

Approved as presented 5-12-22

**Plainfield Conservation Commission
Minutes of Meeting Held April 27, 2022**

This was a public informational meeting held to present and explain a proposed wetland bylaw for the town of Plainfield. Meeting was held in Town Hall,
Commissioners present: Erik Burcroff, John Burns, Judy Ferber, Jack Nelson, Alice Schertle, Judith Williams (chair)
Eleven other Plainfield residents were present.

Call to Order, Judith Williams, 6:52 p.m.

Minutes of 3-30-22 were approved.

Commissioners discussed a site visit made on 4-24-22 by John, Erik, Jack, Judith and Alice to 73 West St., where property owner Josh Allard plans to construct an equipment enclosure. There are no wetland issues. Judith signed off on the project.

On the same day Commissioners observed a forested area near 126 West St. being logged. Some drainage, but no apparent wetlands were observed. Judith contacted state forester Alison Wright-Hunter who said no Forest Cutting Plan has been filed. She will check on the project.

Judith reported that DEP has contacted us in regard to logging at 60 North Street. Judith drove by the property and saw considerable cutting. She contacted Alison Hunter-Wright who said no FCP has been filed. She will look into the project. Jack pointed out that a change of use would put the project under Conservation Commission jurisdiction.

ConCom received a request from a solar company regarding a wetlands delineation done in the past for 66 N. Union. Judith sent the requested delineation document.

Public Informational Meeting, Proposed Bylaw

Judith opened the informational meeting at 7:05 p.m. Commissioners introduced themselves and spoke of their reasons for joining the Conservation Commission. Jack gave a slide presentation using photographs, charts and graphs to explain the proposed bylaw and the need for added protection of wetlands in the face of climate change and weather-related stress on natural areas and wildlife. Judith explained the use of a Request for Determination of Applicability and of a Notice of Intent. She stressed that the Commission tries to help residents accomplish their projects while assisting in the protection of wetlands. Commissioners answered questions about the proposed bylaw. Two issues require further deliberation and clarification: Will isolated wetlands (as opposed to isolated land subject to flooding) be protected, and what procedures and documentation will be used to establish an uncertified pool as a vernal pool.

The bylaw is now with the town counsel and may be accepted or changes requested before presentation to the town. A copy of the bylaw is on the website.

Adjourned 8 P.M.

Next regularly scheduled ConCom meeting 5-25-22, 6:30 p.m., Town Hall

Respectfully submitted,
Alice Schertle