

**Whately Conservation Commission**  
**Wednesday, September 19, 2018**  
**Whately Town Offices, 4 Sandy Lane, Whately MA 01093**

Commissioners present: Andrew Ostrowski, George Owens, Ann Barker, Montserrat Archbald, and Scott Jackson (Chair)

Commissioners absent: Patricia Devine (Associate Member)

Others present:

Meeting convened at 7:00 p.m.

1. Victoria Daniels Request for a Determination of Applicability for drilling a residential water supply well at 141 Haydenville Road in Whately, MA. The site visit for this project was conducted on September 19, 2018. There was brief discussion and then the Commission voted unanimously (5-0) to issue a negative Determination of Applicability with the following condition. "Install erosion control sufficient to prevent sediment laden water from the drilling from entering the adjacent brook and bordering vegetated wetlands. Any soil stored overnight must be protected by silt fence or other erosion control methods."
2. Removal of derelict vehicle from floodplain of Sugarloaf Brook. Volunteers for the Connecticut River Conservancy's Source to Sea cleanup have asked the town if it would be OK for them to arrange for a tow truck at Herlihy Park to remove a derelict car from the ravine containing Sugarloaf Brook. While it would be great to get this vehicle removed, the question is whether they should file with the Commission before doing so. The concern is whether removal of the car or dragging the vehicle up the steep slope of the ravine could cause any significant erosion or destabilize the bank. The cleanup is scheduled for September 29. After discussion, the Commission reached consensus on the following opinion.

Although the Commission would prefer that the car not be in the ravine, it has concerns about the extraction of the vehicle and the potential damage that might be caused to the bank of the ravine. There is concern that the vehicle could break apart, concern that removal of the vehicle could destabilize the slope of the ravine, concern about the potential need to remove trees on the slope to facilitate removal of the vehicle, and concern about the potential for erosion if the vehicle is dragged up the slope. For these reasons the Commission concluded that it would be best to leave the vehicle where it is unless, and until, a more detailed plan for removal is put together and reviewed by the Commission via a Notice of Intent. The Commission applauds the CRC volunteers who plan to clean up Sugarloaf Brook and their willingness to tackle something as large as this car. However, the Commission believes that the car has been in its current location long enough that it poses minimal risk to the brook or the Connecticut River, and the Commission would hate to risk undermining the steep bank of the ravine.

3. The Commission Chair (Jackson) reported that Andrew Ostrowski reviewed the wetland delineation and setback monumenting for Lot 28 on Eastwood Lane, Pine Plains Estates and found that it was accurate. Based on this report the Chair notified Matt Wilcox on July 30, 2018 that he could proceed with construction on that lot.
4. The Commission voted unanimously (5-0) to accept minutes from the August 7<sup>th</sup> meeting.
5. The Commission reviewed the mail.

Meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Scott Jackson