



CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Town Hall

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Town of Walpole Commonwealth of Massachusetts

MINUTES
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
October 11, 2017
7:00 PM

This meeting was taped and will be available on walpolemedia.tv

Present: Jack Wiley (Chair), Al Goetz (Vice Chairman) Betsey Dyer, Jim Finnigan, Emidio Di Virgilio

Absent: Roger Turner

Also present: Landis Hershey, Conservation Agent
Amy Messier, Board Secretary

The Conservation Agent Report dated October 11, 2017 was given to members.

Chairman Jack Wiley opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Notice of Intent, by John Gerber, 536 Fisher St., DEP #315-1140:

Applicant John Gerber and Russ Waldron of Environmental Sciences were present and explained to the Board the proposed project for the installation of approximately 5,924 s.f. of new lawn area and creation of an access easement to Willet Pond at the site. The proposed activities will take place within bordering vegetated wetland, the 100 ft. buffer zone, and the 25 ft. no alteration zone. The area is currently vegetated with low shrubs, and will be cleared of existing vegetation, with the remaining roots and stems to be excavated and the area rough graded. All excavated material will be removed from the site immediately, and approximately 110 c.y. of screened loam will be delivered, spread to a depth of 5-6 inches, finish graded and seeded, and there will be no stockpiling of material anywhere on the property. Additionally, the private access path to Willet Pond will be 6 ft. wide by 68.31 ft. long, which will consist of brush being cut and mowed by hand. It will be maintained in that state and will not be converted to lawn. No fill material (loam, wood chips, crushed stone etc.) will be deposited within the 25 ft. no alteration zone or the 100 ft. buffer zone. The Applicant is proposing a 6 ft. wide path as opposed to the allowed 10 ft. access to minimize the footprint within the resource area and no alteration zone, while still providing enough room to install a private dock at some time in the future.

Erosion and sedimentation controls consisting of silt sock will be installed prior to the start of the landscaping activities and will be properly maintained throughout the landscaping process, and will remain in place until all disturbed soils have been stabilized and re-vegetated. Lastly, the site will be kept clean and any trash or debris will be picked up before the end of each day. Landis Hershey recommended several Special Conditions that should be included, such as; 25 ft. no alteration plaques, limited use of herbicides and pesticides within the buffer zone, and the use of fertilizers shall comply with the requirements of 330 CMR 31.00. Goetz expressed his concern regarding invasive species, and wants a condition imposed for the removal of invasive species within and around the area of the 6 ft. path as part of ongoing maintenance. Wiley stated that the word "easement" should be removed on the plan. There were no further questions from the Board or the public at this time. Goetz made a motion to close the hearing, seconded by Dyer, the motion carried 5-0-0 (Wiley, Goetz, Dyer, Finnigan, Di Virgilio). Goetz made a motion to issue an Order of Conditions with the conditions discussed above in place, seconded by Dyer, the motion carried 5-0-0 (Wiley, Goetz, Dyer, Finnigan, Di Virgilio).

GENERAL BUSINESS/OLD BUSINESS/NEW BUSINESS:

Minutes: Goetz made a motion to accept the executive session minutes of August 9, 2017, seconded by Dyer, the motion carried 5-0-0 (Wiley, Goetz, Dyer, Finnigan Di Virgilio).

Goetz made a motion to accept the minutes of September 27, 2017, seconded by Dyer, the motion carried 5-0-0 (Wiley, Goetz, Dyer, Finnigan Di Virgilio).

Enforcement Orders/ Orders of Non Compliance:

Main St. #1900, DEP #315-1043:

Wiley stated that the fines previously issued to Melissa Young and Jay Santos have been paid in full. Landis Hershey stated that she and Wiley visited the property on 10/04/17 to verify that the fill was removed from the wetlands and buffer zone as required under the Enforcement Order. Landis Hershey stated that she made an inspection of the site after the material was moved on 10/10/17 and work was satisfactorily done, and as of now, the owner needs to put up a fence and "no alteration" signs.

609 Lincoln Rd.:

There is currently no update regarding this property. Conservation Agent Landis Hershey plans to visit the property in October to observe the alterations, and will have an update at the next meeting of October 25, 2017.

Bylaw Edits:

Landis Hershey stated that she is working with Town Counsel and the Town Clerk to determine how to correct a type-o within the Bylaw. It is currently unknown if the small correction will need the Commission to take action or if it needs to go to Town Meeting for a change.

Open Space & Recreation Plan Update:

Landis Hershey stated that she has started working on revisions for this document and is currently waiting to hear from the MACC on a grant for technical assistance for maps and ADA requirements, and will put together a timeline to complete the revised plan.

Roscommon Grant of Restriction:

Landis Hershey explained that this document is to be accepted and signed by the Conservation Commission, and that this is a document required in the Planning Boards' decision that gives the Town the right to access Open Space and Lot 30 parcels, as well as providing approval by the Town of any changes to the CR. This document gives the Town the right to enforce the provisions of the CR, and states the restrictions of the equestrian use on parcel 1 as well as the restrictions of use on the other Open Space parcels. Finnigan made a motion to accept the Grant of Restriction, seconded by Di Virgilio, the motion carried 5-0-0 (Wiley, Goetz, Dyer, Finnigan, Di Virgilio).

Requests for Certificates of Compliance:

Mark Robinson, 7 Boulder Trail, DEP #315-398: As-built plans still need to be submitted, therefore the Certificate of Compliance was not issued at this time.

Walpole Country Club, 233 Baker St., DEP #315-109: This request is currently put on hold until Landis Hershey can inspect the barn and possibly acquire an as-built plan. The project dates back to 1984, and therefore Wiley suggested that an inspection be done, and if an as-built plan is available, it should be submitted.

Paul Zensky, 100 Neponset St., DEP #315-1075: Goetz made a motion to issue a Certificate of Compliance with the continued condition that the plants be maintained, seconded by Dyer, the motion carried 5-0-0 (Wiley, Goetz, Dyer, Finnigan, Di Virgilio).

Requests for Extension:

N/A

Correspondence:

MACC Fall Conference: A flyer was mailed to the Commission stating the MACC Fall Conference date and time.

Board Comment Requests:

Planning Board: 26 Baker Street (Brolly) Definitive 2-Lot Subdivision: It was discussed that if the Applicant plans on making alterations of the road or lot of 40,000 s.f. or more, that they will need to file with the Conservation Commission. There were no other comments at this time.

Dyer made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Di Virgilio. The motion carried 5-0-0 (Wiley, Goetz, Dyer, Finnigan, Di Virgilio). The Commission adjourned at 8:00 PM.