

**SOMERSWORTH CONSERVATION COMMISSION
MINUTES OF WORKSHOP (SITE WALK) MEETING
November 9, 2019**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Angela Ficco
Sarah McGraw
Scott Orzechowski
Jeremy Rhodes
MEMBERS ABSENT: Larry Hamilton
Mercedes O'Donohue
Dale Smith-Kenyon
STAFF PRESENT: None

The meeting was called to order by S Orzechowski at 10:08 a.m.

1) **Workshop Business**

A) Site walk to view the proposed 1 mile nature trail

The Physical Plant manager for the facility (The Works) and facilities director for Wentworth-Douglass Hospital joined us for this site walk. NHDES as already visited the site, and requested that VHB (applicant's engineering firm) provide feedback on mitigation/modification. Applicant has engaged the firm and is awaiting response.

The group walked the trail; the following items of note were seen:

- Early in the trail, there is a significant slope with potential for washout.
- The first newly added drainage point (double 4" drainage pipe) is noted as blocked and nonfunctional (standing water on uphill side, leaf litter blockage)
- A steep slope near point PF01C is noted; this spot in the trail would see runoff carrying debris into a nearby (<10ft) standing pool. This is noted as an area of particular concern; some reinforcement will likely be necessary to prevent runoff. Will look to DES/VHB feedback for exact approach.
- All remaining added 4" drainage pipe locations appear to be either functional (running water) or indeterminate (no standing water on either side)
- All constructed bridges are noted as being very well constructed and sturdy; only aspects of concern are length of footing on banks and the presence of an unseated plastic culvert at one point. DES also noted this culvert as a concern and will make recommendation regarding modification.
- The trail does a good job of maintaining a naturalistic appearance; the recommendations received from DES and VHB will be useful to determine what if modifications to reduce future impact are necessary.
- The commission may want to do a rewalk after the recommendations are developed into a new plan and/or executed in order to view the new impacts.

Given the need for feedback from NHDES and VHB, the group discussed the necessity of the applicant's return to the commission prior to receipt of feedback.

A.Ficco moved that we delete the applicant's appearance from the upcoming November 13 2019 meeting, and leave the item tabled until feedback is received. S. McGraw seconds. Motion passes Unanimously.

S. Orzechowski moves to adjourn; J. Rhodes seconds. Passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 11:04 a.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Jeremy Rhodes
Conservation Commission Secretary