

**MINUTES OF THE CONSERVATION COMMISSION
PUBLIC MEETING
TOWN OF CHARLEMONT
June 5, 2013**

Members Present:

Neal Lear, Alan Booth,
Doug Forbes, Tim Eichholz,
Ruth Cannavo, Larry Mann

Members Absent:

Tom Cashin

Others Present:

Mark Stinson
Gisela Walker

The meeting was called to order at 7:09 PM

Gisela Walker attended the meeting in order to discuss proposed work at her residence at 24 Windy Hill Road. Mark Stinson brought aerial photos of the site from 2001, 2005 and 2008 which revealed the removal of trees and construction in two bordering vegetated wetlands and in respective buffer zones on the Walker property and the adjacent property to the East owned by Sue Kranz. Gisela mentioned her lack of understanding of relevant conservation regulations, and described how the removal of said trees had released existing invasive plants to rapid growth, and how she had worked to remove these. Gisela then described her proposal to build a raised leach field on the property. Mark recommended that she and Anthony retain a wetland biologist to delineate said wetlands for both properties, and to recommend a restoration plan that would include removal of the invasive plants. Mark recommended that the Commission write an appropriate enforcement order.

The Cold River Package Store project was discussed. It was noted that the existing store would be removed. The existing condemned house would be demolished and replaced with lawn. New construction would take place farther back from the riverfront area. New pavement would replace the existing compacted and impervious dirt lot. Mark recommended that a rain garden be included in construction plans to deal with runoff from the lot. Eichholz made a motion to find a negative determination for this project. Approval was unanimous.

Lear volunteered to serve as coordinator for site visits and sign-offs, and to report to Forbes for inclusion of this information in the minutes. He also volunteered to sign-off on a permit for the extension of the lodge at Berkshire East. Cannavo and Booth volunteered to make a site visit to the Hallenbeck residence on Route 8A North. Lear, Mann and Forbes volunteered to make site visits to Deer Run (Brown) and the Country Aire Campground.

There were no minutes from previous meetings to sign.

Mail was reviewed.

Business having been concluded, the meeting was adjourned at 8:36 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

D.J. Forbes