



Mason Conservation Commission Minutes

July 11, 2018

7:00 pm to 10:57 pm

In Attendance

- Barbara DeVore
- Bob Dillberger
- Anna Faiello
- Liz Fletcher
- Bob Larochelle
- Lundy Lewis
- Ann Moser

Voted unanimously to accept June minutes as amended.

Met with Mathew Cardin (Eversource), Elise Ward (Eversource), and Tracy L. Tarr (GZA GeoEnvironmental) to discuss an Eversource project for the power line through Mason (the "367 Line"). The project is to install "ground rings" on the majority of poles. Eversource engineers have determined the line is insufficiently grounded. Work requires a small excavator to dig a 30" trench about 2.5' across around selected poles, install the grounding ring, and back fill. The work requires some wetlands crossings which is why they're here tonight. Crossings will use a plastic polymat to distribute weight. No additional grounding will be added for poles within wetlands. They'll be following state-mandated BMPs. They've already got a wetlands permit (number 2018-01446). Barbara D. asked for an assurance about the excavator that will be used, and also asked for public-friendly notice that can be posted to the Town website and elsewhere to forestall citizen concerns. Any questions or issues? Contact Matt Cardin.

Bob L. has volunteered for the Forestry Committee, so we'll have a representative on that body now. Thanks, Bob.

Met with Harry Spears from the Forestry Committee. Whoops: last month, the CC agreed to produce a written description of work we'd like done (see last month's minutes) but that wasn't done. Bob L. will produce this list and take it to the next Forestry Committee meeting on July 19.

Bob D. gave us an update on progress updating the NRI. Turns out things related to wildlife are significantly changed by the 2016 WAP data (our NRI is currently based on 2012 data). Completing the update will take longer than anticipated.

Barbara reports the BOS is thrilled about Jennifer Beck's proposed land donation (see June minutes). Still need an appraisal.

Bob L. reports things are pretty well set for the Aug. 25 road race.

Re. Old Home Day, Bob L.'s rain cover ("easy up") will be in use for the road race. We agreed Bob D. should go to some local discount store and buy one for future use.

Lundy reports that due to other commitments he'll be unable to attend meetings from September through December.

Bob D. reports that Lee Gilman addressed the regrown knotweed on the rail trail at no additional charge. Work took place on July 2. We should be all set for grading later this summer.

Voted unanimously to reimburse Bob D. the amount of \$158.38 to pay for materials for conservation land signs.

Barbara raised a question of whether we should proceed with our plans to plant maples on Greenville Rd. given the current water situation. She suggested we wait until next year. Or perhaps this year in late fall?