

Conservation Commission Meeting Minutes

May 14, 2014

7:30 PM

Members Present: Candace McCann, Kate Faulkner, Tim Holiner, John Sullivan, Amey Moot, and Associate member Larry Clawson. Absent: John Sheehan and Dave Stapleton. Also present Paul McManus of EcoTec, Inc. and Agent Giunta.

Continued Notices of Intent

144-731 37 Knollwood Drive, home addition - Goli

The applicant, Arezou Goli, was present. A revised plan was presented by Rachel Watsky of Goddard Consulting. Additionally a letter from Scott Goddard was submitted documenting stream conditions. Agent Giunta stated the work proposed is outside the 40' wetland buffer and he recently has observed the stream with very low water. Motion made and seconded to close the hearing and issue a standard Order of Conditions to approve as proposed. Unanimously voted.

144-730 133, 141 Claybrook Road, septic upgrade-Berk

Present for the applicant, Gregory Berk, was Ardi Rrapi, Cheney Engineering. The Commission had a site visit along with Agent Giunta on Thursday, May 8th at 5 pm. After brief discussion, a motion was made to close the hearing and issue a standard Order of Conditions for the plan as noted showing the trees on the plan. Seconded and unanimously voted.

Discussion

46 Springdale Ave – 61A property

Present: Jim Snyder, owner 46 Springdale Ave
Attorney William Pezzoni of Day Pitney, LLP

Discussion of jurisdictional areas on the property as potential vernal pool, bordering vegetative wetland, stream, wet meadow, mapped flood plain and wooded swamp. Portions of the stream show lack of flow and most of the property is upland and fields. Further discussion of potential Conservation value to maintain as habitat and property maintained as open space. A management plan would be necessary to maintain as a meadow with mowing in the fall. If the pond has no fish and does not go dry, that may be the most productive vernal pool. The Commission noted additional importance of the openness of the field as a valuable example of Dover history. It was stated the total recreational value is increased as this property connects with other protected properties managed by Army Corps of Engineers and Dover Land Conservation Trust. There are wetlands, streams and springs also water quality benefits as the stream flows into Dover Water source. If the land is developed would the perimeter protect the integrity of the land and the water quality. Discussion of Environmental Impact Study. It was stated endangered species have been observed on the property. It was also noted those should be reported to NHESP, Mass Wildlife. A general scope of study for Paul McManus would be the wildlife habitat value of this piece of land, or the scope of the assessment may be more detailed. The Planning Board is investigating access for the town. DLCT is investigating as well. Paul McManus will send Jim Snyder and Attorney Pezzoni a proposal letter to access the property for an environmental study of the 61A property and the lot in front of it. To be a permanent benefit this land will have a CR on it. It is believed this land will qualify for a Conservation Restriction due to both water supply and the ecologically unique landscape. In addition a trail would provide public access through an existing trail system.

Motion made to ask the Paul McManus of EcoTec, to submit proposal to Conservation Commission and Jim Snyder for the study of the property at 46 Springdale Ave. Draft Proposal shall include scope and work. Also, draft letter to Mr. Snyder for permission to work on his property. Both shall be distributed for revisions or corrections without comments or discussion (to be discussed at May 28 meeting). Seconded and unanimously voted in favor.

A study of the property may include wetland delineation, vernal pool evaluation, wildlife impact, GIS mapping, stream status, and watershed status. A joint meeting of commissions and boards will be held on June 26, 2014 at 6:30 pm. Board of Selectmen requested comment letters by June 18th.

23 Miller Hill Rd., Enforcement Order – Straus

Present: Rachel Watsky, Goddard Consulting
Joan Roth, abutter
Phil Straus, owner 23 Miller Hill Rd
Ardi Rrapi, Cheney Engineering

Rachel Watsky observed the stream and pond looking very healthy. In the wetland area on 23 Miller Hill there are small pockets of silt. Proposed removal would be to rake or shovel and then seed, depending on the depth of silt pocket, after the wet season ends. Ardi Rrapi said there is a trench around the dirt pile and a collection area on site for any rainwater. Rachel referred to her memo dated 5/5/14 with observations and recommendations. The homeowners will be doing the work by hand and will be monitored by Goddard Consulting and Agent Giunta. Motion made, seconded and unanimously voted to rescind the motion made at the previous meeting issuing fines of \$300 per day. Going forward Goddard Consulting shall submit in writing the depth of the digging and planting details for the areas of silt. Motion made to accept the restoration plan, and grant permission to work in the wetland conditional on details of criteria to remove silt and all plantings to be presented at next meeting 5/28/14.

Minutes – Motion made, seconded and unanimously voted to accept the minutes of 4/30/14.

Agent's Report

Agent Giunta requested clarification on tree removal. The Commission confirmed their policy allowing Agent Giunta to authorize removal of 1 tree if in his opinion it appears diseased, dead, or poses a danger. Tree removal requests for more than 1 tree must file an Request for Determination of Applicability.

Meeting adjourned at 9:45 pm.
Respectfully Submitted,

Lori Hagerty
Administrative Assistant