

CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Minutes
November 4, 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 October 21, 2021 were reviewed and on a motion by Mr. White second by Mr. Clancy, they were unanimously approved 7-0.

Public hearings:

Notice of Intent (Continue from Oct. 21, 2021)

2 Minehan Lane – Department of Public Works

Tom DiPersio, City Engineer, was present and explained that the sewer contractor gave them a quote which is too much so this project will go out to bid. The plan is to remove the existing structure and pipe to the edge of the pond. Then install a new inlet structure attached to the existing pipe. They will use a machine with a large arm that can reach from the shore to the structure and also clear out the cattails and muck around the old structure as shown on the plans presented. The water runs in a small stream now into the hole so dewatering should be easy with a pump and sandbags around the work area. They may use a sump and stone pit and pump through a sedimentation tank before discharging back downstream into the drain. At this point there is no time frame. The connection with the sewer service will be part of the project for this house. There was discussion about the remaining cattails. Ms. Paquin had found information about cutting the stalks to 2-3 inches below the water level. This will essentially "drown" the plants if done at the right time. There was discussion about who would do this work, DPW will limit their work to the structure removal and new structure installation and work within the semicircle on the plan. The remaining work could be done by the neighbors or someone. The Commission decided this could be worked out in the conditions along with a note that the owners of 2 Minehan Ln should keep an eye on the outlet structure and keep it clear from clogging. Since a contractor hasn't been chosen, it was agreed that the contractor should attend a Commission meeting prior to construction. Also, that the sink holes near the driveway would need to be repaired too during this process. There being no further questions or concerns and no public input the hearing was closed. Ms. Ryder was asked to draft conditions for the next meeting.

Request for Determination of Applicability

99 Violet wood Circle -Yamir Dextre

Mr. Dextre, the unit owner, was present and explained that he would like to add a patio to his back yard. All excess materials will be removed (as he did for his deck which was approved several years ago) . They will add crushed stone and sand and cement pavers. All work will be done by hand, as machinery can't get in back. Patio will be 379 sq. ft. in

size. All work is within the existing fence which is approximately on the 20' wetland buffer zone. He asked if he could take down the three pine trees that are right near the fence as well as they are threatening to snap during these windy storms. Ms. Ryder noted that she had done a site inspection and that there are plenty of young saplings in the 20' buffer zone which will grow quickly once these larger trees are removed, so there will be plenty of vegetation to replace the trees. Mr. Dunbar noted that he had also done a site visit and noted the patio would be an improvement to the back yard as the area is not growing grass and is raw. There being no further questions from the Commission or the audience, the hearing was closed. On a motion by Mr. Skarin, second by the Chairman, to issue a Negative Determination with standard conditions, the Commission voted unanimously 7-0 to approve.

Certificate of Compliance:

- DEP 212-1213 Avalon Marlborough II - Ms. Ryder noted that she has done several inspections of the site and finally all items that needed to be corrected have been done, including the cleaning of the wetlands that were impacted during several rain events. All conditions of the Order have been met and she recommended approval of a full Certificate of Compliance. There being no further discussion, on a motion from Mr. White and second by the Chairman, to issue a full Certificate of Compliance for this project, the Commission voted unanimously 7-0 to approve.

Discussion:

- Letter dated: Sept. 24, 2021, from Control Mass. Mosquito Control, RE: Permission slip for water management work – Millham Reservoir/Evelina Dr. Ms. Ryder noted that this area has been inundated by beavers and that so far 7 beavers have been trapped. The dam will then be breached to allow for the “lake” that was created to recede. Once that is done Mosquito control will investigate this area for any additional work needed to reduce mosquito populations.
- 342 Sudbury St. – Definitive Subdivision Plan – Comments to Planning Board - As required the Commission reviewed the proposed subdivision plan from one lot to two lots off Sudbury St. The Commission noted that there were wetlands just off the site and the buffer zone should be shown on the plans, they also noted that the 60' natural buffer is a good idea and will preserve some trees. The Natural buffer zone should be well defined as to what can and cannot be done in this area to ensure it stays a natural buffer. Last, erosion controls should be shown on the plans as this area is near a trout stream and therefore controlling runoff into Sudbury St. and the adjacent wetland will be critical. Ms. Ryder will send a letter with same to Planning Board for their meeting on Nov. 8th.
- Desert Natural Area – Proposed management update. Ms. Ryder and Ms. Paquin have been exploring the possibility of getting a grant to assist in the harvest and eventual burning of a section of the Desert Natural Area in order to restore the pitch pine scrub oak forest, as was done in 2014. They are working with the forester to determine what area to cut and how the harvest should be conducted. Details are still being gathered. Ms. Ryder wanted to be sure the Commission was kept up to speed and to hear any objections or concerns from the Commission as this is explored. There were no comments or objections. The Commission will be kept updated as more information is gathered.

Correspondence/Other Business/ Project updates

- Chairman Clancy asked for updates which were given as follows by Ms. Ryder:

Conservation Commission
Minutes – November 4, 2021

- 107 Simarano Dr.- Phase 2 has begun and most of the trees have been cut. No grubbing has occurred yet and they will follow the phasing plan discussed previously.
- 149 Hayes Memorial Dr. – they continue to blast, the sewer connection is being made, as they have blasted the entrance way so they can now make that connection. A portion of the site has been stabilized around the detention basin. Blasting and hauling will continue for another two months, weather permitting.

Next Conservation Commission meetings: Nov. 18th and Dec. 2, 2021

Adjournment - There being no further business, on a motion by Mr. White, second by the Chairman to adjourn, the Commission voted unanimously 7-0 to adjourn at 7:57 PM

Respectfully submitted,


Priscilla Ryder
Conservation/Sustainability Officer