

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

STEPHEN WASHBURN, CHAIRMAN
CATHERINE WALSH, VICE CHAIR
CARLY ROCKLEN, TREASURER
JOHN GEAR
HEATHER MILLER
PETER BAMBER



**ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNER/
CONSERVATION AGENT**
HOLLY JONES, MSCI

OFFICE MANAGER/SR. ADMIN. ASST.
LYNN MARCHAND

Conservation Commission Meeting Minutes

February 2, 2022

7:30 P.M.

Hybrid Meeting –Town Hall, Rm. 24

& GoToMeeting <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/243297997>

Present:

Stephen Washburn, Catherine Walsh, Carly Rocklen, John Gear, Peter Bamber, Heather Miller

Also Present: Holly Jones, Environmental Planner/Conservation Agent.

The February 2, 2022 meeting was conducted in a hybrid manner with members meeting in Town Hall, Room 24 and remotely via the GoToMeeting software. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Stephen Washburn at 7:00 p.m. followed by a roll call.

Public Hearings:

1. 87 Plantation Circle Notice of Intent No. 251-0531 N2021-14

Applicant: Daniel Cook Representative: Mitch Maslanka, Goddard Consulting, LLC
Project Description: The addition of a 2-story garage, back deck, and front and rear porches within buffer zone to bordering vegetated wetlands.

The Chair opened the public hearing and read the project description into the record.

Mr. Daniel Cook displayed a revised plan. He reviewed the changes made including the attached shed and 2 options for the erosion and sediment control plan.

Ms. Jones said the plan has been altered in a way that meets regulations. The patio and gazebo were the only questionable aspects of the changes but Ms. Jones did not think they would significantly impact the wetlands. Mr. Cook discussed the stormwater and how the design would improve the existing conditions.

No members of the public were present to speak to the proposed project.

Ms. Jones noted a written letter from a direct abutter requesting that any project would not increase runoff onto their property. Mr. Cook said permeable pavement and Arborvitae would improve the existing drainage.

Ms. Jones: markers are noted on plan but could be included as a condition, surveyor will complete the as-built but won't be able to attest to the stormwater so scheduled site visits should be a condition. The Commission thanked Mr. Cook for the attention to details and his cooperation.

Motion: Ms. Walsh made a motion to close the public hearing and issue an Order of Conditions (as described by Ms. Jones). Mr. Bamber seconded the motion.

Motion passed unanimously, 5-0 by roll call vote.

Potential Violations:

1. 1400 Washington St. –unpermitted fill and clearing

Ms. Jones reviewed the violation details noting a complaint from a neighbor that led her to the landscaping yard on Washington St, located on border with Walpole, near the Neponset River. She observed unpermitted clearing and fill over the cliff into the buffer zone, which appeared to be getting into the flood plain of the Neponset River.

The owner, Mr. Capone, brought in a letter from a wetland scientist who had flagged the river and determined via Google Earth that it was most likely not in the floodplains. Ms. Jones noted that there is fill in the riverfront area and floodplains. Mr. Capone stated that much of it was put there by the previous owner of the property. Ms. Jones recommended an Enforcement Order to remove the fill in a way that was safe and to ensure the activity does not continue in the future. She replied to Mr. Bamber's question regarding a plan stating that they had received a letter not no plan. Ms. Jones explained that the activity is definitely within the riverfront which extends up to the building and shared her screen to show the area being discussed.

Mr. Capone will work with Ms. Jones on a resolution/plan. Ms. Jones and the Commission set a site visit date on Saturday, February 5th at 12:00 p.m. to view the property in order to determine what is historical fill and what is more recent.

Conservation Commission Business:

1. Commission membership update

Ms. Jones stated that she and the General Manager had a promising interview with a potential new Commissioner, who would be appointed in April. She announced that Ms. Miller will be moving to New York and resigning from the Commission in a month or so.

2. Endean Orchard Subcommittee update

400lbs of lime were procured and spread but they weren't able to spread woodchips before the snowstorm. Ms. Jones said another soil test in the summer would be useful.

Ms. Jones updated the bringing together of the interested groups to coordinate their efforts and form a friends group. Ms. Jones said she would invite them to the next meeting per request of the Commission. Discussion was had about involvement with food organizations (food pantries etc.)

3. CPC report

Ms. Walsh: All applications are in, presentations have begun, they met last Wed, and Ms. Jones joined them. She updated the Commission on some of the discussions of the 4 applicants that did their presentations. On Feb 9th and 16th the Committee will get an update from the airport and the other 5 projects to be evaluated.

4. 150 trees for 150th anniversary

Ms. Jones touched base with Mr. Ryan/DPW Director and the Facilities Director. Both were excited about the potential about planting larger trees on Town property, and noted there were plenty of places they could go. The said the Sustainability Committee had a list of "hot spots" in Town and felt the tree procurement and planting would have to be accomplished with a lot of partnerships not just the Commission or DPW. They suggested asking and assisting Progress Norwood to see if the 150th Committee could support it/publish companies giving donations, asking the Committee to contribute towards the effort, and also help with the outreach.

Ms. Walsh mentioned a group called Tree-plenish (<https://www.tree-plenish.org/>), suggested involving schools with the planting, selling bricks, and a strategy of tiered-giving (saplings to

large trees) so that many people can contribute in different ways. She will also reach out to Ms. Deb Holmwood.

5. Agent update

Ms. Jones: She discussed the dam removal and a tentative date of Feb 9th in am for the dam to come down. Commissioners are invite to come down to observe if interested. She said she will know the time by the end of the week, where to park, and PPE needed.

Ms. Jones said she attended the Board of Selectmen meeting on Tuesday to discuss the stormwater bylaw article for the March 14th Town Meeting. The Selectmen unanimously endorsed/recommended affirmative action of the stormwater bylaw article.

Ms. Jones said she would be doing a presentation about the article next Thursday at the Library, via Zoom with NepRWA.

Adjournment:

Motion: Mr. Bamber made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Gear seconded the motion.

Motion passed unanimously, 5-0 by roll call vote.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 7:35 p.m.

Next hybrid meeting: February 16, 2022 at 7:30 p.m. Location: Town Hall Room 24 & via GoToMeeting