

Town of Farmington Conservation Commission

May 20, 2015

The meeting was held in the Farmington Town Hall, Council Chambers. The following Commissioners were present:

Hinze	Wolf
Hannon	Forster
Quigley	Amato
Radacsi	

Also present:

Liz Dolphin – Assistant Town Planner

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 8:53 p.m. by Chairman Hinze.

2. New Business

Martin & Karen Wand – 85 Prattling Pond Road - Environmental review referral to TPZ for four lot subdivision.

Commissioners discussed the proposed open space to be deeded to the Town or the Farmington Land Trust and improvements to the existing trail. Commissioner Hannon commented he is in favor of the conservation easement area being deeded to the Farmington Land Trust. Regarding the “conservation easement” on the northern side of the property, should not be a conservation easement but rather a private easement between the two property owners. Regarding concern of neighbors about the removal of trees, the scenic road is not in their purview. However, they do have purview over vegetation from a conservation standpoint. Members discussed the density of plantings along the road and removal of invasive species. Promoting access to the trail and clearing if open space is deeded to the Town.

Upon a motion made and seconded (Hannon/Forster) it was unanimously

VOTED: To forward the following comments and recommendations to the Town Plan and Zoning Commission for their consideration in reviewing the application for four-lot cluster subdivision located at 85 Prattling Pond Road:

1. Recommend that open space go to the Farmington Land Trust. If the Town accepts the property we would require the trail to be opened 36” to 48”;
2. Recommend removal of invasive, non-native plants along the right-of-way on Mountain Spring Road;
3. Consider a mechanism to ensure the long term preservation and survivability of any plantings on the property along the front of the properties on Mountain Spring Road outside the detention basin area;

4. Identify on the plans and preserve as many specimen trees as possible.

3. Other Business

HHWCD

Chairman Hinze asked how the collection went. Assistant Planner Dolphin said she has not received the number yet from the MDC but it seemed to go very well.

Application Checklist

Chairman Hinze said he found another example but didn't have a chance to send to Assistant Planner Dolphin.

Land Acquisition Committee Report

No new updates.

Winding Trails Meadow Area – Commissioner's indicated no concern with proposal to establish meadow habitat as proposed, noting that meadow habitat is increasing rare.

4. Planner's Report

None

5. Minutes

Upon a motion made and seconded (Wolf/Radacsi) it was unanimously

VOTED: To approve the minutes of the May 6, 2015 meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:27 pm.

SJM