

## **Leverett Conservation Commission Meeting Minutes: 6/27/25**

**Start time: 7:05 PM**

Board attendance: Joan Deely, Acting Chair; Seth Heminway, David Powicki, Bill Corwin, Sarah Manteiga, voting members

### In Person

Eva Gibavic, Alain Peteroy, Whitney Marvel

**PUBLIC INQUIRIES:** none

### **BOARD DISCUSSION:**

#### Whitney Marvel CR - municipal certification

RGT asked Franklin Land Trust for backup support for Marvel trust: extra legal protection, backup funding. RGT owns land in fee, donated CR to FLT so it could have double protection. There were two pieces, one needed survey; regarded as one CR area. They are now in the final stage of CR process. They are asking for support from ConCom and Leverett Select Board via signature of municipal certification endorsing Whitney Marvel's environmental value. FLT will document boundaries (Baseline Doc Report) after this and monitor annually. David asked about any past violations; Eva says she doesn't recall many, if any. Seth asked if hunting is permitted; Eva says yes, but that this permission can be withdrawn within 10N, close to residential. Bill asked about trails; Eva said there is clause in deed that no trails should be permitted except in northeast corner of northern property.

Seth made a motion to approve board support for project and Joan's signature of the municipal certification. Sarah seconds. The motion passes unanimously. Joan signs the MC and it is returned to Alain.

#### Conservation Restriction properties review & best practices

Bella presents research about BMPs for CRs, which the board feels is a heavy lift and suggests she research available grants for many of the organizational and legal tasks recommended by MACC and Mass Audubon. David will reach out to FRCOG about grants for CR reviews.

#### Sandbar alteration in Sawmill River

Seth relays that a landowner, Gregory Murphy of 83 N Leverett Rd, emailed David about sedimentation in the Sawmill River and his desire to dredge/remove it; wants to come to meeting in July to discuss. Bella will reach out to tell him about permitting requirements.

## **NEW & OLD BUSINESS**

### Shutesbury Rd beaver dam flow control device updates

Bella updates the board that the flow control device has been installed and the technicians are in the process of lowering it further to lower the water levels of the pond. They are still awaiting the grant award information from MSPCA.

### Conservation Agent's Report

Bella is in the process of ordering custom trail markers for CRs and will have mock-ups and estimates soon. She flags the Teawaddle Hill invasive species management project currently underway and will file an invasive mgmt plan from Gwynn Mitchell with the CR documentation.

They discuss the need for a site visit to Zack Katz to address his RCOC. Bella will reach out and schedule. A paint reimbursement is needed for Seth.

112 Shutesbury status: The BOH has issued a list of corrective actions including new septic with deadlines for completion. No ConCom action needed.

### Administrative Matters

Hicks/Botta: Seth will check with Matt Boucher about shed demolition and discuss CR with Eva & RGT.

Gordon King (not executive session): Donna Mitchell reached out to say there was a report that David had cut a lock, which was a misperception. They discuss possibly having the Hwy Dept handle the removal of some debris and a VW bus from the property.

Minutes approval: 5/5/25

David moves to approve as presented. Seth seconds. Bill abstains as he was not present at the meeting. The motion passes unanimously.

Next meeting: July 7

Mediation: July 10, 2025

**Adjournment:** Seth moves to adjourn. Bill seconds. The motion passes unanimously.  
Adjourned at 8:20 PM.