

Merrimac Conservation Commission (ConCom) meeting minutes from February 25, 2020

ConCom members in attendance: Jon Pearson, Janet Terry, Bill Andrulitis, Arthur Yarranton, and Greg MacLean (*recorder of meeting minutes*).

Meeting held at Merrimac Library and began at 6:45 PM and concluded at 7:25 PM

Items of discussion:

- 1) 6 High Street for cutting and removal of trees, stumping, grading, loaming, and seeding of land within the buffer zone to a bordering vegetated wetland.

Maureen Herald of Norse Environmental represented Robert Cormier, owner of 6 High Street. She displayed, distributed, and explained to the ConCom a drawing of a "Notice of Intent Plan" which showed the site and the boundaries of zones (e.g., buffer, no disturb, etc.). At a site-walk on Saturday February 22 with ConCom chair Bob Prokop, Bill Andrulitis, and Greg MacLean, Maureen was asked by Bob to add more substantial vegetation (such as trees and/or blueberry bushes) to the proposed loamed area along the 25 foot "No Disturb Zone". She said she would mention that to Robert Cormier and at this meeting she distributed a document itemizing the addition of 4 trees and 4 shrubs (selection based on cost & availability). Also in attendance was a neighbor (*whose name I did not get*) from 10 High Street who provided information and several observations about 6 High Street. Discussion points were:

- The neighbor said that about 2 weeks ago she received a mailed notice that there had been a hydraulic release on 6 High Street. The ConCom members in attendance and Maureen had no such notice. The neighbor said she could smell the release from her home; she added that she did not have the notice with her at this ConCom meeting.
 - The neighbor said the downed trees and brush on the west side of 6 High Street had been piled there for about 2 years. Jon said the ConCom did not have prior notice that any cutting from about 2 years ago occurred and asked what the plan is to remove these cut items.
 - The ConCom asked Maureen how many trees will be removed if the ConCom approves the "NOI Plan". She said she didn't know however she will let the ConCom know within a month.
 - Jon mentioned that 4 trees and 4 shrubs may not be enough for such a long (~200 feet) line along the 25 foot "No Disturb Zone". He asked Maureen for a new "NOI Plan" with those items added.
 - The ConCom advised Maureen of the need to add wetland markers made of granite, spaced about 25 to 30 feet apart. The ConCom explained how these markers would be labeled.
 - This item is continued to a future meeting.
- 2) 1 Bisson Lane –
Owner Lennie Lyle provided, distributed, and explained his plan to add a privacy wall for his outdoor shower. This wall will be made of 8 inch privacy glass blocks, the wall being in line with an external wall of his house, and this wall being 5 feet high and 5 feet long. The ConCom approved his plan.

3) Indian Head Park and invasives removal

With reference to a site-walk on February 22 2020 with Bob Prokop, ConCom members Bill & Greg recapped Bob's intention to remove a few types of invasives and trim other types (such as Russian Olive). This work will occur in the Spring and Bob asks for volunteers to help.