of the 140 contiguous land is conservation land within the town of Hudson. Adjacent land has Natural Heritage Endangered Species Program interests. The subject parcel contains the important cold water fishery Danforth Brook. Adjacent to this brook on the parcel is floodplain and bordering vegetated wetlands that assist in mitigating flooding hazards that may increase with more frequent extreme storms in the future. This parcel provided connectivity, protects a contiguous tract of land and conserves natural resources.</p> <p>Chair Brian made a motion to establish interest in holding land in fee for Conservation purposes and protections under article 97 as part of the Massachusetts Land Tax Credit Program to be donated from the property currently owned by Deborah Bonazzoli off of Hudson Road/Route 85. Bill second, all unanimously AYE.</p>
7.	<p>Minutes – Chair Brian made a motion to accept the minutes as drafted from the June 1st 2021 public meeting of the conservation commission. Lori Seconded; all unanimously agree.</p>

8.

Conservation Property Updates: Maintenance and management items

Still River Trail Steward Update:

Flagging proposed trail from existing trails associated with Forbush Mill and Taggart lands including one proposed crossing. Research has begun for collecting information related to the educational signage component throughout the proposed 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

Commission member inquired about the location of the loop trail through the newly acquired property and whether or not the rail bed is utilized as part of the loop trail. He further inquired if adjacent properties would also be incorporated in the future.

Bowers Springs – Commission to review proposed scope regarding assessment of the ponds and earthen dams

The earthen dams are the priority assessment and see what the single cost would be.

Wattles have been purchased and scheduled for installation

To be installed Thursday June 17th 2021 along the trail at bowers by the ponds

Tom Denney Nature Camp *request for another shed structure on property and tent location*

Ellie Vinacco Bolton Conservation Trust Administrator and run nature camp at Bowers Springs was present to provide a summary of the request. She is requesting a temporary tent in the woods. Last year more tents were required for the camp than permitted by concom. The location of the additional tent will be located at the circle path toward the right by the path that has been roped off due to erosion and revegetation. The total number of tents 4 total proposed for camp 2021. The dimensions will be 20'x30'. The proposed tents will June 28th – August 13th 2021. Porta potties will be installed around the same time. The Shed location is a proposed 7x7 shed on the property for storage of sanitary and health related equipment during the camp season.

Chair Brian makes a motion to authorize the installation of 4 tents and associated portapotties as discussed this evening for the purposes of Tom Denney Nature camp between the dates of June 28th – August 13th 2021. Lori second, all unanimously AYE.

Chair Brian makes a motion to authorize the installation of a 7x7 shed as discussed, this evening for the purposes of Tom Denney Nature camp between the dates of June 28th – August 13th 2021. Lori second, all unanimously AYE.

9.

Chair Brian made a motion to adjourn the public meeting of the Conservation Commission Tuesday, June 15th 2021. Bill seconded; all unanimously AYE.