

Charlemont Earth Removal Committee
Continued public hearing on gravel operation permit application
8/16; 9/13; 11/1; 11/29/2016
Hawlemont Cafeteria

Draft minutes 11/29/16

Members present: Sarah Reynolds, Chair; Gisela Walker, Planning Board; Rob Lingle, Board of Health and Conservation Commission; Bill Harker in Florida for the winter

Applicants: Mr. Richardson; Mr. Ned Childs

Members of the public: Dan Miller, Sue Annear, Melissa Dekoschak

Chair, SReynolds, opened the continued Public Hearing on the application by Mr. Childs for a permit for their gravel pit behind the Fairground at 4 pm following a site visit to establish the footprint of the gravel pit.

(The applicant's forester had created 60 gps points at where they figured the footprint boundaries were but they were not marked on the ground so the Committee members had just been able to walk the boundaries with fairly clear directions and to stake out the southern most point and the lowest point and to eyeball a buffer zone to the fairgrounds loop road.)

In general the Chair expressed increasing frustration with the fact that the applicant does not produce the information requested and clearly spelled out in the bylaw creating numerous hearing continuations.

The following points were discussed at the hearing:

The footprint will be outlined on the ground with tape or string following their gps points by Monday so Committee members can verify that it is where we were told.

High groundwater mark: A perc test pit 10' deep will be done using Sean Kimberly to establish a soil profile.

A general vegetation description will be produced by the forester.

A phased work plan will be submitted establishing work priorities.

A buffer zone of 50 feet from the centerline of the loop road will be maintained at all times within which no trees may be cut or –if they need to be cut to remove sand piles– will be replanted.

Grading from the southern most point will be such that a large shallow terraced area will provide ample percolation opportunity for surface water before it would run off down the intermittent stream that presently goes through the pit.

The applicant will establish a permanent datem or benchmark point.

The applicant will submit all written information via email to the Chair by January 3rd, 2017 for review of completeness before the next hearing date.

At 5.45 pm GWalker moved, Lingle seconded to continue the hearing to Tuesday, **January 10, 2017 at 6 pm at the School cafeteria (Snow date 1/17/17)**