

Ferrisburgh Conservation Commission
Special Meeting September 11, 2018
At Arnold Bay Road opposite the Vorstevelt property
Approved Copy

In attendance for the FCC: John Medenwald , Acting Chair
Karen Pettersen, Secretary
Dennis Armell, Treasurer
Jen Cirillo

Other attendees: Michael and Julie Adams, Reed and Vanessa Hampton, Jodi Fisler and David Putter, Tom and Carol Spencer, Carol and Chris Jakubik, Marie and Katia Berger, Cheryl Shea, Al and Brigitte Woody, JC Ewing, Sean Willerford and Annie Hopper, Dennis Hopper, Kate Brewer, Doug Fletcher, Pete Zimmermann, Danielle Plouffe-Wineman, Deb Hartenstein

John opened the meeting at 6:10 p.m.

John introduced the Commission members in attendance, and reviewed the items of concern: loss of habitat, erosion, and water quality due to the tree cutting within the Town right-of-way that occurred last year. John explained that the Vorstevelds have a large farm permit, and the Department of Agriculture existing and the proposed rules. John advised people to visit the Department of Agriculture website, and review the definition of vegetative buffer strips and the tile drainage rules.

Attendees spoke about a number of issues including Vorstevelt's non-compliance with the Recommended Agricultural Practices (RAP), drainage tile installation timing, the buffer strip, the loss of shade, animal crossings, proposing a moratorium, existing tile drainage installation causing gullies and foaming on their property, need for engineered design of ditches and culverts, increased flow and erosion on their property after the tree cutting, an existing swale converted to a 4 foot wide by 6 foot deep ditch on their property after the tree cutting, and there were more culverts now than there were before the tree cutting.

John responded that research was needed regarding the permit non-compliance including asking the Selectboard to request the Department of Agriculture to review the Vorstevelt's permit compliance. John, also, explained the present situation and negotiations regarding the tree cutting issue. John suggested that the attendees take pictures, and send them to the Ferrisburgh Conservation Commission and/or the Town Clerk. John noted that the Town had installed a mostly shallow ditch between the road and the farm field, and that grass had started to grow in the ditch.

Jen made a motion to adjourn, and Dennis seconded the motion. The site visit ended at 6:52 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Karen Pettersen, Secretary