



# Gilmanton Conservation Commission

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Minutes of the Gilmanton Conservation Commission Site Walk and Special Meeting  
Held Saturday, 28 March 2009, 9:00 a.m. at 40 Whispering Pine Road

Present: Paula Gilman, Sue Hale de Seve, Nanci Mitchell (Chair), Dick de Seve and Brenda Sens from the Conservation Commission; Jim and Jean Locke, landowners.

Absent: Erin Hollingsworth, Ferenc Nagy, Lisa Robinson

The purpose of the meeting was to review and discuss the wetland and shoreland impact of a proposed replacement of a failed timber retaining wall with a granite block retaining wall on Crystal Lake, Gilmanton Tax Map/Lot 109/022. Peter Schauer has submitted a Permit-by-Notification (PBN) application on behalf of the Lockes and the Commission needs to decide whether or not to sign the application.

Jim Locke showed us the existing retaining wall. It is two timbers high, about 25 feet long and partially rotted. There is a very large white pine behind the wall that the Lockes do not want to lose. Alder, pussy willow, summersweet and other native shoreland plants are growing in front of the existing wall. The bank appears to be stable. According to the plan, the replacement wall would be no higher than the existing one and no longer. A specific height is not identified on the plan. The Lockes would like to complete the work before the lake level is raised in April.

Nanci explained that the preferred method for stabilizing a bank was with vegetation. Rip rap is the second choice and a wall is the last choice. In this case the wall already exists, although portions have disintegrated. Jim Locke explained that he and Peter Schauer had met with Dale Kierstead from DES about three weeks ago to discuss the plan and the submitted plan is what was agreed upon.

The possibility of placing the new wall in front of the existing one was discussed. This would eliminate the need to dig into the bank to remove the old wall and would preserve some of the root systems of the native vegetation.

It was the consensus of the Commission that Dick deSeve would speak with Dale Kierstead Monday morning when he is at work. If Dale is in agreement with the submitted plans, then the Commission would sign the PBN. Dick will also ask Dale about the possibility of placing the new wall in front of the existing one.

The meeting ended at 9:35 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Nanci Mitchell, Chair

*Gilmanton Conservation Commission  
March 28, 2009  
Approved April 14, 2009*