

TOWN OF BEDFORD
CONSERVATION COMMISSION MINUTES
October 10, 2018

A site walk by the Conservation Commission was held on Wednesday, October 10, 2018 for the purpose of viewing land in connection with a dredge and fill permit for Bow Lane, LLC on Lots 20-99-1 thru 4. Present were Beth Evarts (Chairwoman), Bob MacPherson, Maggie Wachs, Dave Gambaccini, Catherine Rombeau (Town Council), Bill Carter and Karin Elmer (Planner1).

Also present were William Griener (Owner), Bob Duval and Chris Danforth of TF Moran Engineers. Two members of the public were also present. Kevin Gagne and Steven Clough.

The site walk started at 5:10 pm.

Mrs. Elmer reminded everybody that this is a wooded area and to be careful walking on the terrain. The owner of the property does not incur any liability.

Mr. Duval led the walk, pointing out the old rail bed, the wetland areas and those areas that would be included as part of the dredge and fill permit. Mr. Clough asked Mr. Danforth when the wetlands were delineated and if he saw any indication of vernal pools. Mr. Danforth stated he delineated the site in late May, 2018. At that time, the wetland areas were almost dry. There were no egg masses, fairy shrimp or salamanders present, which are indicators of a vernal pool. Ms. Evarts asked if there were any indicators now. Mr. Danforth stated that there are green frogs present that are predators of vernal pool inhabitants. Mr. Clough asked if Mr. Danforth did proper sampling, such as dip nets. Mr. Danforth responded yes he did.

Mrs. Evarts asked if there was flow in the wetland. Mr. Duval responded only between the high and low spots. There is no flow to Riddle Brook. Mr. Danforth explained the soil is shallow to bedrock with fine sand. The wetlands do drain but very slowly. A vernal pool needs at least two months of inundation for species to survive.

Mr. Gagne asked about the location of the wetland delineation at the boundary with the Dumas property. Mr. Danforth said he ended the wetland at the property line. Mr. Gagne asked why that was done as he could see water continuing under the fence onto the next lot. Mr. Danforth stated that is where the wetland ends.

The group then went to the area above Riddle Brook and its associated wetland. Mr. Duval explained the differences in elevation from the brook to the development. Mrs. Evarts wanted the members to see the proximity of the development with Riddle Brook as it may be a factor in reviewing the dredge and fill permit. Mr. Danforth stated the development meets all the setback requirements from both the edge of the wetland and the floodway.

Mr. Carter asked about stormwater treatment. Mr. Danforth stated that all the stormwater generated from the site would be treated with subsurface infiltration. The closest building is 100 feet away.

Mr. Gagne asked again about the wetland delineation at the property line. Mr. Danforth again explained his findings.

Meeting adjourned at 6:00 pm.

*Respectively submitted,
Karin Elmer, Planner 1*