

Worthington Conservation Commission
Minutes of Meeting
July 16, 2015

1 Call to Order

The meeting convened at 2015-07-16 19:04:29

2 Attendance

Mary Gerken-Newcomb, Andrew Madden, Virginia Sowers, Peg O'Neal, Ed Lewis

3 Old Business

3.1 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Mr. Madden offered a motion that Ms. O'Neal seconded that the commission accept the minutes of the June 19 meeting as presented. The commission approved the motion unanimously.

3.2 Membership

Adam Leach resigned from the commission via a June 23 letter to the Board of Selectmen.¹ The Selectmen appointed Ms. Diana Noble as a new member through 2018. The commission is now at full strength with seven members.

3.3 Emergency Certification

The commission issued an Emergency Certification to Tom Quinn, owner of property at 4 South Worthington Road ordering replacement of a leaking septic tank. The commission issued the certification on June 29 following a request by Mr. Quinn and his consultant, Dr. Ron Lavigne who inspected the system, days beforehand in anticipation of a real estate transfer.

¹Ms. O'Neal distributed a copy of the letter to commission members.

Ms. Sowers reported that they did do the work approximately 1 week ago. There was silt fence in place which was readily visible from the road.

The commission agreed to do a site visit to verify completion 7:00 PM Thursday July 30.

Whether or not the landowner(s) intend to work on a leach field is not known.²

4 New Business

4.1 Forest Cutting Plan

Mr. Stephen Pierce, Landowner of 17 Bailey Road submitted a forest cutting plan for logging on his property. The planned work is on the Worthington Huntington town line adjacent to the Westfield River.

The State Department of Fisheries and Wildlife (DFW) is an abutting landowner. Mr. Madden reported that the DFW marked the boundaries of its land abutting Mr. Pierce's property.

The commission does not plan to take any action relative to the planned work.

4.2 MACC Membership Info Update

The commission has been a member of the Massachusetts Association of Conservation Commissions (MACC). The Commission voted to renew membership at its June 19 meeting. Ms. Gerken-Newcomb agreed to submit the renewal form. Due to then anticipated personnel changes, it was agreed that Ms. Gerken-Newcomb would wait until July to submit the renewal forms.

Each member updated his/her contact information at tonight's meeting. Ms. O'Neal agreed to obtain Ms. Noble's information so Ms. Gerken-Newcomb can submit the forms. Ms. Gerken-Newcomb has already submitted a payable voucher to the town treasurer for the dues payment.

5 Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 2015-07-16 19:19:23

²The Emergency Certification addressed the septic tank only. Work on a leach field within 200 feet of the Little River will require formal notification of the Conservation Commission. The commission could require a full Notice of Intent.