

Approved 3-4-20

**Plainfield Conservation Commission
Minutes of Meeting Held February 26, 2020**

Meeting was held in Town Hall. Commissioners present: Erik Burcroff, John Burns, Jack Nelson, Alice Schertle, Judith Williams (chair)

Call to Order, Judith Williams, 6:40 p.m.

There will be a MACC Open Space Conference at Greenfield Community College on 4-25-20, from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Jack, John and Judy will attend the MACC Annual Conference in Worcester on 2-29-20.

Minutes of 1-29-20 were read and approved as amended.

Minutes of 2-18-20 were read and approved as read.

John reported that DCR is in charge of both the Plainfield Pond dam and the Crooked Pond dam. DCR sets the water level. A seasonal resident volunteer removes litter and vegetative debris at Crooked Pond.

Site Visit

John and Judy made a site visit today, 2-26-20, to the Ken Vusburgh property at 90 River Road. Work would involve repair of a bridge over a stream. The bridge, which has boards missing, provides access to an abandoned structure. John pointed out that an engineer would have to examine the bridge to determine whether the concrete abutments are adequate. At this point it is a construction problem. The ConCom took no action.

RDA, 12 Alden Lane

An RDA was submitted by Roxanne Finn, prospective owner of property at 12 Alden Lane. Jack, Erik and Judy made a site visit to the property on 2-18-20. A perennial stream on the property is a cold water fishery providing habitat for a variety of fish. Work would involve removal of an old building within Riverfront and construction on the existing footprint.

Judy moved that we issue a Negative Determination under number 5: The area described in the Request is subject to protection under the Act. Since the work, described therein meets the requirements for the following exemption, as specified in the Act and the regulations, no Notice of Intent is required. Exemption: 10.58 (4) (c) 2 a.

Erik seconded the motion. Vote: four in favor, one abstention. Motion passed.

Jack pointed out that we need to develop bylaw language as well as language covering regulations for a local wetlands bylaw. Jack provided a draft addressing buffer zones, John a draft addressing isolated wetlands and Judy a draft addressing vernal pools. Erik will provide a draft on intermittent streams. The Commission will continue discussion of these drafts at the next meeting.

Next meeting Wed. March 4, 2020, 6:30 p.m. at Town Hall.

Adjourned, 9:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Alice Schertle