

MINUTES OF THE WAL-MART SITE WALK
May 9, 2012
5:30 PM
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Approved at the June 6, 2012 Conservation Commission meeting

PRESENT- Hillary May, Jane Connelly, Debra Williams, and Mike Foote

ABSENT- Dean Anson, Lisa Morin **and** Marnie Schulz

OTHERS PRESENT: John Ayer, Gilford Planning Director, Bill Stack, and Engineer for Steve Smith Associates, Caleb Aaron, representing Lakeshore Marketplace, Tom Sokoloski, SEC wetland scientist, and Scott McPhie, Planning Department Laconia as well as four members of the Gilford Conservation Commission.

The site walk began at the large detention basin located adjacent to the Wal-Mart garden center. The group observed the ponds rip rap overflow and corrugated interior pipes and found them to be in need of repair. The walk then proceeded along the rip rap overflow swale to the banks of Black Brook. A portion of the bank was blown out near the drainage pipes and would need to be repaired to prevent further destruction of the hillside. If the hillside is not stabilized sediments will continue to flow into Black Brook. The proposal is to improve existing drainage conditions and prevent sediments from loading up the exit pipe. Future maintenance will be critical to long term pond functionality which will in turn improve Black Brook water quality.

The outlet pipes emanating from the corrugated pipes in the detention pond were visible in Black Brook. The smaller pipe was 50% clogged with the larger pipe not clogged but showing signs of rust and deterioration. Currently a temporary fix is in place for the rusting main pipe with plans for the clogged pipe to be excavated and replaced to achieve accurate flow predictions in the storm water report. The group proceeded to the buffer area along the brook and walked back onto the parking lot behind the existing building. I pointed out there was no need for the green grass near the retention pond because the chemicals required would end up in the brook and contribute to phosphorus loading. C. Aaron said the only requirement for the area is to keep the surface smooth for power line access. He agreed there was no need to add the extra phosphorus if it negatively impacted the watershed. The group then walked back on to the paved area behind the store and crossed into Laconia just before the truck loading bay. The walk proceeded to the wetland area that would be impacted as part of the expansion process. T. Sokoloski explained the soil conditions and the limited water present in the impacted area. the walk then proceeded back to the original meeting area. The phosphorus removal was again discussed and a unanimous conclusion was reached to not use phosphorus on the site. Invasive species were also encountered and should be removed.

We discussed a joint meeting next Tuesday in Gilford or Laconia and S. McPhie would confirm with S. Saunders and D. Anson as to the feasibility of doing so.