

TOWN OF WILBRAHAM
240 Springfield Street
Wilbraham, Massachusetts 01095
(413) 596-2800, EXT. 204



WILBRAHAM CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes from July 25, 2023

Members Present: Acting Chairman: William Meeker, Chris Brown, Stoughton Smead, Alice Colman, Cathy Lawless (7:20) and Associate Member James Coletta
Staff: Melissa Graves

7:05 PM Notice of Intent 2689 Boston Road
Project: Beach Restoration Project
Present: Steve Riberdy, Boghunter Ecological
Owner: Thomas Kennedy

This is an existing house located at the beginning of a private road. The project proposed includes the restoration of a small portion of a historic beach area. The top of slope is marked. The proposed beach area is approximately 290 square feet and is currently void of trees. Core logs will be used for erosion control and will last up to 5 years. Should hold sand in place while area stabilizes. There is also a plan to remove invasive species adjacent to the beach and to plant native plants. The applicant is not proposing an annual removal of invasive plants, just what is there currently. No work is proposed below the bank which would trigger Chapter 91 filing. The core log will be buried by hand in about 4" and will be kept until it naturally decomposes. The black willow tree will remain.

Vines were removed along the road. The pond doesn't fluctuate very much and with all the rain this summer it hasn't risen very much. After reviewing the submitted documents and comments from DEP, the Commission made the following motion.

Motion: Sto Smead, close the public hearing and issue an Order of Conditions within 21 days

2nd: Chris Brown

In Favor: Alice Colman, William Meeker, Stoughton Smead, Chris Brown

Materials Referenced: WPA Form 3 – Notice of Intent, Site Plan "2689 Boston Road – Beach Restoration" dated June 19, 2023 and WPA Form 4 – Order of Conditions

7:10 PM Request for Determination of Applicability
Crane Hill/Glendale Road Utility Pole Replacement Project – MA Electric
Present: Nora, BSC Group

Exempt minor activity and not subject to WPA. Within buffer zone of local bylaw.

Motion: Alice Colman, issue a Negative #5 for the exemption 310 CMR10.02 (2)(b)(2)(h) and a Negative #6 for the local bylaw

2nd: Chris Brown

In Favor: Alice Colman, Chris Brown, Sto Smead, Chris Brown

Materials Referenced: WPA Form 1 – Request for Determination of Applicability and WPA Form 2 – Determination of Applicability

Order of Condition/Special Conditions

337 Maynard Road – Garage Addition and Septic Replacement Project

Motion: Chris Brown, approve the special conditions as discussed and amended for 337 Maynard Road

2nd: Alice Colman

In Favor: Alice Colman, Chris Brown, Stoughton Smead, Cathy Lawless

Minutes: June 27, 2023

Motion: Alice Colman, approve as written

2nd: Chris Brown

In Favor: Alice Colman, Chris Brown, Stoughton Smead, Cathy Lawless

Tree Removal Request 4 Mill Brook Circle (private property)

The resident called the Conservation office to seek permission to cut down and remove a tall maple tree that has become dangerous and dropping limbs. The tree has been infested with bugs for a few years and is becoming compromised. The tree appears to be within 100' of Bennett Pond.

Motion: Chris Brown, authorize the owner of 4 Mill Brook Circle to remove the one maple tree and the stump

2nd: Sto Smead

In Favor: Alice Colman, Chris Brown, Stoughton Smead, Cathy Lawless

Tree Removal Request 29 Mill Brook Drive (private property)

The resident called to inquire about removing an already fallen large willow tree from the edge of the pond. The contractor/resident would have to obtain permission from the neighbor for access to remove the tree as it's only accessible from the abutting yard. They just want to remove the tree and have it taken away.

Motion: Chris Brown, remove one dead/fallen willow tree on the property adjacent to Bennett Pond

2nd: Sto Smead

In Favor: Alice Colman, Chris Brown, Stoughton Smead, Cathy Lawless

Tree Removal Request 15 Westwood Drive (Conservation Property)

Present: Owner, Michael Sheehan

The resident sent an email to the Conservation Commission regarding a pine tree that has limbs falling in their yard and fell on top of their fence. They would like the remainder of the tree to be removed. They would also like to have the remaining trees be looked at and assessed for removal. Set up a meeting with Dave Graziano to get a policy for action. Chris indicated that he will call him.

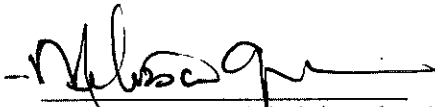
**Discussion Green Acres Farm
Tree Removal Complaint**

The Conservation Commission received a complaint from a neighbor about the recent activities on the Green Acres Farm. It appeared that the owners of the site were operating in or close to a resource area by cutting trees and brush. The farm hasn't been in full operation for a number of years and the new owners are attempting to reclaim the existing fruit trees or clean it up in preparation to plant new fruit trees. As of this meeting, the activity has stopped. No further action on this topic is anticipated unless there is more activity within the jurisdiction of the Conservation Commission.

Having no further business, a motion was made and seconded to adjourn at 8:45 PM.

Submitted:

Approved As To Form And Content:



Melissa Graves, Administrative Assistant
Date: 8/29/23



William Meeker, Acting Chairman
Date: 8/29/23

