

Deerfield Conservation Commission – Meeting Minutes

January 26, 2023

Members Present: Peter Law, Kate Devlin, Sean Libbey

Members Absent: Ben Byrne

Town Staff Present: Amy Hahn, Building Assistant;

Notes:

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 pm, virtually via Zoom

Minutes of the December 22, 2022 meeting were reviewed and accepted as written with a motion from Sean Libbey, seconded by Peter Law. Roll call vote approved, 3-0-0.

New Business:

1. Eaglebrook new dining hall and ballfield project was presented by Wes Smith (Eaglebrook representative) and Tom Johnson (Pro Terra). The plan is to build into the hillside a 30,000 square foot heavy timber frame building. The current dining hall (Gibbs) was built in 1969 when the student body was half of the current population. Looking to start this Summer (17 month expected length), they will be filing an NOI and are hoping to start the peer review bid process as soon as possible.
 - Tom Johnson (civil engineer) has contracted Lucas Environmental to flag the wetlands and prepare the NOI. Only a few areas will be within the buffer of wetlands. A new sewer line and stormwater plan will be mitigated by utilizing green roofs.
 - The plan is to use fill material from the dining hall excavation to build up a new football field. Also, to minimize disruption to campus a haul road will be constructed in the work area (outside of jurisdictional wetlands).
 - Amy Hahn and Peter Law noted that if a stormwater plan is also presented to the Planning Board that would also require a peer review. The Town has two companies we work with on projects of this scope.
 - Tom Johnson laid out a timeframe for submitting their NOI by March 9th so they can make the hearing on March 23. Peter Law agreed to pre-walk the project area with Tom Johnson early March prior to the first meeting. Amy Hahn noted only two Commission members may be present without a 7-day public notice.
2. 470 Greenfield Road Emergency Certification
 - Police Chief John Paciorek responding to a safety and public health concerns related to water over the leach and septic fields for Bittersweet Bakery and crossing over Routes 5 and 10 by the Country Store creating an icing situation on the roadway. A site inspection was conducted on December 27, 2022, by Chief Paciorek and Kevin Scarborough (DPW). They witnessed water backing up to the buildings and crossing the road to the Savage's home. The cause of the issue was a debris dam constructed across a 36" culvert by beaver activity. Public Health Department approved the dam removal, done by MassDOT. Currently there are 8-10" of clear flow, a phased approach will be used to improve the flow through this culvert (under Routes 5 & 10).

- Sean Libbey moved to ratify the emergency certification; Kate Devlin seconded the motion. Roll call vote approved 3-0-0.
3. A letter was sent to State Representatives asking for the extension of the Governor's 3/12/2020 mandate allowing for remote meetings.
 4. Peter Law wrote and sent a letter to the Open Space and Recreation Committee in support of their revised Open Space and Recreation Plan.

Old Business:

1. SunnyDayz ORAD status: the ORAD has been recorded at the Registry. Waiting on the NOI to be filed. A site plan has been submitted to the building inspector and Planning Board.

General Discussion:

1. Special Terms and Conditions most recently revised 1/1/23 were presented to final review. E-mail Peter Law with any final comments prior to the next meeting.
2. 670 River Road site inspection: Landowner Kevin Bourbeau reached out to meet on January 18, 2023. Peter Law and Sean Libbey were present to hear his overall goals and review the proposed area of work. He reached out because he was aware that he borders a potential FEMA classified flood plain. The project is to tear down an existing barn and replace it with the current footprint.
3. Mail
 - Climate Change Preparedness Conference

Next Meeting:

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Deerfield Conservation Commission will be held on Thursday February 23rd, 2023 at 7 pm via Zoom.

A motion was made by Sean Libbey to adjourn the meeting at 8:21 pm, motion seconded by Kate Devlin. Roll call vote approved 3-0-0.

Respectfully submitted, Sean Libbey, Conservation Commission

All Materials and Documents discussed during this meeting are publicly available on the Town of Deerfield's website (excepting those in draft form).

The link to the Conservation Commission page is: <https://www.deerfieldma.us/243/Conservation-Commission>.