

Worthington Conservation Commission
Minutes of Meeting
August 19, 2014

Chairman Dawn Flatt called the meeting to order at 08/19/2014 07:04:02 PM

1 Attendance

Mary Gurkin, Adam Leach, Dawn Flatt, Peg O'Neal, Ed Lewis

2 Old Business

2.1 Minutes of July Meeting

Ms. O'Neal offered a motion that Mr. Leach seconded that the commission approve the minutes of the July 15 meeting as presented. The commission approved the motion unanimously.

2.2 Minutes of June Meeting

The minutes of the June meeting have not been issued. No action has been taken therewith.

2.3 SH-143

The State (Massachusetts Department of Transportation, 'DOT') plans to expand SH-143 including installing new drainage. DOT has not approached the commission notwithstanding that there has been correspondence relative to a 'certified abutters list' and the DOT's filing of an abbreviated notice of resource area delineation (ANRAD). Evidently, there are plans to file the ANRAD for public hearing in September. There has also been correspondence relative to the need to replace wetland delineation flags which were installed sometime in the past relative to the SH-143 project.

Because no filings have been made before the commission, no actions can be taken. The commission will react to DOT filings as needed when the need arises.

3 Forest Cutting Plans

The commission is in receipt of three forest cutting plans.

3.1 Cummington Road

A Jonathan Ciejac of Cummington Road filed an amendment to a cutting plan previously filed with the State Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR). The commission anticipates taking no action.

An Arthur and Nancy Murelli of Cummington Road filed a forest cutting plan. The commission anticipates taking no action.

3.2 Starkweather Hill Road

A John Cournoyer filed a forest cutting plan for proposed work on Starkweather Hill Road. The commission anticipates taking no action.

4 New Business

4.1 Building Permit Appeal - Marjorie Johnson

A Marjorie Johnson of 10 Conwell Road filed an appeal to a construction permit issued for proposed work on her property. The permit had no provisions relative to wetlands conservation; it related to constructing a building addition not previously known to, or reported to the commission.

Ms. Flatt agreed to visit the property to determine whether or not the commission has any interest in the matter.

4.2 Sam Hill Bridge Project

The DOT ordered the closure of a bridge on Sam Hill Road. The bridge will need to be replaced. This matter is scheduled for discussion at the August 26 Selectmen's meeting. Ms. Flatt, Mr. Leach and Mr. Lewis plans to attend the the meeting to offer the commission's perspective relative to potential work. Previous research suggested the following:

- DOT will need to file a notice of intent (NOI).
- There is a limited project provision for this kind of work allowing the issue of a permit without the need to comply with all of the performance provisions of the Wetlands Protection Act.

4.3 Chairman

Ms. Flatt has been chairman for 1 year. She plans to step down as chairman. The commission will need to appoint a new chairman.

5 Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 08/19/2014 07:28:52 PM.

The next meeting is scheduled for 9/16.