Plainfield Conservation Commission Minutes of Meeting Held June 1, 2022

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

Kirsten Baringer, landscape architect for property at 10 Prospect Street Jared LaRoche, owner, 76 North Street Nine Plainfield residents

Call to Order, Judith Williams, 6:33 p.m. Minutes of 5-12-22 approved as amended.

Enforcement Order, 76 North Street

Judith explained that a complaint had been filed in regard to unpermitted work being done in wetland jurisdictional area on North Street. After unsuccessful attempts to contact the owner, Jared LaRoche, the ConCom filed an Enforcement Order and asked Mr. LaRoche to attend this meeting.

Mr. La Roche said he has consulted Tom Speight from Valley Environmental and wetland specialist Heather Comee. He said he has moved his livestock further away and fenced them to prevent access to the stream. He has removed debris from jurisdictional areas. As advised by his consultants he proposes to leave the site to regenerate naturally and is willing to plant native species in the area. He will avoid installing a conventional septic system for his dwelling and will install a tight tank.

Judith said the ConCom hopes to work with people to help them protect wetlands while accomplishing their goals. The Commission noted the importance of avoiding contamination or erosion of streams by livestock.

The Conservation Commission asked that Mr. LaRoche deliver to Judith a detailed restoration plan. The Commission finds that he has met the requirements of the Enforcement Order. Judith signed the building permit for the Conservation Commission. Jared LaRoche left the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

RDA 10 Prospect Street

Landscape architect Kirsten Baringer presented a map of the proposed landscaping area. The property, lying between two streams, is jurisdictional. Much of the work area is in existing lawn. Work includes construction of retaining walls, planting of perennials and ground cover, and expansion of patios and pathways. The footprint of the driveway remains the same. Silt fencing will be used during construction.

Judith moved and Alice seconded that the Conservation Commission issue a Negative Determination under #2: The work described in the Request is within an area subject to protection under the Act, but will not remove, fill, dredge, or alter that area. Therefore, that work does not require the filing of a Notice of Intent.

Vote was unanimous in favor.

Kirsten Baringer left the meeting at 7:18 p.m.

Eversource NOI

Six copies of a Notice of Intent have been received by the ConCom from Eversouce Energy in regard to work to be done on lines 1231 and 1242. The NOI will be discussed at the ConCom meeting on 6-29-22 at 6:30 p.m. at Town Hall.

Proposed Site Visit

A site visit was scheduled for property owned by Laurie Israel and Elaine Sidney, at 27 South Union, in regard to culverts issues. The site visit will take place Wednesday, June 15 at 4:00 p.m.

Site visits made

Judith, Jack and Erik to property of Jared Laroche, 76 North Street.

Judith to property of Archie Bardwell, 39 Bow Street. Signed off, no wetland issues.

Jack, Judith, Erik to Thibault property, 156 E. Main Street, on 5-27-22. Signed off on a building permit.

Other Business

Judith reviewed the wetlands enforcement manual from DEP. A violation Notice can be used in place of an Enforcement Order and is a good first step.

Jack distributed summaries of the MACC workshop he attended on Farming in Wetland Areas.

The next Conservation Commission meeting will be held at 6:30 p.m. in Town Hall on 6-29-22. The Eversource NOI will be discussed.

A site visit is scheduled for 27 S. Union on 6-15-22 at 4:00 p.m.

Adjourned, 8:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Alice Schertle