

Approved as amended on November 28, 2018

**Plainfield Conservation Commission
Minutes of Meeting Held October 31, 2018**

Meeting was held in Town Hall.

Commissioners present: John Burns, Erik Burcroff, Jack Nelson, Alice Schertle, Judy Williams (Chair)

Also present: Jeanne Sargent, Plainfield resident; Katy Wilkins, Project Environmental Scientist, Tighe & Bond Engineers/Environmental Specialists.

Call to Order, Judy Williams, 7:08 P.M.

Minutes of August 29, 2018 were approved as read.

Jeanne Sargent, 138 Pleasant

Jeanne described the right for natural burial which is included in the Conservation Restriction held by Jeanne Sargent and Jack Nelson with the Franklin Land Trust. Jeanne has obtained a letter of approval for such burial from the Board of Health. She seeks approval from the Conservation Commission. Commissioners reviewed an aerial map of the property. The Conservation Commission has a copy of the complete baseline documentation report of the Nelson/Sargent CR. Judy read the relevant section of the CR. The number of burials is limited to two. No chemical preservatives will be used.

The specific burial site on the property has not been determined. John volunteered to help with the GPS siting. The Commission advised that an RDA should be submitted after the specific location has been chosen. A site visit would be made before the public meeting on the RDA.

RDA for Eversource Energy Bridge Installation Project

Katy Wilkins of Tighe & Bond, representing Eversource, described the project to build 3 bridges over 3 streams which cross the Eversource line 312 Right of Way (ROW) east of West Street. The project is intended to create permanent crossings to improve accessibility and to eliminate the expense and recurring wetland disturbance related to the use of impermanent swamp mats. The work is within the 100 ft. Buffer Zone to Bordering Vegetated Wetlands and inland Bank. Each bridge will completely span the resource area. Katy said an archaeological survey ordered by Eversource found no sensitive sites in the areas impacted by the project. The Conservation Commission has had access to maps, plan drawings and photographs of the project on line. Jack, Erik and Judy made a site visit to the area.

Jack moved that the Commission issue a Negative Determination under #3: The work described is within the Buffer Zone as defined in the Regulations, but will not alter an area subject to protection under the Act. Therefore, the work does not require the filing of a Notice of Intent. Seconded by John. Vote: Unanimous in favor.

Katy Wilkins left the meeting at 7:40 P. M.

Forest Cutting Plans

Judy has received notice from William Sloan Anderson, property manager for Franklin Land Trust, describing a cutting plan for the Guyette property. The project involves 17.5 acres and includes clear cutting to encourage sunlight for maximum sprouting of poplar. Clear cutting as planned would extend right up to a stream bank. Conservation Commission will do a site visit at 9 A.M. Nov. 2.

Following the visit to the Guyette property the Commission will do a site visit to the Nexamp solar site at 29 Union. Jack will notify Nexamp.

Commissioners discussed the site visit made Aug. 30, 2018 to the cutting project on 116. The property is owned by the Cullen Nominee Trust. Service Forester Alison Wright and Consulting Forester Eric Donnelly accompanied the Commissioners on the site visit. Alison answered questions about the Forestry Memorandum of Understanding. She said a fairly long delay between the time a cutting plan is created and the time it is submitted to the ConCom is common. She said the ConCom may make comments after the 10 day period specified in the MOU and that any questions or concerns about the site should be directed to her.

Other Business

Judy has informed those proposing the marijuana farm at the end of Broom St. that an RDA would be required.

Jack shared a DVD titled Ireland's Wild Coast, an article on cougars from American Scientist Magazine, and a New Yorker article on the ecology of termites.

The next ConCom meeting will be held in Town Hall at 7:00 P.M on Nov. 28, 2018.

Adjourned 8:20 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Alice Schertle

