

Charlemont Conservation Committee
February 8th, 2024 6:00 PM
Via conference call and in person, Town Hall
Meeting Minutes

Members Participating: Thorne Palmer, Clay Herbert, Scott Randall

Others Participating: Melody Wheldon, Star Atkeson (secretary.)

Thorne called the meeting to order 6:01 P.M.

Appointment:

6:15 Melody Wheldon re: leaf discarding on the riverbank.

Melody said that her neighbors discard their leaf and lawn refuse on the riverbank every year and she thinks that it is not good for the river especially if there have been lawn products in use. Thorne has spoken to a few of the neighbors already who said they will choose a different spot to discard lawn and yard waste. Thorne will talk to the remaining neighbor when he sees him next.

The transfer station sells compost bins for 25\$. They would need to be ordered.

Melody spoke about wanting to apply for a trail grant to develop access to the river. Clay Herbert said that he and his brothers, whose land it is on, would not want to do that. She thinks it would be fun and community building to work on the trail project. She really misses having a neighborly community as she had done the Main Street Tree Committee. She would like there to be a community gathering place where people can exchange ideas.

Discussion item:

1. Trees to be cut at 82 E. Hawley Rd. Thorne clarified that Howard Krusz' site for a house is already clear. The large pine trees are 50 feet from the wetlands. The land is in Chapter 61A. The Board wants to know whether it should be done with tree cutting plan through the DCR. Otherwise, they will ask Krusz to submit an RDA and they will go out and look. Thorne doesn't believe that the tree situation warrants an emergency order. He also mentioned that Krusz could cut some for personal use if he used it for firewood and be able to avoid paperwork that way.

Action item:

1. Review and approve Meeting Minutes from December 14, 2023, and January 11, 2024
The Board signed the minutes. They will motion to approve the minutes at the next meeting.
2. Elect Barbara Beall to be Chair of the Conservation Commission.
This will be moved to the next meeting that Barbara can attend, May 9th.

3. Discuss and write Enforcement Order for 180 8A.

Thorne let the rest of the Board know that he had been told of advice from the attorney that the ConComm could ask for actions strictly within their Conservation Commission purview. Simply stating that the cars need to be moved away from the resource area. The other Boards will deal with the other respective issues such as how many cars he will be allowed to keep with his current permit. The Select Board re-issuing Dupree's class II license is contingent upon Dupree acting in good faith in carrying out the Conservation Commissions Enforcement Order.

The Board made a few changes to the text of 2019 enforcement order: They will visit quarterly to monitor progress and if Dupree brings cars in, he must remove the same amount in addition to the 12 cars in weight per month. The removal process should be complete by July 1st, 2025.

Clay Herbert made a motion, seconded by Scott Randall, that they accept the draft stipulations to be included in the enforcement order. All in Favor.

The Board reviewed the Enforcement Order and signed the signature page.

Clay motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:34 Thorne Palmer seconded, All in favor.

Documents reviewed in meeting:

2019 Enforcement Order

Wetlands GIS layer of 82 E. Hawley Rd.

Minutes Dec 14 2024 , Jan 11 2024

Agenda Feb 8, 2024