

Kensington Conservation Commission

May 11, 2021

Zoom Meeting due to Covid 19

Members Present: Sydnee Goddard, Bob Gustafson, Andrew Roberts, Courtney Prenata, Joan Skewes

Call to Order: 7:30 p.m.

1. 152 Drinkwater Road with John Roth, Alex Ross and Marc Jacobs
The Conservation Commission reviewed the engineering plans with the applicant. Wetland boundaries have been delineated. The intent of the after the fact application is to correct improper installation of culverts and trails. The number of culverts have been reduced, culverts are to be installed at grade. A section of the proposed trail has been removed. Old stump piles are to be removed. Applicant has indicated that they have communicated with the Society for Protection of NH Forests. There are new impacts but not in prime wetlands. Syd brought up that the recreation value appears to outweigh the conservation value. Marc Jacobs stated that the trails don't adversely impact the wetlands, stump grinding will be used to prevent impact by horses. John Roth indicated the best time to use the trails would be in the colder months, when the ground is frozen or in the fall. Marc Jacobs indicated that the property would be posted for no motorized vehicle use such as ATV. Invasive species would be controlled. Syd indicated she is disappointed the trail width was not narrowed more. On the steep banks, Marc noted that plantings would be installed to avoid erosion into wetlands.
2. SAU Property in Kensington
Syd attended the Board of Selectmen meeting and discussed the history of the approvals on the property. A 10 acre portion of the parcel was to be in conservation. A letter will be sent to the town's legal counsel to review the documents.
3. Moulton Ridge and Hunting
Syd discussed with the Selectboard that the Commission would like to have a community discussion as to whether to allow hunting on the property. Meeting will take place some time in September.
4. Hodges
The Commission discussed beaver activity. Commission discussed town wide problem, the beavers need to be removed and then maintained. Bob is to come up with a proposal for the town. Fire ponds are in trouble.

Bridge Construction from Sawyer Park. Syd re-submitted the DES application. Joe Hickey has used all of the No Hunting signs. Someone has ripped down the signs along Stumpfield Road. Syd has walked the property with a representative from the Forest Society who are the easement holders on the property. No issues, keep eyes on invasive species, beech tree seedlings, phragmites in the center of the parcel.
5. Pollinator Pathways

Wild flower walk is proposed. Syd indicated she has seen Garlic Mustard which is bad and should be pulled up if anyone sees it.

6. Community News

The Commission discussed Pollinator Pathways activity, seed give-a-way. Courtney discussed light pollution and the effect on animals.

7. Conservation Next Steps

Syd and Andy will schedule meeting.

8. April minutes approved as revised.

9. Felch Subdivision application – Syd contacted the Planning Board, wetlands are being mapped, there is a different location of the driveway and a change in the proposed tree cutting.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.