

Conservation Commission Minutes
August 12, 2014

Present: Mitch Wacksman, Garvan Donegan, Richard Bauman, John Planinsek, Marti Blair,
Town Planner Maureen O'Meara

Meeting called to order at 7:03 p.m.

1. The minutes of June 10, 2014 were approved unanimously.
2. Planning Board review: Cardinal Lane Resource Protection 2 Permit request for a road to a proposed new lot on this lane off Cross Hill Road.

The applicant has done an analysis of alternatives to the proposed wetland alteration. This is a forested wetland with poorly drained soils. The alteration is for a road, which needs to meet road specifications. 4200 square feet of wetland will be affected. If it were 4300 square feet, that would trigger the need for DEP approval. The owner has been creating a new lot every five years.

The building envelope that is indicated on the plan does not include the portion of the wetland that is in the lot to be developed. A culvert is planned under the road between the two portions of the wetland that would be divided. The possibility of building a bridge would reduce the need for the wetland alteration.

The Planner reviewed the guidelines provided by the town for review of wetland alteration permits.

Motion: To allow the RP 2 permit for the road extension for Lot 4 at Cardinal Lane. To require that a minimum of a 50 foot buffer be established along the remaining wetland to the property line of the larger remaining lot currently owned by Suzanne Gabriel. To require that no alteration occur on the fragment of wetland that remains on Lot 4.

Passed unanimously

3. Robinson Woods II trail construction. Chris Franklin from the Land Trust is coming to the September meeting to discuss the status of this project. The Planner will include a plan with next month's agenda.
4. Great Pond steps. The Planner was requested to draft a Request for Proposals for designing and building new steps at Great Pond. The Chair can approve the draft.
5. Winnick/ Cross Hill to Eastman connections. A trail walk was scheduled for August 19 at 5:30 p.m. Meet at Eastman Road at the Greenbelt sign.
6. Trail maintenance. The Public Works Director has provided maintenance time to fill in for the loss of Brendan Sweeney. The Town Center trail surface needs to be hardened. The intention is that the trail be made suitable for use by other abled individuals. The Planner will

schedule a meeting with the Public Works Director to walk the trail and determine what needs to be done. It might be possible to procure grant money to improve accessibility.

7. Trail monitoring. It was suggested that Commissioners each take responsibility for a trail, walk it periodically, and note any maintenance needs.

8. Trail of the month article. The Planner will prepare an article for the Cape Courier.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Next meeting: September 9, 2014