

Town of Blandford

Conservation Commission Minutes

September 14, 2020 6:00 PM

6:00 PM Meeting Opened

Commissioners in attendance by Conference Call: Dick Gates, Jon Letendre, John Piper, Colleen Doyle

Commissioners not in attendance:

Also Present: Melissa Kaplan (BSC Group /Eversource)

1. Review Previous Meeting Minutes drafted for August 24 meeting. These minutes to be re-drafted and reviewed at Sept. 28 meeting.
2. New Business
3. Continuing Business

Re-opened Public Hearing for Eversource 1421 Line-Off ROW Road Improvement and Culvert Replacement Notice of Intent. Melissa Kaplan gave overview of updated NOI which addresses riverfront area of Wheeler Brook, culvert replacement and erosion controls details and that culvert work will be "in the dry". Updated NOI also provides better description of existing access road. Reviewed Special Conditions drafted for Order of Conditions. Motion made by R. Gates to accept the project and issue Order of Conditions with Special Conditions as drafted. John Piper second and passed by unanimous vote. Commission also voted to allow use of electronic signatures on this Order. John Piper motioned, Colleen Doyle second and passed by unanimous vote. Closed Public Hearing.

COC request – Syncarpha Realty Chester Rd Solar project. Discussed that the Applicant will need to follow the requirements in the regulations for any future COC requests.

Wetland Mitigation, culvert and drainage repairs along I-90. Awaiting new formal submittal from MASS DOT's engineering Consultant.

Discussed possible parking, access and signage improvements for Shepard Farm and Long Pond Conservation Areas. John Piper reported that there are no good options for Long Pond Parking along Gibbs Rd.

Discussed overall status of Chester Rd (Syncarpha), Chester Road (Rolling potato), North Blandford Rd, George Millard Rd, and Otis Stage Rd solar projects.

4. Additional Items

Discussed accepting hunting permit applications for Conservation Areas at meeting of September 28. R. Gates to arrange Public Notice in Country Journal. Permits applications will be taken from 6:00 to 7:00 PM in parking lot, then rest of meeting to be held at 7:15 inside Town Hall.

John R. Piper

Allen Drake

Richard W. Gates

