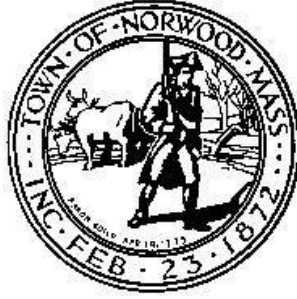


**CONSERVATION COMMISSION**  
STEPHEN WASHBURN, CHAIRMAN  
CATHERINE WALSH, VICE-CHAIR  
CARLY ROCKLEN, TREASURER  
PETER BAMBER  
JOHN GEAR  
KELSEY QUINLAN



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

**ADMINISTRATOR/OFFICE MANAGER**  
LYNN MARCHAND

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## Conservation Commission Meeting Minutes

May 4th, 2022  
7:30 P.M.

**Present: Stephen Washburn, Catherine Walsh, Carly Rocklen, John Gear, Peter Bamber, Kelsey Quinlan**  
**Also Present: Holly Jones, Environmental Planner/Conservation Agent.**

The May,4 2022 meeting was held remotely using GoToMeeting software.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Stephen Washburn at 7:30 p.m. followed by a roll call.

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### Public Hearings:

1. **Off of Neponset St. and behind 290 Vanderbilt Street. DEP No. 251-0535 N2022-03**  
**Applicant: Massachusetts Water Resource Authority Representative: Christine Walsh of CDW Consultants**  
**Project Description: Repair and Maintenance of siphon structures and construction of an access road from the shoulder of Neponset St, and improvement of access road behind 290 Vanderbilt Ave. The project is in bordering vegetated wetland, riverfront area, and bordering land subject to flooding.**

Ms. Jones encourages the Commission to issue a continuance until May 18<sup>th</sup>.

**Motion: Mr. Bamber made a motion to continue this at a time to be determined.**

**Mr. Gear seconded the motion.**

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

2. **1125 Boston Providence Turnpike Request for Determination of Applicability N2022-05**  
**Applicant: Hobbs Brook Real Estate LLC Representative: Scott Turner of Environmental Partners Group, LLC**  
**Project Description: construction and demolition project outside of regulated resource areas but on a parcel subject to on-going conditions from a previous Order of Conditions.**

Mr. Turner introduces himself on behalf of Hawes Brook Real Estate. The project is for work at the FM Global Campus on Boston Providence Turnpike. The project involves tearing down an existing 43,000 square foot building and constructing a 160,000 square foot building on site and is in planning stages now- putting plans together to file with Planning Board. Mr. Turner states everything done will be outside of jurisdictional areas- 100 feet from wetlands and 100-year floodplain- shares his screen and shows details of the plan.

Mr. Turner states FM Global would like to tear down existing building 22 and then construct a new building. There is a storm water management on site with minimal infiltration. The construction will reorient the parking and increase green space by 1/3 acre. All the storm water generated by the sites will be collected and discharged to underground infiltration system.

Mr. Turner references a meeting with Ms. Jones and Mr. Halkiotis and an RDA was considered applicable for the project. Mr. Gear asks if during the demolition phase there any debris or materials will be stockpiled in the area. Mr. Turner states no, that is not their plan right now and they do not plan to do anything within any jurisdictional area.

Ms. Jones states that it's a good project that will improve existing conditions of the site. Ms. Jones will also be reviewing the plan when it comes before the Planning Board to make sure it meets all conditions. No members of the community have comments.

**Motion: Mr. Bamber made a motion to issue a negative determination of applicability.**

**Mr. Gear seconded the motion.**

**Motion passed unanimously, 6-0 by roll call vote. (Ms. Walsh joined the meeting.)**

## **Wetland Issues and Updates:**

### **1. CoC request: 47 Orleans Road DEP No. 251-0524 Norwood No. N2021-05**

Mr. Russell Waldron is here as a representative for the owner. Mr. Waldron states the yard was leveled a little bit more than originally proposed and the stone infiltration fence was moved down but that Ms. Jones approved of it all at a site visit during the week.

Ms. Jones agrees with what Mr. Waldron shared; the site is stabilized, and the pool was built substantially to plan more than 50 feet away from resources areas. Changes were made to plan after consulting with Ms. Jones.

**Motion: Ms. Walsh made a motion to issue a Certificate of Compliance.**

**Mr. Gear seconded the motion.**

**Motion passed unanimously, 6-0 by roll call vote.**

## **Potential Violations:**

### **1. 1400 Washington St. –unpermitted fill and clearing**

Ms. Jones states she wanted to leave room for Ms. Rocklen to raise more discussion and comments. None of the side of the hill has eroded but quite a lot of debris is embedded in the cliff. A lot of debris is not landscape specific and could be from the previous owner of the property; if that's the case it is past its statute and difficult to show. Mr. Copponi texted Ms. Jones a photo of a "No Dumping" sign he had installed. Ms. Jones plans to suggest some options to Mr. Copponi that are not time or resource intensive to diminish run off from the hill.

Ms. Rocklen states in an ideal world it would be seeded with native plant seeds that would help hold the soil in place and compete against exotic invasive species, but they are past the time of being able to request that as the statute has expired. Ms. Jones speaks to the Wetlands Protection Act limitations- when a property changes hands there is three years to address Wetlands Protection Acts violations and after that it closes. Ms. Jones states the commission could require removing some fill but that it's up to them- it's a lesson in requiring fully comprehensive thought-out plan from the start instead of doing things in smaller steps. Requiring seeding could be tied to fill that has presumably been put there by Mr. Copponi but Mr. Copponi has put substantial resources into removing tons of fill that was there and this has been a very drawn-out process, so Ms. Jones preference is to close this. The Chairman agrees.

Ms. Rocklen agrees and states the native seed mix would have to be shade tolerant.

Ms. Jones states it can be handled administratively and no formal vote is needed.

### **2. Off of University Ave—behind 825 University Ave—unpermitted work in wetland**

Ms. Jones states a letter was received that representatives would be at the meeting tonight and potentially provide the Commission with a schedule for filing a NOI. Mr. Shawn Callaghan is the representative present. Mr. Callaghan provides a background on the enforcement order and that they are in the process of securing and reviewing additional historical documentation and data of the property and Ms. Jones has been very helpful in aiding that. Mr. Callaghan states there is an NOI from 2016 to drop by the office tomorrow and pick up- but they have pretty much everything else except a 1998 Order of Conditions. They are still in the gathering and reviewing documents stage, and the applicants take this process very seriously.

Mr. Callaghan states next steps will be going out to the site and getting survey of property, initial assessments seem like some clearing was done within the buffer zone and perhaps there is some impact to wetlands. Here today to ask for more time to get people out to the field and continue process.

The Chairman asks how long they realistically need to finish the investigation and prepare an NOI for restoration work. Mr. Callaghan states that within the next month or month in a half field work could be completed but an exact date is hard to state. The Chairman asks Ms. Jones to confirm there is a ConCom meeting June 1<sup>st</sup> and Ms. Jones states there are meetings the 1<sup>st</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> of June after that the next meeting is July 6<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Bamber states he does not want to go past June 15<sup>th</sup> without a response and Mr. Gear agrees that is reasonable.

Mr. Callaghan is concerned about the date as the surveyors are booked out 4-6 weeks out so it seems pretty tight according to him. Mr. Bamber asks if this is a violation and Ms. Jones states yes. Mr. Bamber states then they should find another surveyor and get it done in that time frame and Ms. Walsh agrees. Mr. Callaghan asks clarifying questions and Ms. Jones responds.

**Motion: Ms. Walsh made a motion to revise the enforcement order approving a new deadline of June 15<sup>th</sup> for the NOI to be filed and received detailing restoration plans and the extent of impacts to wetland resources.**

**Mr. Bamber seconded the motion.**

**Motion passed unanimously, 6-0 by roll call vote.**

### **Conservation Commission Business:**

#### **1. Mylod St Orchard/Food Forest Eagle Scout Project—Charles Resker**

Ms. Jones states Charles Resker the Eagle Scout is unable to make this meeting but should be at the next one and is super flexible to what his project could be and what it could include. The Chairman states the ramp and stairs proposal sounds phenomenal. Ms. Walsh agrees and thinks the ramp and the bench would be productive. Ms. Rocklen agrees it sounds great to make it a community space. Mr. Gear would like to see in the future some sort of bench type amphitheater to host outdoor classrooms to allow students to enjoy nature. Ms. Jones will run the idea by Charles but it might be a lot to do in addition to the ramp. Ms. Walsh suggests putting ideas on Mr. Greeley's radar, so he is aware.

#### **2. Endean Orchard Subcommittee update**

Ms. Walsh states that the workday on Sunday 5/1 was very fun and a great turnout. Ms. Jones agrees it was a great neighborhood event. Rachel Weber was there from Helping Norwood and it was at the same time as the community garden workday which was nice.

The DPW also replaced the apple tree, and a lot of woodchips were spread. The K Meg and peas were planted. Waiting for companion plants until June when they are all available.

#### **3. CPC report**

Ms. Walsh had a work meeting during CPC so will provide an update at next meeting.

#### **4. CPC/general open space planning and outreach**

Ms. Rocklen states she has been noticing several Norwood residents are upset with development of wooded parcels and thought it would be helpful to have community teaching and learning about it and be more proactive about conserving their undeveloped land. The Chairman suggests a presentation at the library. Mr. Bamber agrees that it's important to be in the forefront because by the time people react to developers its too late. Ms. Quinlan agrees that multiple channels are needed to access residents and it would be important to put the presentation on the town website. Ms. Walsh totally agrees. Mr. Gear asks Ms. Jones if it would make sense to ask Selectman or Planning Board what they are looking for in those areas.

Ms. Jones states last year outreach looked like the town website, social media, press release to the record and flyer at Norwood Day all put together by Sarah Bouchard. Ms. Bouchard thinks it would be great to start that process earlier in the year. Ms. Rocklen thinks it would be good to tie in Sustainability Action Plan and folks on Sustainability Commission and discuss the benefits of conserved open space in Norwood.

Ms. Jones states her inclination is to allow the CPC to take the lead and provide support to them. After Town Meeting checking in and offering them assistance is the best method. Separate from the CPC other outreach events could be done with the Sustainability Commission.

Ms. Rocklen states there is also the Trails Committee and conservation easements could be created to manage the land and collaborate. Mr. Bamber states it would be beneficial to potentially have this on the agenda for the ConCom meeting after Town Meeting and the Chairman asks Ms. Walsh to check in with the CPC if they would want to host that meeting and lead it. Ms. Walsh will raise this at the next CPC meeting.

#### **5. Agent update**

Ms. Jones states an update on the Pezwick Park dam removal that has been going successfully but getting tight to the end of the fiscal year, so she is keeping pressure on contractors to wrap it up. The Governor's office approved the states recommendation to the federal government for the Land and Water Conservation Grants for this year. The Bernie Cooper River front park was approved, and the grant is 50% funding for the cost of the park. Ms. Jones walked through Meadow Street and there is potential loop for a trail that will be discussed at the next meeting with a representative who has already started a trail.

There is an informal gathering planned for Wednesday May 25<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Gear asked how much of the road the contractor created to do the work is going to be removed. Ms. Jones responds that its supposed to all come out but that the contractor is willing to leave it there if the ConCom wants to keep it, will add it to the next agenda for discussion.

The Chairman asks if there is update on Ms. Jones reclassification request; the personnel board is scheduled to meet on May 11<sup>th</sup> about it.

6. **Minutes**

No minutes pending review.

**Adjournment:**

**Motion: Mr. Bamber made a motion to adjourn.**

**Ms. Walsh seconded the motion.**

**Motion passed unanimously, 6-0 by roll call vote.**

Meeting adjourned at approximately 8:44 p.m.

Next remote meeting: May 18, 2022 at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Olivia Haglund.