

Conservation Commission
Minutes
March 17, 2022
Marlborough City Hall – 3rd Floor, Memorial Hall
7:00 PM

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

Absent: none

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of March 3, 2022, and February 17, 2022 were reviewed and on a motion by Mr. White second by Mr. Clancy to approve the minutes as written, the Commission voted 7-0 to approve.

Public hearings:

Abbreviated Notice of Intent (continued from 3/3/2022)

74 & 82 Paquin Dr. - Scott Ferrecchia

Ms. Ryder explained the changes to the plans and showed photos from the site walk earlier with Mr. DiPersio and Mr. Parente showing the location of the stakes. Based on discussions with Tom DiPersio in the field and based on his research and survey by the DPW the top of the spillway is at elevation 261.0'. Therefore, the land under the water below the 261.0' elevation belongs to the city and anything above that would belong to the adjacent landowner. These adjustments will be made to the plans. It was determined that if the face of the wall on the water side was at or above 261.0' that would work.

Mr. Ferrecchia explained that the waves during the summer are causing a great deal of erosion along the shoreline, and he has dragged the sand up now to fill the gaps. A solid wall would help prevent erosion. He would like to put in 20' of blocks from his existing dock to about where the large tree is located as this is the area receiving the most impact. This section will likely have two layers of blocks, one buried and one above. It would be placed on a crushed stone footing and the land above would grade to the top of the wall. After some discussion about construction methods etc. it was determined, that because the spillway has been closed and the water level is already rising, that this project will need to wait until next fall when the water level is dropped again. They will revise the plans based on the engineering information provided and will submit a revised plan to the Commission for the April 7th meeting.

Violation Updates:

- 896 Boston Post Rd. – Continued from 2/3/2022 - Mr. Renovo was present, he explained that he rents this area from Marcello and had been told if he added a berm he could work in this area. After speaking with Ms. Ryder, he understands that is not the case and has moved all his equipment and other materials out of the area that he had removed the leaves, added a berm, and thankfully stopped work before he cut any trees. He is happy to restore the area. Ms. Ryder noted that the trees remain, a berm remains, and the soil is raw, she suggested stabilizing the area but asked the Commission what they wanted to do with the berm. After some discussion about the soil type and stabilization, it was agreed that several Commission

members would do a site visit to make a final determination. A site visit was set for Tuesday March 22 at noon. The results of the site visit will be discussed at the next meeting.

- 630 Forest St. – Project update - As requested at the last meeting the applicant appeared with his various consultants to discuss moving forward with this site which has been excavated without a permit. Mr. Turner, Mr. Vento's, Mr. Wood and Mr. Fred Keylor were present. Mr. Keylor explained that he is the project engineer and has prepared a drawing showing the new drainage pipe and upstream and downstream stabilization, with project sequencing and pumping details. Ms. Ryder noted that City Engineer Tom DiPersio has reviewed and agrees with this plan. It is based on the files Bruce Saluk originally provided and he got permission to use them. Bruce Saluk, working on behalf of the abutter IPG also provided comments on the size of the rip rap to meet MDOT specs. Mr. Keylor also suggested they put a weir of boulders on the upstream side of the culvert to help catch debris from flowing through (creating a natural trash rack of sorts). They also plan to put some guardrails along the grass area on top to prevent cars from access. They reviewed the design details of the pipe and construction process and pumping protocols. They have hired Hancock Engineering to file the Notice of Intent (NOI) for the next meeting and will also analyze the downstream wetlands impacted by the sediment discharged by this project. The Commission and the applicant discussed the need for an emergency certificate to proceed with the work prior to the NOI. It is spring and each rainstorm that the site remains open is a big threat to the downstream wetland. It was agreed that the project, now with a plan and an engineer can proceed to fix the problem and stabilize the site. On a motion by Mr. Skarin, second by Mr. White, to issue an Emergency Certificate to allow the work to continue as discussed, the Commission voted unanimously 7-0 to issue. The Commission will wait for the NOI to be filed for further discussion.

Certificate of Compliance:

- DEP 212-1214 615 Williams St. (continued from 3/3/2022) Ms. Ryder noted that the erosion controls still need to be removed so this was continued to the next meeting.

Discussion/Project Updates:

- 293 Lakeshore Dr. – DEP 212-1211 - dock design approval - The owner has presented a dock location and design as required in the Order of Conditions issued for this property. The Ft. Meadow Commission has reviewed the proposal and Ms. Ryder and Mr. Thomson visited the site to discuss with the owner. Ms. Ryder presented the Commission with the plan for an L shaped dock to extend at an angle parallel to the shoreline on the west side of this property. After some discussion on a motion by Mr. Skarin, second by Mr. White to approve the dock design as presented, the Commission voted 7-0 unanimously to approve.
- Memorial Forest/Desert Natural Area turtle survey – permission - Ms. Ryder noted that the Eversource project has been asked to continue the turtle survey work along the gas pipeline for another year. John Vieira of AE Com. has requested permission for another year of study. On a motion by Ms. Paquin, second by Mr. Dunbar to approve the request to continue turtle survey for 2022, the Commission unanimously 7-0 approved.
- 689 Pleasant St. – preliminary Open Space Development Plan - Ms. Ryder noted that this subdivision is under review by the Planning Board. She provided comments based on her

review for the last Planning Board meeting. The Commission reviewed the revised plans and noted that seepage collars, wetland replication, vernal pool protection and 30' buffer zone as well as the comments Ms. Ryder provided should be included in a new set of comments to the Planning Board. Ms. Ryder will draft the letter for the Chairman's signature.

- Felton Conservation Land – mowing - Ms. Ryder noted that she has reached out to Mr. Stephan to see if he wants to continue mowing the Felton land fields. If he agrees she will add the license agreement to the next agenda.
- Installation of water main on a portion of Pleasant St. and Fitchburg St. – DPW – minor exempt project. Mr. Clancy noted that the Commission had received a letter and plans showing the waterline to be installed along Pleasant St. and Fitchburg St. Ms. Ryder noted that per the regulations if all waterline work is within the existing roadway layout this can be considered a minor exempt project, only requiring notification to the Commission. The Commission agreed but asked that Ms. Ryder convey to the DPW that she be notified when work begins to do an erosion control inspection and review protocol before work begins. Ms. Ryder will convey.
- SuAsCo Small Grant: Ms. Paquin was successful in getting a \$3,000 CISMA Small Grant for 2022 to help the Commission address bittersweet vines at Ghiloni Park and develop an education program for volunteers to help stop the spread of this invasive "killing" vine. The Commission thanked Ms. Paquin for doing this work.

Correspondence

The following documents were reviewed, and the commission unanimously voted to accept and place on file:

- Yearly Operational Plan – 2022 – DPW
- MDAR – control vegetation along rights of way – a 5 yr. Vegetation Management Plan

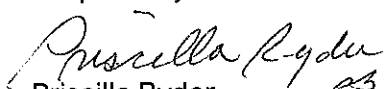
Other Business

- BU College Student Lucy McCabe was present and is doing a research project on how wetlands are protected in Marlborough. She asked many questions and got lots of input from the Commission members. She will continue to reach out for additional information in the coming weeks and months as she does her research. She thanked the Commission for their time.

Next Conservation Commission meetings: April 7th and April 21, 2022

Adjournment: There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 9:01 PM

Respectfully submitted,


Priscilla Ryder
Conservation/Sustainability Officer