

**Charlemont Conservation Committee**  
**August 10<sup>th</sup>, 2023 6:00 pm**  
**Via conference call and in person, Town Hall**  
**Meeting Minutes**

Members Participating: Thorne Palmer, Barbara Beall

Others Participating: Star Atkeson (secretary)

Thorne called the meeting to order 6:02 P.M.

**ACTION ITEMS:**

1. Review Approve/Minutes from 7/13/2023.

**Barbara Beall motioned to approve the 7/13/2023 Minutes, seconded by Thorne Palmer, All in favor.**

2. Issuance of Certificate of Compliance (Form 8b) for 2019 Town of Charlemont 8A project

The Board spoke about the realignment of North Heath Road. Thorne had looked, everything looks good. There were extra tree plantings done. The grass planting was green, culverts were clear, nice stonework, all in all a great job.

**Thorne Palmer made a motion to complete and grant the Certificate of Compliance Paperwork for the 8A project, DEP #127-0056. Barbara Beall seconded it. All in Favor.**

Form B Certificate of Compliance was completed and signed.

They would like to check with Sarah about whether it needed to be registered at the registry of deeds.

3. Review Justin Maynard NOI application, 200 Avery Brook Road

- Barbara and Thorne had looked over at the property from the vantage point of Avery Brook Road. With information from Highway's Scott Sullivan, they measured 20ft from the center of the road to determine the line of the town's right of way, it lands in the middle of large trees.
- They noticed a few trees down and leaning, presumably from the recent severe weather.
- They are curious to see if the mean annual highwater mark has changed, they don't have that information.
- Thorne contacted Jim Hawkins regarding the larger structure, since is meant to be permanent, will need a building permit.
- They are curious about the "redevelopment provisions and riverfront area regulations" cited in the NOI application. It looks as if to prove that what is being done is beneficial, it's a different regulation from what ConComm is used to dealing with.
- There was no vegetation under the shipping container. The letter says the vegetation will be increased. The total area of lost vegetation due to the structures is 516 sq feet. It is being proposed to allow 1200 square feet to revert to natural vegetation. Represents 2 to 1 mitigation and an "improvement over existing conditions." It would be good to compare

existing conditions to previous NOI, some area of property was barren and was supposed to be replaced.

- They will find out if the existing conditions are what Justin created with his cutting. He had put logs and rocks to build the bank up, and plantings in that area. They will find out if the area in question and the mentioned 1200 sq ft of the previous remediation is the same mitigated area from the previous NOI.
- They will request information about riverfront development form Mark Stinson (DEP) next week, and will inquire about a site visit on the property.
- The paperwork mentions South River, The Brook at the property is Avery Brook.
- Thorne told of a drive he took where he saw multiple trailers gathered, having been easily moved by high water. Even if there was 1200 sq feet of vegetation there, the weather events and high water are becoming more frequent.
- They'd like to get eyes on the areas where it is proposed to be placed. They agree they must have a site visit to make the decision.

**Barbara Beall motioned to be done with discussion item 3, seconded by Thorne Palmer. All in favor.**

#### **DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

1. Update on meeting for Conservation Commission page on Town website.
  - They have met with Sarah on how to do the website additions. Barbara will prepare links, start small with succinct information about WPA, and include a few links to the MACC website.
  - They'd like to learn more about what they can and can't do on the site, like possibly creating subpages.
  - It would be good to include information on Japanese knotweed and invasive species.

Other topics: Thorne spoke to Meg Veith on 17 Warfield Rd. Once they get the information from the wetland scientist about her property, they can stand on her side otherwise it is a civil case.

**Thorne Palmer made a motion to close the meeting at 7:47 PM, Barbara Beall seconded it. All in favor.**

The next regular meeting will be held on September 14<sup>th</sup>, 2023. The Hearing for the Maynard NOI will be on August 24<sup>th</sup>.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Star Atkeson 09/01/2023.

#### Documents reviewed in meeting:

Agenda of 8/10/2023 Meeting

Minutes of 7/13/2023 Meeting

Justin Maynard Notice of Intent for 200 Avery Brook Rd.