

Buckland, MA Conservation Commission Meeting Minutes

July 3, 2023

Via Zoom

Kathy
Mary Knipe
SLH

Agenda:

- Open Meeting
- Review Previous Meeting Minutes
- RDA for Deerfield Trout Unlimited Clesson Brook Native Shrub Plantings
- Consider confirmation or change of Chairperson on Board
- Other Items within 48 hours
- Public Comment
- Close Meeting

Attendees

Kathy Lytle, chair

Mary Knipe, member

Steve Howland, member

Jim Eagan, member

Eric Halloran, co-applicant, Trout Unlimited

Kris van Naerssen, co-applicant, Trout Unlimited

Ben Murray, applicant, Red Gate Farm

Items

- Chair Kathy Lytle opened the meeting at 6:30 pm, acknowledged the contributions of now-retired member Alex Meade, and reminded members the Conservation Commission will be looking for a new member.
- Minutes
Member Steve Howland moved to approve the minutes of the June 5, 2023 meeting; member Mary Knipe seconded the motion; all voted in favor. A printed copy of the minutes will be left in the Conservation Commission mailbox in Town Hall for members to initial.
- Member Howland will be checking email and mailbox.
- RDA for Deerfield Trout Unlimited Clesson Brook Native Shrub Plantings

Applicant requests a negative declaration for the planting of approximately 20 native plants - which will grow no higher than 15' - where the power company has been cutting back plants on the bank of Clesson Brook. This will be a short-term project, with areas hand-dug, no machinery.

Conservation Commission questions:

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- What type of plants will be planted? Applicant noted advice has been sought from NE Wetlands Plants in Hadley - dogwood, chokecherry, other plants specified in the application
- Who will do the mowing? Area will be mowed by the property owner.

Member Howland moved to grant a Negative 2 finding for this RDA, without conditions; chair Lytle seconded the motion; all voted in favor. Members Howland and Knipe will tend to the paperwork.

- Consider confirmation or change of Chairperson on Board

Member Howland moved to confirm Kathy Lytle as chair; member Knipe seconded the motion; all voted in favor.

- Other Items within 48 hours

Certificate of Compliance for Red Gate Farm. Ben Murray recounted the paperwork submitted, and the site visit by (former member) Alex Meade and member Howland about a month ago.

Member Howland moved to issue the Certificate of Compliance; member Knipe seconded the motion; all voted in favor. Members Howland and Knipe will tend to the paperwork.

Member Howland noted the planned site visit/meeting which Conservation Commission and others in the town have been invited to at Janet Sinclair's property has been rescheduled for July 13. Mark Stinson, DEP, will also attend.

- Close Meeting

Member Howland moved to adjourn the meeting; member Knipe seconded the motion; all voted in favor. Meeting adjourned at 6:55 pm

Respectfully submitted, Alison Cornish, Boards Clerk

Documents Referenced

Request for Determination of Applicability (RDA) Submitted to the Buckland Conservation Commission for: Deerfield River Trout Unlimited (DRWTU) Clesson Brook Proposed Native Shrub Plantings, Town of Buckland, Franklin County, Massachusetts, May 2023