

**MINUTES OF THE CONSERVATION COMMISSION  
PUBLIC MEETING  
TOWN OF CHARLEMONT  
July 10, 2013**

**Members Present**

Alan Booth, Tom Cashin,  
Doug Forbes, Tim Eichholz,  
Ruth Cannavo

**Members Absent**

Neal Lear,  
Larry Mann

**Others Present**

Mark Stinson, Ed Root  
Gisela Walker, Bill Lattrell,  
Raymond Willis

**The meeting was called to order at 7:32 PM**

Ed Root attended the meeting in order to discuss possible remediation of damage done to his property along Pelham Brook by tropical storm Irene. Mark Stinson reminded the Commission that no heavy equipment is allowed to enter a stream under any circumstances. He added that Mr. Root could submit an NOI with plans to fortify 15' to 20' of the stream bank with existing rock. This work would need to be completed before the end of August.

Ray Willis provided a detailed description, supported by photos, of how Rice Brook had eroded its banks during tropical storm Irene and flowed across his hay field to flood the Hawlemont School playing fields and the town's waste treatment facility. He stated that he had met with the select board and spoken with state representative Paul Mark about the possibility of fortifying the stream bank to prevent future flooding. Mark Stinson pointed out that the absence of forest (tree roots) along the brook allowed it to easily wash away topsoil held in place by grass. He suggested some sort of bioengineering, like the use of tree root wads, would be the best for this situation. Bill Lattrell recommended a combination of bioengineering and revetment (riprap). Mark pointed out that the planting of native trees is exempt from regulation under the CWA and WPA. He added that the town would need to submit an NOI, and that this project would require significant funding. A discussion followed on the importance of protecting town infrastructure despite its location in the floodplain of the Deerfield River. Mr. Willis mentioned that he hoped the town or some other agency would take on this project.

On behalf of Anthony and Gisela Walker, Bill Lattrell presented wetland delineation and a restoration plan for their property at 24 Windy Hill Road. This was unanimously approved. An enforcement order written up at the last meeting was unanimously approved. A negative determination for an NOI was also unanimously approved.

Payment of \$122 in dues to MACC was unanimously approved.

Minutes from the June meeting were signed.

**Business having been concluded, the meeting was adjourned at 8:40 PM.**

Respectfully submitted,

*D.J. Forbes*