

August 22, 2012 Meeting Minutes  
**Upton Conservation Commission**

Nipmuc High, 7.35

**Members present:**

Sandy Lajoie  
Alan Miano  
Mike Penko  
Chris Scott  
Marcella Stasa

**Attendees:**

Ellen Arnold  
Clare Letendre  
Jeff Letendre  
Michelle Potheau  
Robert Potheau  
Joe Simonetta  
Bill Taylor

Discussion with Clare and Jeff Letendre.

They had questions about the Conservation Restriction at Sweetwilliam Farm. They are considering purchasing the property and wanted clarification on several points.

Farm machinery is allowed to be used and stored under the CR.

Green house on east pasture is allowed within CR parameters.

Solar panel installation in east pasture will need to be reviewed and approved by SVT and BOS.

Explained winter access. Clarified public access questions

Evening activities on easement and conservation land would need approval by Con Com.

Possible re-location of farm store from Potheau land to west pasture at its northern end.

MS will contact SVT to discuss solar panel installation in east fields and height of one story structure on the northwest field should existing farm store building be re-located.

1 Sturdley Road- replacing septic continued from August 8.

Wetlands have been flagged.

Board of Health has approved the project.

Old system to be removed.

Presby System to be installed

New plan submitted

Hearing closed

OOB will be issued ASAP

Discussion with Michelle and Robert Potheau – 153A North Street

They would like to put the channeled stream on their lot underground.

MP spoke with BP before the work started

Selby met with BP and his botanist on site-they were in agreement that without a viable mitigation site on the property for that amount of disturbance the DEP would challenge any OOC issued by the Con Com.

Selby explained the law.

The Potheaus put a proposal before the board to proceed with the project stating that piping the swale would insure that insecticides and other residential lot use would not contaminate the waterway and thus not have an adverse effect on the organic farm status on the adjacent farm parcel. They plan to plant apple trees which would need to be sprayed.

Would a residential house lot affect organic status?

MP researched organic farm info and the water supply may not be contaminated.

Project is not allowable without a permit.

RP-Does the board feel it can be ruled on? A: 1) a filing would be required. 2) if there was a plan, mitigation would be required. 3) DEP would likely overturn a Con Com approval.

Potheaus were looking for a board opinion as to whether a pipe would be a better option over the swale. Swale was given as the preferred option by the board.

Potheaus will submit an NOI for work on the house on Friday for a hearing on September 12<sup>th</sup>.

#### Forestry Discussion

MP presented version #5 and pointed out changes.

Stewardship plans for individual properties to include forest management plans

MP will forward current draft to Rufin van Bossuyt and Paul Catanzaro for comment.

#### Filed Materials in Storage

Duplicate records can be discarded, some can be transferred to digital format.

We can take part of a meeting to make time to go through files.

Meeting Minutes from August 8<sup>th</sup> 2012 unanimously approved and signed.

Expense voucher signed

Payroll voucher for Denise signed.

#### Website

New town website training took place. AM had suggestions for content and updates. There will be a lot of useful tools

Virtual Town Hall will add content for us a month before the site goes live so we can save having to do so by getting materials to them. Mid-fall is the goal for going live.

MP suggested adding info on green communities and climate change.

#### Land Stewardship

Trail re-routed at Warren Brook Watershed CA to skirt recently posted Chace property.

Beaver Management

Put together a report for the Board of Health.

Meeting adjourned 9.37 PM