

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

STEPHEN WASHBURN, CHAIRMAN
CATHERINE WALSH, VICE CHAIR
CARLY ROCKLEN, TREASURER
JOHN GEAR
PETER BAMBER
KELSEY QUINLAN
OLIVIA HAGLUND



ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNER/
CONSERVATION AGENT
HOLLY JONES, MSCI

OFFICE MANAGER/SR. ADMIN. ASST.
LYNN MARCHAND

Norwood Conservation Commission Meeting Minutes October 5, 2021 7:30 P.M.

Present: Catherine Walsh, John Gear, Peter Bamber, Kelsey Quinlan
Also Present: Holly Jones, Environmental Planner/Conservation Agent

The October 5, 2022 meeting was held remotely using GoToMeeting software and in person in Room 24 of Norwood Town Hall.

The meeting was called to order by Acting Chairperson, Catherine Walsh, at 7:30 p.m.

Public Hearings:

1. 140 Morgan Drive Notice of Intent DEP No. 251-0539 N2022-16

Applicant: Home Market Foods Representative: Susanne Pisano of GeoInsight
Project Description: Addition of an industrial wastewater treatment tank and 2 building additions along with a wetland restoration area related to a previous hazardous material release clean-up

Mr. Will Sexton of GeoInsight and Ms. Masiel Calabrese from Home Market Foods were present. Mr. Sexton gave a brief overview of the project describing the proposed construction of a 242,000 gallon wastewater equalization tank, a 3,500 square foot addition to house the new wastewater treatment equipment, and a 1,800 square foot addition for the new refrigeration equipment. Parking would be located on the south side of the building. There would be new impervious surfaces in that area that would manage the on-site infiltration basin located on the southwest area of the site. He noted that some of the cut & fill areas were on bordering lands subject to flooding. Mr. Sexton discussed wetland restoration to address a previous spill of hydraulic oil that occurred in the northeast area of the site, near a catch basin, that resulted in excavation of some impacted sediment in that area.

Commissioners reviewed the site plan, asked questions, and expressed concern regarding the tank location in proximity to the wetlands. Mr. Gear asked what were in the tanks. Mr. Sexton stated that it was treated-wastewater/non-hazardous water being allowed to settle/final settling of solids before they are discharged to the sanitary sewer. He said there were currently 3 fractionation tanks in the area which hold approximately 30,000 gallons and were used for equalization. Discussion was had regarding secondary containment. Mr. Bamber asked for specs on the tank which Mr. Sexton said he would provide. Ms. Calabrese stated that the particulate removal happens earlier in the process via a rotary screen. She stated that everything is screened out before it is goes to the next phase and that it is equalized in the tanks before it goes into final processing for pH adjustment. She stated that separation of oil, grease, and any solids happen on the inside of the building.

Ms. Jones said her concern was with the basin in the corner and the compensatory storage being on a sewer easement. Ms. Jones stated she had a conversation with the DPW Director who was

going to review the plan. Mr. Sexton said he can provide book and page information of the legal reference giving the property owner the right to build in that area. Ms. Jones responded that she would like to hear from the DPW Director and noted that there may be a need for sewer protection from heavy equipment.

Ms. Jones said the project proposes a cut into the 25' no disturb and on the curb path. She recommended substantial revegetation, loaming, and seeding. Regarding the area of wetland replication, Ms. Jones stated that she had a difficult time accessing the area during the site walk due to briars and poison ivy. She said there may be a better location for it and that it could be combined with the compensatory flood storage area which already would need to be disturbed. Mr. Bamber agreed and said it might be more successful there.

**Motion: Mr. Bamber made a motion to continue to October 19th.
Mr. Gear seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously, 4-0 by roll call vote.**

Wetlands Issues and Updates:

1. Certificate of Compliance Request: 420-442 Walpole St. Dep File No. 251-0517 N2020-06

Ms. Jones discussed the Big Y property and the previous meeting's focus on the landscape islands to infiltrate some of the stormwater. She noted an email, from someone associated with the project, who indicated that the owner was interested in elevating the catch basins which would allow water to perk into the landscaping and then eventually overflow into the catch basins. Ms. Jones suggested having the engineer to recommend the appropriate height to raise it. A concern was made about ponding. Ms. Jones recommended asking for more detail from the engineer. The Commissioners requested that Ms. Jones reach out to the engineer for more analysis and detail.

**Motion: Mr. Bamber made a motion to continue the complaint to October 19th.
Mr. Gear seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously, 4-0 by roll call vote.**

2. Complaints -46 Brook Street and end of 6th Street

46 Brook Street: A complaint was received regarding the potential for lawn-mower creep. Ms. Jones noted a wetland buffer on the property. She said the owner is the also the developer and she had requested that he stake out the limit of work before mowing, which he agreed to do.

119 6th Street: Ms. Jones said there was a violation earlier in the year, near Meadowbrook, where unpermitted tree cutting on their property and the town property took place. The owner planted forsythia bushes as their restoration plan which created a boundary marker. Ms. Jones said a site visit confirmed that they were doing additional grading and that the bushes were now gone. She spoke with the property owner who said he plans to loam and replant since the bushes died during the drought over the summer. He stated that the work would be completed within 2 weeks. Ms. Jones said she wanted to make Commission aware and to ask for any additional action that they may want. Commissioners agreed to discuss it at the next meeting to see what progress has been made.

Conservation Commission Business:

1. Endean Orchard Subcommittee update

Ms. Jones updated the Commissioners on her Cavicchio purchases which included 3 large trees (2 apple and 1 plum tree), 4 smaller trees (two paw paws and two cherries), 45 bushes (nitrogen fixing companion bushes), and some fruit bushes (beach plums, blueberries, and elderberries).

DPW will plant 3 largest trees tomorrow morning. Ms. Jones said she will help plant shrubs tomorrow and asked for volunteers on social media to assist with planting. She noted that October 29th was a regular orchard work day, 10 am to 12 pm and that there was a spooky trail walk at 2:00 on the same day.

2. CPC report -No report.

- 3. Agent update Conservation Planner and Agent, Ms. Jones:**
MACC Conference 10/15.
Ellis Pond work day & Butterfly Garden work day, October 22nd.

4. Board Business

Discussion was had regarding a CPC application for a workshop series similar to the previous held edible plants workshop but unfortunately the workshop series would not fall under CPC's criteria; acquire, protect, preserve, restore. Ms. Jones said as an alternative she had put together a Cultural Council grant application.

Mr. Gear suggested allocating funds from the Commissions' Land Conservation Fund for potential future purchases. Discussion was had regarding monies kept in the same account but tracked separately via project codes. Ms. Jones explained that the reason for separate tracking was due to CPC money having some restrictions and reporting obligations. A suggestion was made to try for \$10,000 from the CPC (to be vetted by the CPC and Town Meeting) in addition to the \$10,000 from the General Fund. Ms. Quinlan agreed for advocating for a larger amount due to the increased cost of land.

Motion I: Mr. Bamber made a motion to approve applying for the application to CPC for \$10,000.

Mr. Gear seconded the motion. Motion passed, 4-0 by roll call vote.

Motion II: Mr. Bamber made a motion to approve applying for the application to Cultural Council for \$1,200.

Mr. Gear seconded the motion. Motion passed, 4-0 by roll call vote.

5. Minutes: 9/21/2022

Motion: Mr. Bamber made a motion to continue.

Mr. Gear seconded the motion. Motion passed, 4-0 by roll call vote.

6. Executive Session

Acting Chair Catherine Walsh stated that pursuant to MGL Chapter 30A Section 21a-3, it is necessary for the Conservation Commission to enter into executive session to consider the purchase, exchange, lease or value of real property if the Chair declares that an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the public body. The Commission will not reconvene at the conclusion of the executive session. The Chair asked for a motion.

Motion: Mr. Bamber made a motion to convene in executive session for the purpose stated.

Mr. Gear seconded the motion. Motion passed, 4-0 by roll call vote.

The Chair invited Ms. Jones and Ms. Marchand to attend the executive session.

The Commission entered into executive session at approximately 8:06 p.m.

Next meeting: October 19, 2022 at 7:30 p.m. Location: Hybrid, GoToMeeting and Rm. 24/Town Hall.

Respectfully Submitted by Lynn Marchand