

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

MINUTES (Approved 3/9/11)

FEBRUARY 9, 2011

Present: A. Goetz, Vice Chairman
B. Dyer, R. Adams, R. Turner, J. Finnigan

Absent: J. Wiley

Also Present: L. Hershey, Conservation Agent
P. Smith, Board Secretary

An Open Space meeting was held prior to the Conservation Commission meeting.

MEETING OPENED: 7:00

CONT. PUBLIC HEARING HORSESHOE CIR. #4 DEP# 315-968

Mr. Goetz read the advertisement from the Walpole Times.

This Public Hearing was opened and continued at the applicants request until this evening. Mr. Goetz read Board comments into the record and green cards were collected

Mr. George Collins, Collins Civil Engineering was present representing the applicants Mr. and Mrs. Rodia who were also present. Plans were presented to the commission titled "Plan and Details Swimming Pool, Pool House and Improvements" dated 11/3/2010 and were revised on 12/20/10 and 1/25/11. Mr. Collins stated the wetlands have been delineated by Botanist, Walter Hewitson, and his report has been included in the Notice of Intent. The entire property is within the jurisdiction of the conservation commission. Mr. Collins stated the proposal includes the removal of trees along the easterly side of the lawn area. He also stated 450 square feet of the wetland area needs to be filled for the construction of a pool house, patio and pool and that 910 square feet replication area is being proposed for mitigation purposes. The planting of 17 Eastern Hemlock trees along the fence line is included in the mitigation along with some bushes. Mr. Collins stated erosion controls will be in place including silt fence and filter fabric over the existing catch basins for prevention of silt getting into the drainage system. Pool chemicals are being proposed to be kept in the garage for storage purposes.

Ms. Hershey stated she has reviewed the wetland line and a few changes were made. She stated this area is not a BVW but actually a pocket of isolated wetlands. Catch basins are located on this property

Mr. Collins stated it is an isolated wetland and still protectable

Mr. Finnigan asked about sewage disposal from the pool house

Mr. Collins stated it will go through the house and connect to the sewer line.

The commission discussed the catch basins and asked what they looked like during heavy rainstorms. They also questioned where the drain system goes.

Mrs. Rodia, applicant, stated they have never observed any standing water and have never had flooding issues much to their surprise.

Mr. Collins stated it is not a typical wetland area; with just enough water there periodically, but not a flourishing wetland

Mr. Rodia stated he was even unaware there were wetlands there.

Mr. Turner asked about the treatment of the pool including the type of disinfectant will be used. He also asked if an alternative analysis had been done to consider a different location for the pool house which includes a bathroom facility further away from the wetlands.

Mr. Collins stated he is unsure of the disinfectant issue but it is his understanding a cartridge filter system is being used and there will be no backwashing issue

Mr. Goetz stated he is not convinced the wetlands should be filled, in order to put a pool house in where other locations are available and could be considered. He questions why the board should allow disturbance within the 25 no-disturb area. He also stated the plantings of the Hemlock trees should be reconsidered as they are dying off. Mr. Goetz discussed concerns about the catch basin as it eventually drains into the wetlands. He also would like to see the system in place for the discharge of pool water.

The Board discussed continuing the Public Hearing until some of these questions are answered. A site visit was also discussed.

Mr. Rodia stated they tried to look at other options for the location of the pool house but no other area went with flow of the house and they didn't feel the pool house would not be utilized if it were where the deep end of the pool was.

The applicants stated the commission could come at any time to look at the site

Mr. Adams made the motion to continue the Public Hearing until March 9, 2011 at 7:00 p.m.

Ms. Dyer seconded the motion

Vote: 5-0-0

MINUTES

January 26, 2011

Mr. Adams made the motion to accept the Minutes of January 26, 2011

Ms. Dyer seconded the motion

Vote: 5-0-0

The board discussed general business

Ms. Hershey stated as far as the appeal regarding Frontier Dr. there has been nothing new

Ms. Hershey stated nothing is happening with the ongoing Enforcement orders

BOARD COMMENTS

ZBA – Haynes St. #16 and Main St. #1600

The Zoning Board of Appeals is requesting comments on the above applications. No plans were submitted for review or description of the project given therefore the board has no comments

Ms. Hershey also discussed that she is working with the Town Engineer regarding the Capital Budget and the need for funds for the next round of the Stormwater General permit which will be issued by the EPA this spring.

General Correspondence was discussed and available for the Board to review

- Mass RCRA & Dot Training Course Info
- Oak St. lot 78
- Mass Wildlife News

Ms. Dyer made the motion to adjourn

Mr. Adams seconded the motion

Vote: 5-0-0

Meeting Closed: 8:00