

CONSERVATION COMMISSION
67 Three Mile Road- Shumway Property
SITE VISIT MINUTES
February 10, 2014

Present: Vicki Smith, Jim Kennedy, Iain Sim, Judith Brotman, Rod Finley, Will Dodge, Tim Weyland, Jesse Moreno, Matt Stevens, Winston the dog

The group (including a conservation commission member, a planning board member, a representative of the Appalachian Trail Conservancy and planning and zoning staff) gathered to see the proposed impacts to the wetland buffer associated with an access road and underground utilities proposed to serve a new telecommunications tower. The ground was snow-covered. The wetlands and road had been flagged. For the most part, the access road will follow the existing trail, Pure Delight. In some cases where the wetland comes close to the eastern boundary of the property, the road is very close to that eastern border with the National Park Service land. The 45' x 45' area where the tower compound will be located was indicated with flagging. One tree close to that area will be protected against construction vehicle impacts.

Since the attendees were familiar with the application, the discussion focused on a few topics:

- monopole v.s. monopine- the monopole offers more easy installation especially for public safety antenna. The monopine is much more costly. While installation of antennae is not as easy as on the monopole, the pine tree design does not limit communication services or the number of antenna that can be accommodated. The public safety antenna can be put below branches, or whip antennae can be used. It is a matter of individual preference in choosing the pine or pole design. Without a requirement, a monopole would be installed. The color of the monopole has not been selected though white and grey have been suggested.
- tower lighting- there will be no lights on the tower. A light within the compound will illuminate an outbuilding door.
- tower height- the proposed tower is 150 feet. A 5-6 foot lightning rod may be added.
- alternate routes- the road frontage on Three Mile Road was considered as an access point but was not pursued as a feasible route due to the steepness of terrain and number of wetland crossings. Other existing trails were considered as ways to get to the tower, but all necessitated a wetland crossing in order to gain access to the preferred tower site.

The Commission will consider the request at their meeting on Wednesday, February 12 at 7 PM.

Site visit adjourned at 4:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Vicki Smith, Scribe