

Egremont Conservation Commission

Meeting Minutes Thursday, February 9, 2023, 5:30 p.m. **Hybrid/ Zoom Meeting**

Call to order 5:30 pm

Mandate from State on identifying Commission members present.

David Seligman, Chair

Bill Tynan, Associate Member

Alexis Wreden, Secretary

Patrick Riordan, Media

Joyce Frater, Member

Jeff Nathan, Member

Guest:

Lucinda Vermeulen, Vice Chairwoman, Egremont Selectboard

Approval of the minutes of previous meeting.

Public Hearings: None

Projects New & Old:

Building Inspector sign-off requests, 37 Creamery Road; 46 Prospect Lake Rd. Signed-off.
24 Lakeside Drive. Awaiting property merger .

Communications:

- Beth Wood re: wetlands question. No action. The property in question is neither wetland nor resource area.
- Sharon Waskow re: Phillips Road Will property be taken out of Chapter 61 and protection status removed? Will the town purchase with their first right of refusal clause? Bill Tynan, to raise questions with the OSRP.
- Ian Rasch re: Dam Grant funding. In the process of formalizing the agreement for dam repair funding in possible collaboration with the town.
- Ron Weiner: Phone call to David Seligman. A few Members of the Commission meet at the site with Mr. Weiner to walk through the Order. (Alexis to research precedents for wetland regs and grandfather clauses for parking areas.)
- Jack's Pond Drawdown Report: December drawdown. Received. Request made to require future reports be submitted on Google Sheets (something like Excel Spreadsheets.) Images to be attached to the Google sheets.

Administrative:

- Conditions issuance and on-site monitoring: Discussion topic future clear-cutting on-stream banks . Given the strong environmental impact of such operations what can the Commission do to ensure positive outcomes. Suggestion made that we follow a "Case

Study” format with broad guidelines specifically for RDA conditions including plenty of time allotted for hearings, requiring Contractors to sign off on conditions prior to cutting, possibly requiring Wetland Specialists to participate, flagging the top contour limits of the stream bank, flag all native species prior to cutting, specifying appropriate equipment to be used.

- Mass Wildlife Biomap 3 webinar. Members looking for additional “how to” information through demos and Webinars possibly from The State.
- Review of “Active” and “Current” files. Backlog after Shannon’s accident. David is looking for volunteers to help file outstanding projects.
- Shannon Poulin annual performance review. David gave Shannon an excellent review. We are very grateful for all her hard work.
- OSRP Update: Next meeting on February 14. Bill Tynan to bring Chapter 61 Forest Protection discussion to the meeting.
- Forest Stewardship Plan for the Town of Egremont. No change.

Adjourned: 6:58 PM

Next regularly scheduled Commission meetings: **February 23; March 9; March 23.**

Respectfully submitted,

Alexis

Alexis Wreden, Secretary