

Draft

**Plainfield Conservation Commission
Minutes of Meeting Held March 27, 2024**

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

Call to Order, Judith Williams, 6:45 p.m.
Minutes of 2-28-24 approved as amended.

Update on Peer Review for ANRAD submitted by Beals & Thomas for Nexamp

Judith read a request from Beals and Thomas for continuance of the Conservation Commission hearing until the meeting of 4-24-24. There has been a delay by the town in sending the required \$1,500 retainer check to Levesque Associates, who will do the Peer Review. Judith has been told that the check has just been mailed. On receipt of the check the Levesque Peer Review can move forward and a report be readied for the next ConCom meeting.

7 Bow Street Amended Enforcement Complaint

The town's attorney has submitted a lengthy report to the court fully documenting everything that has occurred regarding the residence of the Millers on the property in violation of laws and regulations. The document was signed by Judith. Nothing to date has been done in response. Judith reported that Greg Miller's wife phoned her when she was unable to take the call. Judith returned the call but has not heard back.

Audubon Pond

Judith reported that Ed Stockman said he would pay the cost of installing a stand pipe to enable 3 feet of water to be added to the Audubon pond on 116 to restore wildlife habitat. He said pressure on the roadway is not a concern as the road has withstood pressure from the much higher pond for many years.

Highway Superintendent Walter Jennings said he would not raise the level of the pond and said the road was not built to withstand pressure from a raised water level. He took pictures of mergansers on the water at its current level.

Judith spoke with Mass Audubon Senior Conservation Ecologist Tom Lautzenheiser, who said he does not want a stand pipe on the pond and does not want the roadway to be used as a dam. He feels that nature will take its course in the area as time passes.

Judith said it will be necessary to find a way to control invasives which are already present.

Site Visits

O East Main Street, 3-13 24. Erik, Jack, and Judith met owners Brian and Charlene Fay on the property, which has been rezoned from forest to residential. There is no wetland where the house will be. Determination of driveway placement is ongoing.

Earthdance, Prospect Street, 3-21-24. Erik, Judith, Jack, and Alice met with Earthdance representatives to inspect the site of a proposed greenhouse. No wetland issues. Judith signed off on the project. Commissioners also inspected the site of a possible future well. No issues observed.

Eversource Vegetation Plan

Eversource has submitted their 5-year vegetation control plan. Judith showed a map of the work location in the ROW along a section of Central and North Central. Work will take place between April 1 and October 18. Eversource says its herbicides disappear from the environment after a few days.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Conservation Commission will take place on April 24, 2024 at 6:30 p.m. in the Town Hall. Hearing to consider the ANRAD for 29 Union submitted by Beals and Thomas for Nexamp will resume.

Adjourned, 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Alice Schertle