

Charlemont Conservation Committee
September 21st, 2023 7:30 pm
Via conference call and in person, Town Hall
Meeting Minutes

Members Participating: Thorne Palmer, Barbara Beall

Others Participating: Justin Maynard, Ward Smith Wetlands Consultant, Bill Harker, Clayton Herbert, Star Atkeson (secretary.)

Thorne called the meeting to order 7:30 P.M.

7:30 Continuation of Public Hearing for Notice of Intent submitted by Justin Maynard for the placement of a shed and a shipping container at 200 Avery Brook Rd

Barbara Beall read the letter of August 3rd which accompanied the NOI application, written by Ward Smith on behalf of Justin Maynard.

Ward addressed the questions brought up at the previous hearing.

Regarding the previously disturbed area. Ward contacted Mark Stinson who advised him to use historicaerials.com, it was not helpful, there was a lot of tree cover. The 2019 NOI was modified to have grass and loam. Loamed and seeded. There was a slump that was not plantings, this slump was not part of planting. The new planting plan is 1200 sq. feet.

The proposition is 10 balsam fir, 15 maple leaf viburnum, and 15 cranberries. Additionally, on the streambank, an additional 10 balsam fir will eventually provide shade for the cold-water fishery of Avery Brook.

Barbara pointed out that the entirety of the area is under the Wetlands Protection Act. From Avery Brook to the road. Ward said that the intention of the Redevelopment Act was to allow building on previously developed sites if it is made better. The shade afforded to the stream would be an additional improvement.

Barbara asked about the leaking well and asked if it could be addressed. Justin said it was from fracking and there wasn't really anything he could do.

The Board asked Justin about the contents of the container. They would not like any hazardous materials stored inside. That will be one of the conditions. Ward thought that was a reasonable condition.

Barbara mentioned that the shed may be in question when the town widens the road to replace the bridge. Ward said the moving of the shed could be combined with the town's filing or Justin could file paperwork again.

The Board is happy to have the planting recommendation from Ward, he advises that they reference the letter in the paperwork so that it becomes part of the Order of Conditions.

Thorne and Barbara discussed scheduling a working meeting to finalize the paperwork on October 10th. They will have 21 days to submit the decision.

Barbara Beall motioned to close the hearing regarding 200 Avery Brook Rd at 7:45 PM. Seconded by Thorne Palmer, all in favor.

Clay Herbert

Bill Harker had brought Clay Herbert in not only to observe but to join the Conservation Commission.

The Board spoke to Clay and are happy to invite him to join. Clay was a police officer and was on the Select Board in Buckland for 5 years.

Barbara Beall made a motion to appoint Clay Herbert to the Conservation Commission. Seconded by Thorne Palmer, All in favor.

Barbara Beall motioned to close the meeting at 8:05. Seconded by Thorne Palmer, All in favor.

The next meeting will be held on October 10th 2023, at 6:30 PM
Minutes respectfully submitted by Star Atkeson 12/14/2023.

Documents reviewed in meeting:

Cover letter of Justin's NOI application

Planting recommendation letter from Ward Smith

The 2023 NOI application file

2019 NOI application file

The September 21st, 2023, Agenda