



Pursuant to the Open Meeting Law, MGL Chapter 30 A, §§ 18-25, written notice posted by the Town Clerk delivered to all Board members, a meeting of the Hamilton Conservation Commission was posted for September 27, 2023 at 7PM on Zoom. This meeting was recorded.

HAMILTON CONSERVATION COMMISSION MINUTES OF MEETING  
September 27, 2023  
Zoom Webinar ID 82437456090

Conservation Commission Members: Sandy Coddling, Virginia Cookson, Kathy Simons, Deb Thompson, Lauren Lynch, and Lee McCoy.

**Call the meeting to order:** *With a quorum present, Lee McCoy called the meeting to order at 7:04 PM, identified the meeting was being recorded and those present:* K. Simons, V. Cookson, L. Lynch (E: unknown time), and L. McCoy. Quorum established until the exit of Lauren Lynch.

Not present: D. Thompson; S. Coddling

Others present: Interim Conservation Commission Coordinator Brian Colleran; Patrick Reffett, Planning Coordinator; Laurie Wilson, Executive Assistant; and others as noted in the minutes.

**The meeting was abbreviated due to board member availability.**

#### Minutes

Approve the minutes of August 9, 2023 – *The minutes were deferred to the next meeting.*

**Public Hearings - None**

**Request for Certificate of Compliance - None**

#### Enforcement Orders:

**37 Knowlton Street (Map 65, Lot 47) - issued September 13, 2023, dumping of soil, vegetation waste**

- **Letter & Photos of the area 9.13.23**

**On September 12, 2023 the Conservation Agent observed fresh and loam and manure dumped near the wetlands at 37 Knowlton St.** The owner of the property, Bruce Faulkner, 37 Knowlton St was present and confirmed he dumped some loam and manure on the slope leading to the wetlands to level out the area of his yard; he has since ceased all activity of this type. Members of the Conservation Commission were granted permission to access the property by the homeowner for a site visit. V. Cookson will confirm the distance of this activity from the wetlands.

**161 Bridge Street (58-6-53) – issued March 14, 2023, erosion and sedimentation**

**181 Bridge Street (58-8-53) – issued March 14, 2023, erosion and sedimentation**

**185 Bridge Street (58-9-53) – issued March 14, 2023, erosion and sedimentation**

There is a meeting for abutters and neighbors in regards to these properties is scheduled for Thursday October 5, 2023 at 10:00am in the Memorial room at Town Hall. It was noted the drainage flowing onto surrounding properties and into the wetland has been redirected. Members of the Conservation Commission have visited the site.

Conservation Coordinator Brian Colleran added that an area of approximately 25 ft in the river has accumulated a significant amount of sediment that could potentially be remediated if the commission decided it was necessary. This agenda item was continued to the next meeting.

**26 Appaloosa Lane (Map 60, Lot 121) – issued August 21, 2023, removal of trees in a resource area**

Removal of trees at this property has ceased at this time. The owners are in the process of filing the appropriate paperwork. Quorum not present to vote on enforcement order. Brian Colleran will discuss the necessary next steps with the owners. This agenda item was continued to the next meeting.

## **Discussions**

### **Project at 24 Juniper Road**

Ryan McShera of Red Barn Architecture spoke on behalf of Liz and Dave Belanger to inquire about adding to an existing structure. The 100ft buffer line goes through the corner of the current structure. The general opinion of the commission is that as long as the construction is approached from the front of the building and all materials and equipment are kept outside of the buffer zone a request for determination was not necessary. In the event this condition is not met an enforcement order may be issued.

### **Invasive Removal on Lots 4 and 5 Bridge Street**

Ryan Roseen from Goddard Consulting spoke in regards to a remediation plan for ruts in the wetland and buffer zone. The remediation plan indicates this is to be done using hand tools only. The contractors hired for the remediation have determined that some of the ruts are too big to be remedied using just hand tools, and are requesting the use of a small machine to fix the existing damage. They are also requesting the use of a machine to transport the trees to be planted up the hill to their final planting location. Godard Consulting will have wetland scientists on site to monitor the equipment use. The contractor, Sumco, has removed all of the invasives in the wetland and the buffer zone over the last 2-3 weeks. The commission advised that Goddard Consulting would need to submit a modified plan to be voted on.

### **Update on Hiring of Conservation Officer**

Patrick Reffett, Director of Planning and Inspectional Services, updated that an offer letter has been sent to Kristan Farr with a proposed starting date of October 16, 2023.

### **Regulatory Update on Conservation By-Law**

Held to the next meeting.

### **Conservation Office: Miscellaneous Updates**

- Three site walks performed - 156 Gregory Island Road, Bridge Street lots 6, 8, & 9, and 26 Appaloosa Lane
- Two Certificates of Compliance issued
- Two Enforcement Orders issued
- Preconstruction paperwork and meeting notifications have not been forwarded to the commission as described in the Order of Conditions for the Chebacco Road project.

**Adjournment** – *The Board voted unanimously to adjourn at 8:45 pm*

*Respectfully submitted by  
Kristin Byrne, Recording Secretary  
11.14.23*

*The minutes were prepared from video.*

*Respectfully submitted as Approved at meeting of Feb 14, 2024 by K. Simons,  
Hamilton Conservation Commission Vice Chair, on May 22, 2024*