

Conservation Commission
Monthly Report
January 2023

The Commission continues its work enforcing the Wetlands Protection Act and local Bylaws and Regulation through site inspections on new and continuing projects. The Commission had two meetings in January and conducted one site visit at Orion Park.

The Commission at their January 12th meeting the Commission issued the Order of Resource Area Delineation for Orion Park off of Westford Road. The Commission also meet with the owner of Ayer Solar IIb, Rohit Garg and his Attorney Adam Costa to review the Conservation Restriction for the site. The Commission meet with two individuals that would like to become more involved with Pine Meadow Conservation Area and the Commission will work on creating a stewardship program for the area for trail maintenance and oversight of the area. The Commission voted to send out the Request for Quotes for the upcoming Pond Treatment year.

At the Commission's January 24th meeting the Commission issued a Certificate of Compliance for an outstanding Order from 1984. The Commission also met with Ms. Laurie Nehring to discuss the 2023 Water Chestnut pull campaign. Ms. Nehring updated the Commission on the results of the 2022 pull and went over her request to the Wild and Scenic Stewardship Council Community Grant Program for 2023. The Commission voted to send a letter of support to Ms. Nehring to include it in her application. The Commission also voted to request Ayer Solar IIb to submit an Amended Notice of Intent for the project due to the numerous project changes that have occurred on site.

The Conservation Agent continues to go out and inspect ongoing projects including weekly visits to Ayer Solar II and meet with residents to discuss concerns on their property. The Agent continues to work on revising the Commission's Regulations and looking at potential projects for the warmer weather as well as working with the Devens Enterprise Commission on the Pocket Forest program that is funded by a MVP Grant.

Submitted by Heather Hampson, Conservation Agent for the Conservation Commission