

**CONSERVATION COMMISSION
MINUTES
June 1, 2021
47 Conant Street Site Visit
4:05 PM**

Recording: Bettina D. Abe

Commissioners Present: Terry Maitland, Jim Colman, Amy Green, Zywia Chadzynska

Others Present: Joe Levine, Mr. Levine's young daughter, Tom Tidman, Bettina Abe, Brian Butler, Joan Cirillo

Commissioners walked down-slope to flag #11. Brian Butler dug a hole at flag 11 inside the flag line and showed hydric soil conditions. The Commission moved in a northerly direction to flag #10. Jim Colman asked if the area had been considered as an Isolated Land Subject to Flooding? Brian Butler replied that there was no evidence of ILSF.

Joan Cirillo stated she reviewed the meeting tape, and said maybe she and the commissioners were speaking at cross purposes in quibbling about the length of the finger of wetlands. Joan Cirillo asked how can you see a buffer zone that two "mc-mansions" just fit on as buildable area. Amy Green stated that the 100' buffer zone is part of the regulations. Joan Cirillo accused the conservation commissioners of facilitating the construction process.

Brian Butler said that once they step off the property onto the 31 Conant Street property, they must exercise blinders. Joan Cirillo said she did that with #31 Conant but not #51 Conant Street. She stated that flags were taken down in the winter of 2019.

The group continued to move about the area and Brian Butler showed several plants that indicate "fac up" such as multiflora rose, honeysuckle and NY fern. Brian Butler stated that soils at flag#9 indicate 5-4 soils. The group moved to flag#8 where there was royal fern near the stonewall at the rear of the property. Royal fern is an obligate species but it was not a dominant plant in that area. Tom Tidman asked if the area would be considered an Isolated Land Subject to Flooding? Brian Butler answered that there must be a 200 square foot depression. Brian stated there is no 100 Year Flood floodplain on the 47 Conant Street Property. Joan continued to ask about the flood zone being shown on the map. Brian stated there is no 100 year flood plain on the property.

The group proceeded off the 47 Conant Street property, so Brian could show the flood plain. He stated that it is theoretical, based on elevation. Brian described soil profile colors that he tested near the stonewall on 31 Conant Street. Tom Tidman explained that high groundwater and soil combination outside of a wetland can be upland soil, as Brian showed to Joan an example of such upland soil.

Amy Green requested to check one area further back. Brian Butler says it was once farmland. Brian stated that high groundwater is often wetlands but not necessarily.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:25PM.

Respectfully submitted by Bettina D. Abe, Natural Resources Asst.