



TOWN OF MENDON
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
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Meeting Date: 24-03-14

Meeting Location: Hybrid Teams / 2nd Floor Meeting Room

Minutes Approved: 24-04-11

Members Present: Carl Hommel, Bob Sweet, Lea Whiting, Peter Coffin, Mike Ammendolia

Members Remote: Susan Cahalan

Members Absent: Tim Aicardi

Conservation Agent: Isabella Genova

Others: Angelo Guillarducci, Timothy Avizinis (Avizinis Environmental Services)

Remote: Adam Brodsky (Environmental Lawyer Rt. 85 Realty), Edward Avizinis (Avizinis Environmental Services)

Recording: <https://youtu.be/rwwDJcK04jA?si=pGcE7kBCiBP-c4U1>

Quorum met at 7:00 and the recording started. The meeting is called to order by Chair Carl Hommel and the Conservation Commission members introduce themselves. Lea Whiting, Mike Ammendolia, Bob Sweet, Susan Cahalan (remote).

Correspondence

Mass DEP Basement Flooding Survey has been posted on the ConCom website.

Finances

Spent \$195 for Commissioners Lea and Susan to attend the MACC Environmental Conference.

Chair Carl updates Commission on the Select Board meeting on 3/13 regarding the Commission's FY25 budget and making the Conservation Agent position full-time.

Agent Updates

New checklists for Notice of Intent and Request for Determination of Applicability checklists, and a meeting schedule to be uploaded on the town website.

45 - 49 Uxbridge Rd

Present was Adam Brodsky (Environmental Lawyer rep Rt. 85 Realty).

Conservation Agent Isabella gave an update on SWPPP reports. Inspection occurred on 3/7 where Isabella and Bob observed a sediment blowout by the upper stream crossing and slight discoloration in the upper BVW. The SWPPP inspector has stated that the sediment has been removed and additional controls installed, and discoloration is not currently a concern, most likely due to the wood chip berm.

Chair Carl updates the Commission that the Planning Board has been notified of the concern for the stormwater analysis and has requested Graves Engineering to review the site. Carl suggests the Commission discuss if the required peer review should be limited to not review the stormwater analysis.

Adam Brodsky states that both the site manager John Nenart and Tom Schutz of Goddard Consulting had other commitments that evening. Mr. Brodsky states that John Nenart is agreeable to review of the restoration proposals but is against the broadening of that review to stormwater or erosion controls.

Chair Carl entertains a motion for the agent to reach out to the consultants and request an amended quote reviewing restoration plans. Moved by Mike, seconded by Bob, passes unanimously.

Peter Coffin arrives.

13 Bellingham St

Present is property owner Angelo Guillarducci, Edward Avizinis, CPSS, PSS, of Avizinis Environmental Services (AES) and Timothy Avizinis.

Introduction by Edward for the restoration plan submitted by AES for 13 Bellingham St. The restoration is for the encroachment into the wetland area with fill, tree clearing, and a steep riprap slope in the buffer zone. Edward provided historical LIDAR imagery of the site, showing that in 1927 there was a road along the current extent of fill. The were overlay layers of the original approved Limit of Disturbance and the current LOD. The applicant proposes extending the approved Limit of Disturbance to the top of the current rip rap slope and creating a vegetated barrier of Rhododendron. Any sedimentation that has deposited in the wetland shall be removed and fill shall be removed around currently buried trees, at least four of them.

Peter expressed concern for the steep rip rap slope at a 3:1 ratio, for both safety and erosion into the wetland. Edward suggests leaving the riprap as is to provide stability for the property and decking, as the riprap is on the buffer zone directly adjacent to the bordering vegetated wetland. The slope will be seeded to stabilize the stone further with vegetation and roots. There will be a silt fence along the toe slope during restoration work. Lea asks if the applicant has a supplier for Rhododendron and whether they had alternatives for the plants chosen. Additional conditions would be the location for stockpiling removed fill.

Chair entertains a motion to approve the restoration plan as an administrative permit. Moved by Peter, seconded by Mike, passes unanimously.

69 Mowry St

Present is property owner Sue Decoster.

Sue received a beaver removal permit from the Board of Health and is requesting an emergency certification for dam removal from the Conservation Commission. The beaver dam extends from her property following the stone wall across the utility company right of way. There is currently about 4 ft of water around the utility poles and the water has been flooding her property. Commissioners Carl, Lea, and Bob, along with agent Isabella conducted a site walk on 3/14 to view the site. Sue is requesting permission for Rick Merchant and Mike Calahan to install a pond leveler to reduce the pond height, as beavers tend to return to this site.

Bob makes a motion to issue an emergency certification for the installation of a beaver pond leveler as a measure of water control, seconded by Peter, passes unanimously. Lea abstains.

Sylvan Springs

Reviewed Stormwater Prevention Pollution Plan for 24-03-01.

Conservation Restriction Updates

Isabella reports that the Community Preservation Committee has voted to cover the cost for reinstalling the iron pins at 43 Quissett Rd, and they will be installed the week of the 18th.

Chair Carl presents the draft CR for Maple Farm. The main concern is the designation of the primary/secondary Grantees with Metacomet Land Trust. Metacomet will be primary and Town of Mendon secondary. If the primary ceased to exist, the primary would become Mass Audobon. This will be further discussed with Metacomet.

Town Counsel still must review the Gaskill CR draft.

Vegetated Swales Best Management Practices

Lea would like to adopt best management practices for vegetated grass swales with native plants and require biodegradable swales for erosion control measures.

Building Permits

RES-24-18, RES-24-19, RES-24-20, 134 North Ave – on hold

RES-24-55, 93 Northbridge St – on hold, add 12"x24" garage bay to existing garage within the 100' buffer.

Conservation Agent Reports

Scheduling inspections with open Order of Conditions.

Meeting dates for November and December will be decided later in the year.

Review and approve Minutes

Motion to approve minutes from 24-02-22 by Bob, seconded by Lea, passed unanimously.

Motion to approve minutes from 23-04-13, 23-04-27, 23-05-11, 23-05-25, 23-06-08, 23-07-13, by Peter, seconded by Mike, Lea abstained, passed unanimously.

Items not reasonably anticipated 48 hours in advance of the meeting

Motion to adjourn by Bob seconded by Lea, passed unanimously, 9:01pm.