

CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Minutes
October 7, 2021(Thursday)
Marlborough City Hall – 3rd Floor, Memorial Hall
7:00 PM

Present: Edward Clancy-Chairman; Allan White, David Williams, Dennis Demers, John Skarin, Karin Paquin and William Dunbar. Priscilla Ryder - Conservation Officer was also present.

Absent: none

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of Sept. 2 and Sept. 16, 2021 were reviewed and on a motion by Mr. White second by Edward Clancy, they were unanimously approved 7-0.

Public hearings:

Notice of Intent

2 Minehan Lane – Department of Public Works

At the applicant's request this item was continued to the Oct. 21st meeting.

Notice of Intent (Continued from September 16, 2021) – Review draft Conditions
0 Phelps St. (next to 107) - David Franca (212-1238)

AND

Notice of Intent (Continued from September 16, 2021)
107 Phelps St. - David Franca (212-1239)

Vito Colonna from Connorstone was present. Ms. Ryder noted that she had not received comment from building or engineering, but they will weigh in later. There being no further questions, the hearing was closed. Ms. Ryder noted that she has drafted the conditions so that both orders are the same since the driveway and the house are connected. As drafted, the specific tasks for each DEP # is defined. The Commission reviewed the Order of Conditions and made some amendments and corrections.

After some discussion, the Commission took two votes:

On a motion by Mr. Skarin second by Edward Clancy to approve the draft Order of Conditions as drafted and amended for DEP 212-1238 (House) the Commission voted unanimously 7-0 to approve.

On a motion by Mr. Skarin, second by Edward Clancy to approve the draft Order of Conditions as drafted and amended for DEP 212-1239 (driveway) the Commission voted unanimously 7-0 to approve.

Draft Order of Conditions:

641 Pleasant St. – DEP 212-1242

The Commission received a revised plan in their packet which included the foundation drain as requested dated 9-17-21. Mr. John Kuettner, 633 Pleasant St. the abutter, expressed his concern that the vernal pool be adequately protected as it has been a viable natural system. The Commission reviewed the draft Order of Conditions and noted some changes and require a condition that MDOT approval be provided prior to starting work. There being no further discussion, on a motion by Mr. White, second by Edward Clancy to approve the draft Order of Conditions as drafted and amended, the commission voted unanimously 7-0 to approve.

Discussion:

- 212-1215 Green District – 107 Simarano Dr. – Request to advance to Phase II.

John Shipe representing the Green District was present and explained that Phase 1 is moving along, and they have some large piles of materials that need to be moved in order to be able to pave phase 1. They would like to be able to move this material once and start phase II now. The Order of Conditions requires that Phase 1 be “substantially completed and stabilized” before advancing to Phase II. He is here tonight to request permission to move to Phase II in order to place this material on that site and then within a few weeks pave most of Phase 1 and get that stabilized.

The Commission asked about schedule and phasing plan and expressed concern with opening a site at this time before winter. They asked about stabilization and the ability to control Phase II which has a steeper grade than Phase I. Questions were raised about volume of material to be moved, ability to clear but not grub sections, ability to control runoff etc. Mr. Shipe noted that they had not had problems with Phase I and the same controls would be included in Phase II. They will use stump grindings for erosion control. Councilor Ossing was in attendance and asked about their compliance record, which Ms. Ryder noted was very good. Mr. Shipe asked if they could begin installing erosion controls next week. After some discussion it was agreed that the Erosion Controls could be installed next week, with a site visit to inspect on Oct. 18th and that the applicant should return on Oct. 21st and bring the contractor to discuss construction sequencing, and a phasing plan colored up to better explain the process and areas that can be stabilized etc. Ms. Paquin, Mr. Dunbar, Mr. Williams, and Ms. Ryder will plan to attend the site visit on October 18th.

- DCR Forest Cutting Plan for State Forest in Desert Natural Area off Concord Rd. – Site walk Oct. 18th @ 3:00 PM

Ms. Ryder explained the forest cutting plan document as provided. The red pine beetle has killed all the red pine stands in the Desert Natural Area and the State Forest land in Hudson. The State DCR will be harvesting these dead trees to see if they can salvage some of the wood product. They are looking to do this work this winter. Ms. Ryder noted that they will point out the Vernal Pools which should be on the list which aren't showing as certified on the maps. She will attend the site walk on Oct. 18th, Ms. Paquin and Mr. Williams indicated they would attend as well.

- **Spotted Lanternfly and Mile-a-minute vine- Alert**

Ms. Ryder provided fliers to the Commission on these two non-native species. The spotted lanternfly has been found in breeding in Massachusetts now and will devastate the apple orchards and grapes among the plants it will impact. If seen, it is to be killed and THEN reported. The Commission was asked to keep an eye out and spread the word. The mile-a-minute vine was found behind city hall and destroyed but monitoring for this very aggressive vine will continue to be needed throughout the city to be sure it does not proliferate.

Correspondence/Other Business:

The following correspondence was discussed and placed on file.

- Letter dated Sept. 20, 2021, RE: Acceptance of Gift to Conservation Maintenance Fund to replace dead tree on the Assabet River Rail Trail (AARRT)
- Massachusetts Beautification Bulletin – 2021 Plan Something Bee-eautiful Grantees- award \$250. Ms. Paquin was successful in getting these funds through this grant.

- Letter to Israel Lopez, the Gutierrez Co. dated Sept. 17, 2021 RE: DEP 212-1193 Wetland Violation Notice – Fine \$300, 149 Hayes Memorial Dr. Marlborough.

Next Conservation Commission meetings: Oct. 21, and Nov. 4, 2021

Adjournment - There being no further business, on a motion by Mr. White second by Edward Clancy, to adjourn the Commission voted unanimously 7-0 to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,


Priscilla Ryder

Conservation/Sustainability Officer