

TOWN OF MARLBORO
CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEETING
Monday, March 9th, 2020, 7:00 PM
Town Office, South Road

Minutes

Present: Ashley Bies, Jaime Tanner, Kevin Kennedy, Mike Purcell, Dante Corsano

- Review and approve minutes from our last official meeting (13~Jan~20).
Approved.
- CC election for Chair and Vice Chair; consider whether a Secretary position is desired.
Ashley Bies elected chair of the Conservation Commission.
Pieter van Loon was elected Vice Chair, provided he accepts.
- Update on communication with the Planning Commission concerning Wildlife Habitat Overlay administration of driveway and development site construction projects.
Reviewed recent situations in which on two different occasions driveways were constructed before proper review. Our understanding is that this was based on a misunderstanding of the regulations by the zoning administrator. By alerting the Planning Commission to this situation, the zoning administrator now understands that no construction, including driveways, may occur before review. .
- Discuss potential approaches to Wildland Linkages mapping based upon area~sensitive mammal road crossing dataset.
At the next meeting we will discuss the possibility of recommending to the Planning Commission that a discreet buffer for “human habitat” be placed around houses a certain distance from the road, within which development can occur with minimal administrative overview. Outside that area will require review. Consider making it about 200 feet across. The net effect of this could be to reduce the wildlife crossing zone size.
- Discuss potential alternative approaches to Wildlife Habitat Overlay mapping, based upon Environmental Consultant experience and Linkage mapping process considerations.
We discussed the fact that we have identified redundant wildlife crossings; it would be important to note that we are not “counting” many of them. Consider not incentivizing development within 500 feet of the end of a road.
- Consider whether to explore offering a venue for public reporting of area~sensitive mammal road crossings in the Town Office.
Dante will stop by and discuss putting up an interactive map on the outside of the town offices so people can report wildlife viewings. Potentially using a metal board and animal-shaped magnets.
- Consider whether to explore stationing the invasive species removal Puller Bear tool in the Town Office for public use.
Dante will also look into this.
- Discussed potential value of maintaining logs that span stream channels, and whether we

might consider any measures to encourage keeping trees that fall into streams intact. Ashley will talk to the road crew about not removing logs that span streams. Will consider putting word in the Marlboro Mixer.

- Community Values Mapping: On March 16, from 6 pm to 8 pm at the Marlboro Elementary Junior High room, we will have a community values mapping session to get input from the town on what our community values are. To be run by the state community wildlife biologist. Dante will write up a promotion of it and share it with commission members to share. There will be a second session on April 13.