

Conservation Commission Meeting Minutes

Minutes of February 14, 2018

Members present: Steve Parretti, Chair; John Marc Aurele, Joshua Soojian, Jim Cooper arriving at 6:55pm.

Meeting called to order at 6:30PM

Certificate of Compliance

5 Town Beach Road (197-0548)

Mr. Parretti read letter received from Douglas Andrysick of Andrysick Land Surveying certifying work had been completed according to Notice of Intent plan for Utility Connection. The site within the wetland buffer was found to be stable with no intrusions toward wetlands. Hearing no further discussion, Mr. Parretti asked for a motion.

MOTION: Mr. Marc Aurele moved to approve the Certificate of Compliance for 5 Town Beach Road, DEP# 197-0548.

SECONDED: Mr. Soojian – Discussion: None – VOTE: All in Favor

Request for Determination of Applicability

219 Main Street, ChV (remove trees at edge of stream)

Mr. Parretti read the public notice into the record and then opened meeting to discussion. Amber & William Letourneau in attendance.

The request was for removal of two (2) trees on the edge of the backyard and between a small stream known as Kettle Brook. The trees are single stem elm trees, work will be tree climbing by Branch Manager Tree Service. No mechanical equipment used in work area and stumps will not be removed.

The Commissioners asked to do a site visit to inspect the trees being removed located on the bank of the Kettle Brook. Ms. Letourneau agreed and requested a continuance.

Meeting continued to March 14th.

Request for Determination of Applicability

43 Fairview Drive (replace deck and garage)

Mr. Parretti read the public notice into the record and then opened meeting to discussion. Lynda & Steve Monahan in attendance.

The request was for removal of deck & garage and just replacing a deck at rear of home.

To secure the deck, 6 dimond pier footings will be used to support a 14' x 33' deck with stairs.

Dimond piers are set above ground (no digging required) and metal rods are hydraulically driven into the ground to secure piers in place.

The deck & garage being removed was 10' x 42' with stairs.

Hearing no further discussion, Mr. Parretti asked for a motion.

MOTION: Mr. Marc Aurele moved to recommend a Negative Determination #3, “The work described in the Request is within the Buffer Zone, as defined in the regulations, but will not alter an Area subject to protection under the Act. Therefore, said work does not require the filing of a Notice of Intent, subject to the following conditions: 1) secure a building permit prior to start of work, and 2) notification to the Commission before the start of work.

SECONDED: Mr. Soojian – Discussion: None – VOTE: All in Favor

Notice of Intent

20/22 Lake Drive (demo & rebuild)

Mr. Parretti read the public notice into the record and then opened meeting to discussion.

Mr. Jason Dubois of DC Engineering & Surveying in attendance

The request was to demolish two structures and construct one single family home, install new septic system and well within the 100ft buffer of Burncoat Pond.

Mr. Paul Valinski, 18 Lake Drive asked whether any trees were being removed near the water.

Mr. Dubois felt trees would not be removed at this time.

The Commissioners noted any proposed tree removal within 25ft No Disturb Zone of the water will require additional review. The only area of disturbance shown on the plan is the area within the grade. Anything beyond that was not part of this application and would require an amendment.

The applicant was asked to consider continuing for further site review on removal of trees.

Mr. Dubois asked for a conditional approval and agreed coming back with an amendment for tree removal.

Hearing no further comments, questions or concerns, Mr. Parretti asked for a motion.

MOTION: Mr. Marc Aurele moved to approve the Notice of Intent application for 20/22 Lake Drive, Leicester, MA conditional upon a site visit by the Conservation Commission to determine limit of clarity on removal of trees and incorporating it into the Order of Conditions. Nothing else is to be disturbed other than what was shown on the plan submitted.

SECONDED: Mr. Soojian – Discussion: None – VOTE: All in Favor

Mr. Cooper arrived at this point

Board Discussion

- Burncoat Park

Diane Provencher, Select Board /Burncoat Park Committee & David Genereux, Town Administrator in attendance.

The Burncoat Park Committee along with the Burncoat Pond Association wanted to reopen the Town Beach at Burncoat Park.

They wanted to put together a committee to overlook operations of the Park & Beach and considering the committee consist of, 1 member from Burncoat Pond Association, 1 member from the Burncoat Park Committee; 1 or 2 members from Conservation Commission and 1- Select Board member.

Mr. Genereux reviewed when a Town Beach was reopened in Uxbridge that had been closed for a number of years. He explained recruiting high school or college students on break and as a community service, who was interested helping patrol the beach, clean-up, collect fees, etc. Eventually fees collected would cover maintenance of the park and beach, and possibly a Park Manager to run daily beach operations.

Mr. Parretti & Mr. Marc Aurele volunteered to be on the Committee.

First meeting scheduled for Tuesday, March 13 @ 7PM, Room 2.

Mr. Paul Valinski of 18 Lake Drive said since August 2016 when chemical treatments started on the pond for weed control, the fish have disappeared. The Spencer side of Burncoat Pond do not have that problem because they don't treat their section of the pond.

He spoke with a representative from DCR, who had received several calls on the same concern, regarding the same company doing treatments. The company name was Solitude Lake Management and the chemical used was known to be toxic to fish.

The Commissioners agreed to review the Order of Conditions on the weed control program and discuss at next meeting.

Board Discussion:

- Worcester Airport DEP#197-0576 (minor project modification)

A letter request from Lisa Standley, Project Manager, VHB regarding Worcester Regional Airport CAT III ILS and Taxiway Project.

On behalf of MassPort, she was requesting a determination from the Commission that the installation of security fencing at the light towers west of Mulberry Street as a minor modification not requiring an amendment to the Order of Conditions.

A recent change by the FAA has required a chain-link fence be installed around each tower in the approach light system, ten feet from the tower base.

Proposed fencing at Towers 10, 11 & 20 installed within the bordering vegetated wetland; Towers 9, 12, & 24 within Riverfront area; Towers 13 thru 21 within the 100ft buffer to bordering vegetated wetland. Fencing will not result in excavation, fill, or cause permanent loss to wetland and will not require removing existing vegetation.

Hearing no further discussion, Mr. Parretti asked for a motion.

MOTION: Mr. Marc Aurele moved the Conservation Commission approve installation of security fencing at the light towers west of Mulberry Street as a minor modification not requiring an amendment to the Order of Conditions, but added to the As-Built plans.

SECONDED: Mr. Soojian – Discussion: None – VOTE: All in Favor

- Miscellaneous:
 - Lynde Brook Plaza, LLC, 190 Main Street, Cherry Valley inquiring on regulations for obtaining a Certificate of Compliance (COC). A memo received from Attorney Damien Berthiaume stated upon their review of the Order, it appeared work proposed was not commenced or completed, therefore a request for COC was attached.
Upon review of the plans, it appeared to the Commissioners' that some work had been completed.
Therefore, they agreed standard requirements for a COC request applied: a written request be made to the Conservation Commission to do a site inspection with engineer and/or applicant present; or to submit a letter from an engineer certifying the work completed and/or what was not completed in accordance to the approved plan.
A memo will be sent to the property owners' attorney.
 - Notification received from National Grid on Utility Maintenance Activities as part of the A127/B128 Transmission Line Footer Repair Project.
 - Project Reports for January & February for site at Stafford Street, Map 45/Parcel B1.1-DEP#197-0541.
 - Building & Occupancy Permits issued for January 2018
 - New Projects: Cooper's Hilltop Solar Farm, 515 Henshaw Street
 - Registration notification for MACC's Annual Environmental Conference, March 3, 2018

Minutes

1/17/18

MOTION: Mr. Cooper moved to approve the minutes of January 17, 2018

SECONDED: Mr. Marc Aurele – Discussion: None

VOTE: 3–In favor/1–abstained (Mr. Soojian)

11/15/2017

MOTION: Mr. Soojian moved to approve the minutes of November 15, 2017

SECONDED: Mr. Cooper - Discussion: None – VOTE: All in Favor

12/13/2017

Tabled

Hearing no further questions or comments, Mr. Parretti asked for a motion to adjourn

MOTION: Mr. Soojian moved to adjourn meeting

SECONDED: Mr. Cooper – Discussion: None – VOTE: All in Favor

Meeting adjourned at 8:00PM

Respectfully submitted:

Barbara Knox

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