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Planning Board Mtg

To keyland412@comcast.net Copy Anthony Comeau <acomeau85419@gmail.com>

My name is Robin Comeau and I am the property owner of 176 Stevens Hill Rd. When my husband and I bought this property in 1992 this property was an old hayfield that was overgrown with weeds and poison ivy. For over 25 yrs my husband bush hogged and mowed the field to restore its beauty and to transform parts of it to provide a barrier for the deer and turkeys. In all this time not once did our neighbor, the Rowell's, talk to my husband or file a complaint that he was disturbing/damaging wetlands and wildlife habitat. My husband took great pride in the appearance of our property. He maintained a "farm lane" when he bush hogged along the stonewall that abuts the Rowell property that went from the top of the knoll down to the road. He always bush hogged and mowed the area in question. After my husband passed away suddenly 3 yrs ago I was not able to keep up with the maintenance of the field. The area in question started to grow up too fast with bushes and trees. My husband and I hoped that one day one of our sons would want to build on top of this knoll. So when my son, Tony, proposed the idea to me I was very excited, even more so now that my husband has passed. It means the world to me to be able to have my children near me. Tony started clearing out scrub brush and trees from the site where he wants to build and the house will not be in view of our next door neighbor or affect the field. I was tired of he, his brother and friends driving their trucks through my backyard and rutting up the lawn to reach the knoll so I asked him to put in an access way at the bottom of my property by the cemetery to use instead. I went on the town's website to check my tax card for any red flags with topography and the only area on the property that showed any wetlands was on the backside of the property. I was told after the fact that you can't go by the town's website, yet there were no disclaimers referring you to any other database, so being a layperson and not knowing any better I thought everything was fine. I had Tony put in a culvert so that there would be no hinderance to the natural flow of rainwater and snow melt from the 3 knolls. I thought we were being conscientious and protective of the land by doing this. We have been working with Mr Alden Beauchemin, a wetland scientist, for the past year and a half so he will be able to answer any questions you might have. It has now been over 2 years since we first started the process to subdivide my property so that my son would have his lot to build on, and never in my wildest dreams would I have thought it would've been this difficult. In this timeframe, because of this delay, building supply costs have doubled and interest rates have gone sky high, now costing my son an additional tens of thousands of dollars. My son is a newlywed and all they want is to be able to build a home and start their family. By putting the driveway along the stonewall that abuts the Rowell property it would maintain the natural visual effect of the property versus putting a driveway up through the middle of the field that would end up, as we have been advised, needing several culverts to divert the rainfall and snow melt and also retaining walls, all of which would spoil the beauty of the field. And not to mention that the utility poles would also be placed in the middle of the field versus along the stonewall. The last thing I want to see when I look out my front door is a driveway and utility poles going through the middle of my field! This would absolutely destroy the natural beauty and visual effect of the property, not only for me but for my neighbors across the street and others as they drive by on this beautiful designated scenic road. We are trying to do everything we can to preserve the natural beauty of the land as we have always done and ask, respectfully, that our request for subdivision be granted. Thank you