



The Woodbridge Conservation Commission

Special Meeting

January 17, 2021– 10:00AM
53 Park Lane

Minutes

Members present: Jason Morrill, Kate Rozen, Sharon DeKadt, Tim Austion

Meeting called to order at 10:00am

1. Observe site work performed on adjacent parcel, 57 Park Lane

Commission members noted the large machinery used to clear-cut the parcel. Pink marker flags were placed along the property boundary, which was obvious in the clear cut acres but proved helpful in the steep sloped and forested portion of the property. A notable number of mountain laurel shrubs, the State flower, were visibly disturbed and likely to be fully eliminated during the site work needed to complete the solar farm. A number of large mounds of chips remained along with several piles of logs.

2. Walk 53 Park Lane to evaluate and discuss realignment of blue trail

Members of the Woodbridge Land Trust, the Woodbridge Trail master, and a representative from a local bicycle shop joined the walk. We walked the parcel at 53 Park Lane, owned and managed by the Woodbridge Land Trust. It was reasonably clear the trail could remain as-is and would parallel the clear cut adjacent parcel.

The walk continued onto the Town owned parcel, 29 Park Lane. It was here the majority of the trail re-alignment was discussed. There was a general consensus the trail could skirt the base of a rocky outcropping to avoid wetlands and then wind through the forest to reconnect with the current segment of the blue trail. The connection would be made in the

vicinity of the large boulder erratic. Minimal work will be necessary to blaze and make this new connection clear to the public.

3. Discuss options to reconnect blue trail with white trail at the end of Krum Elbow

All persons present observed the potential for a connection to the white trail by travelling across the easterly slope of the 57 Park Lane parcel to the end of Krum Elbow, a paper street, where the white trail currently connects at an old foundation.

Further discussion and site meetings will be necessary to confirm the potential. Several action steps were proposed and the Woodbridge Trail Master will follow up through the Town: Scheduling a site visit with the planner/developer of 57 Park Lane; Propose a realignment of the solar farm perimeter fencing to protect the old stone foundation; Consider a pedestrian easement to cross the property; Consider a donation of the portion of 57 Park Lane not used by the solar farm.

Meeting adjourned at 11:30am

CC to Woodbridge Town Clerk: townclerk@woodbridgect.org