

**TOWN OF WOLFEBORO
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
DREDGE & FILL MEETING
DRAFT MINUTES
February 9, 2023**

Chair Lenore Clark opened the meeting at 9:15 am at the Wolfeboro Town Hall Annex.

Members Present: Lenore Clark, Chair, Dan Coons, Vice-Chair, Brian Gifford, Members, Bob Gilbert, Alternate.

**Pamela Kolb
12 Windsong Lane/Lake Winnepesaukee
Tax Map #258-25
Standard Dredge & Fill**

The applicant proposes to remove the existing dock located on Worcester Island and add a new 800 SF breakwater (requiring 95 cubic yards of fill) and a new 503 SF U-shaped dock permanent crib dock cantilevered to the breakwater.

Referencing the Pamela Kolb Standard Dredge & Fill application, Tax Map #258-25, the Commission questioned whether this is an area of Lake Winnepesaukee where breakwaters are allowed. The Commission doesn't believe so, but the applicant does not specify and we could not locate the NHDES map showing permitted locations. The fact that the application contained a detailed wave study indicates the area is probably not allowed. The Commission noted that, according to the map on page 1 of the wave study, it appears some of the data collected was from locations in the Broads, far away from the project site, in a long fetch area known to experience high wind and wave action. Photographs of the existing dock taken this past January seem to show the location as being in a relatively quiet cove - unknown what the weather/wind conditions were that day. The Commission also questioned whether they are allowed to replace an existing dock with a larger permanent crib-supported structure (i.e. not an in-kind replacement). The Commission would have no objection to a seasonal U-shaped dock. The Commission noted there was an NHB hit due to the presence of nesting loons, but the agent has been in communication with the NH Fish & Game wildlife biologist, and they opined the project would not have adverse effects as long as it takes place outside of the nesting window. The Commission acknowledges the lake is experiencing more wave action than historically due to the increase in boating activity, especially with wakeboard boats. The Commission does not, however, feel this justifies allowing greater than necessary impact to the resource and is not in favor of this project as proposed.

**NH Department of Transportation
NH Route 109-A
Tax Map – N/A (NH Right-of-Way)
Standard Dredge & Fill**

The applicant proposes to replace two deteriorated and one failed corrugated metal pipes (two 24" pipes and one 15" pipe) that equalize the water elevation of the wetlands located north and south of the roadway within the Harvey Brook designated prime wetland complex with two 30" and one 15" reinforced concrete pipes.

Referencing the NH Department of Transportation Dredge & Fill application, the Wolfeboro Conservation Commission notes that the culverts have failed in the past and had to be replaced on an emergency basis, when concrete was not available. The current culverts are made of corrugated metal which is not as viable long-term. The two 24" pipes will be replaced with larger 30" pipes, which is desirable. The Commission reviewed the wetland report and agreed a major function of this wetland is the attenuation of nutrients and runoff from the

surrounding area. The proposed project would not adversely impact these functions. Our only concern is the presence of state listed invasive upland species mentioned in the report (Glossy buckthorn, purple loosestrife). The project is slated to begin approximately August 2023, which is right when invasive plant seeds and fruit are ripening and the potential for accidental transport off-site (and thus spreading further) is high. The Commission does not feel that conducting this project at a different time of year (to minimize the spread of invasive plants) would be made any more challenging from higher flow rates, as the water level there seems to be fairly stable regardless of season. The Commission would recommend reconsideration of the timeline otherwise, it is thought that this is a good and necessary project as proposed.

Lenore Clark will contact the appropriate project managers at NHDOT and request they speak with Doug Cygan, Invasive Species coordinator at the Department of Agriculture, Markets and Food.

Sean and Wendy O'Brien
8 South Hodge Shore Road/Lake Wentworth
Tax Map #164-9
Special Use Permit

The applicant proposes to decommission an existing leach field, construct a new leach field further away from the shorefront of Lake Wentworth, construct a barn, and construct an access driveway including two culverts.

Referencing the Sean and Wendy O'Brien Special Use Permit application, Tax Map #164-9, the Commission noted that -there are two existing houses on the project site as shown on the plan drawings, and the proposed barn is an accessory structure rather than a primary dwelling structure. Members of the Commission walked the area where the proposed access driveway would be placed and noted that although there are no vernal pools in the project location, there is one immediately adjacent to the existing driveway/road, roughly 100 feet or so from the project site. This was confirmed by observation of an amphibian egg mass. Any construction work that is permitted should account for protection of the vernal pool. As the Commission walked into the woods the members observed a Wentworth Watershed Association tree tag but suspect it may have been inadvertently placed on the O'Brien's land. Regarding the length of the proposed driveway, it would be less impacting to build the barn in the upland area identified on the plan drawings between the first and second wetland crossings, over what is now an existing leach field that is slated to be decommissioned. That would negate the need for two out of the three proposed crossings. The Commission has no objection to the proposed location of the new leach field on the abutting upland property. The Commission feels that if the pump lines were buried without having a dirt road constructed over them, the ecosystem would eventually have a chance to recover, and would minimize impervious surface area on a lakefront property. It should be noted that the Commission is in favor of the new location for the leach field and sees this as a beneficial change. Although the project could have less impact with an alternative location for the proposed barn, we agree the local topography would allow runoff from the newly created impervious surface area to be absorbed before reaching the lake, resulting in minimal impact.

There being no further business before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 10:30 am.

Respectfully Submitted,
Lee Ann Hendrickson
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