

CONSERVATION COMMISSION
September 9, 2014 at 4:00 PM
Elm Road Site Visit

In attendance:

Members: Doug McIlroy

Alternates: John Trummel

Staff: Vicki Smith

Others: Dodie Perkins, Eric Goldwarg, Sam Brakeley

The Commission walked up what might be the Class VI portion of Elm Road to the approximate intersection with Wolfeboro Road then viewed the bridge that was installed in 2013. Plans for the bridge were submitted with the Town Ordinance 4 application and will be forwarded to the Commission prior to the meeting on Wednesday. Since new abutments were installed, there was work in the wetland and the NHDES must be notified and a permit sought from them as well.

The Commission walked up Wolfeboro Road to the intersection of the proposed trail with Wolfeboro Road. Trail users cannot access Wolfeboro Road without one of the following:

- 1) Dismantle the wall to create a passageway through and re-build the end(s) of the wall.
- 2) With the adjacent landowner's permission, run the trail for a short segment on the landowner's land and around the end of the high wall.
- 3) Using a ramp, style or steps, enable trail users to go over the wall. The design of this option would be guided by the user groups to be accommodated.

The Commission reviewed the area where a bog bridge is proposed on a side slope through a wetland. A temporary bog bridge has been installed. This proposed wetland crossing could be stepping stones, a bridge made of sturdier wood or a series of small bridges.

The Commission walked through the proposed trail alignment most of which is in the 0-25' setback which would necessitate a bench cut, then across a proposed boardwalk what would be elevated above a stream and another section of wetlands. This boardwalk could be 3-5 feet wide. The need for a railing was discussed. It may be required under the building code.

The next section of trail is entirely in the 25 foot setback and terminates at a stream crossing that will be accomplished by stone foundation stones laid across the stream with no stream impacts since it will span bank to bank. The last section of the trail runs from the stream to the Elm Road. The exact location is not yet determined. The applicant was advised to decide where the trail would terminated so that a trail sign/kiosk could be planned. Trail parking is not shown on the plan.

The Commission discussed possible alternate alignments to replace the Class VI Road. Because the eastern boundary of the lot is not shown, it was not possible to determine whether that would be an appropriated alternative with fewer wetland impacts.

The Commission will take up the discussion of wetland impacts and advice to the ZBA at their meeting on Wednesday, September 10 at 7 PM at the Town Offices.

ADJOURNMENT: The site visit adjourned at 5 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Vicki Smith