

TOWN OF LEYDEN CONSERVATION COMMISSION

MEETING 6/12/24

Commission Attendees

Evan Abramson
Janell Howard
Karen O'Neil
Don Sadowsky

Other Participants

None

Preliminaries

Reviewed correspondence (none)

Discussion

Penfield Conservation Restriction

CR with Leyden, not a State CR, not subject to State restrictions
Many issues, preventing Commission from signing:

- CR with Leyden, not a State CR, not subject to State restrictions and expires after 30 years. Need a statutory CR
- Exhibits A and B, map and plan, are not present in copy we were given to sign
- We also need a baseline site assessment, conducted by a Land Trust or a conservation professional, to measure against
- We need to know where the wetlands are
- Evan believes that the bridge was supposed to be temporary in our Order of Conditions from last year. The CR indicates that the bridge will stay, but we need to ensure that the bridge meets stream crossing standards if it is to become a permanent bridge
- Evan - the agreement says that only the town can enforce, but this is difficult for the town. Evan suggests that this be done through a land trust, who can enforce it.
- Allowing trees to be cut without limitation to make logging roads is inconsistent with our authorities

- Allows agriculture, which would take certain uses out of the jurisdiction of the Commission
- Allows commercial recreational activities
- Unrestricted vegetation management
- Uses are not consistent with conservation
- Commission recommends a private CR administered a land trust

Call to Tom Luck , who is on the board of the Franklin Land trust. Tom: need a statutory CR, which would be approved by the State.

Tom: land trusts will only do statutory CRs because of enforcement issues

Land trust would probably require a fee, as they would not be holding the CR

Evan: can we use our land acquisition fund?

Non-statutory CRs expire, statutory CRs do not -- IMPORTANT

But this will take two years

Tom will put us in touch with the proper staff at Franklin Land Trust

Suggest: private CR that lasts until the state CR kicks in, with the same conditions

Tom will talk to the Franklin Land Trust tomorrow

Unmapped Wetlands

Wetlands less than 10000 sq ft no subject to the Wetlands Protection Act