

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, MSCJ

OFFICE MANAGER/SR. ADMIN. ASST.
LYNN MARCHAND

Norwood Conservation Commission Meeting Minutes October 19, 2021 7:30 P.M.

Present: Stephen Washburn, Catherine Walsh, Carly Rocklen, John Gear, Peter Bamber, Kelsey Quinlan, Olivia Haglund

Also Present: Holly Jones, Environmental Planner/Conservation Agent

The October 19, 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 Chairman Stephen Washburn at 7:30 p.m. followed by a roll call.

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. Sexton began with an overview of the project stating that there would be an addition to a wastewater process water equalization tank and 2 building additions; one for the wastewater treatment equipment and the other for refrigeration equipment. He stated that as part of the expansion for the tanks and the building, there was a Planning Board requirement to increase the amount of parking onsite which will be added on the south portion of the site. He described the stormwater plan redesigned to handle the stormwater runoff generated from the new impervious surface.

Mr. Sexton said there would be an area of filling of bordering land subject to flooding of the 54 and 53 foot elevation contour. He showed the location of the proposed compensatory storage areas in the south-west portion of the site near the infiltration gallery and the location of the wetlands restoration area which he explained was related to a hazardous building materials' release and cleanup. Based on conversations with the Commission, the wetland restoration was relocated to the compensatory storage area. Mr. Sexton reviewed the changes with the Commission on the revised plans. Discussion was had regarding location, planting/species, existing vegetation including exotic invasive species, the location of the sewer, and the berm. Ms. Jones stated that she would like a signoff from DPW regarding the grading.

Ms. Jones noted that DPW issued a memo to the Planning Board, indicating the need to remove the berm from the sewer easement. Mr. Sexton said they would likely modify the proposed grading by reshaping the footprint of the basin. Ms. Jones also noted that DPW wanted the compensatory storage area removed from the sewer easement.

Mr. Sexton acknowledged that a portion of the 50' no build zone was where the proposed fill for the new parking would be located. Ms. Jones said that the Commission has discretion to allow for pervious pavement within the 50' no build zone, however, if the area is not currently paved then it does not meet the Commission's 50' buffer zone standard.

Mr. Sexton said the proposed fill area was roughly 300k cubic feet.

Mr. Washburn noted that a final plan needed to be provided before the Commission could make a decision.

Motion: Mr. Bamber made a motion to continue to November 2nd at a time to be determined. Mr. Gear seconded the motion.

Motion passed unanimously, 7-0 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 recapped the Big Y project related to the stormwater construction. She noted that the Commission had asked the new owners to make the islands function closer to the intention of providing infiltration and treatment.

She said they responded by putting a ring on the grates of the catch basins that would create a small amount of ponding in those basins, allowing time for infiltration. Ms. Jones noted that there were concerns from the owners regarding the ponding.

Mr. Bamber expressed that there should be no CoC issued until they are in compliance and that they needed to raise the grade of the grate by an inch.

Commissioners reviewed a picture of the island, grate, and basin in comparison to the original design plan. Discussion was had and Ms. Jones said she would request that the engineer attend the next meeting.

Motion: Mr. Bamber made a motion to continue to the next meeting at a time to be determined. Ms. Walsh seconded the motion.

Motion passed unanimously, 7-0 by roll call vote.

Conservation Commission Business:

1. Endean Orchard Subcommittee update

Ms. Jones updated the Commission on the extensive planting that was done; 3 large trees – apples & plum, and 4 smaller trees –cherries and Paw Paw, 45 native nitrogen fixing companion shrubbery, elderberries, beach plums, blueberries, and 2 sea kales donated by Mr. Mark Negron.

Ms. Jones said there was a volunteer date planned for Saturday, October 29th. She said the main goals would be to mulch around the new plantings, to add fencing around the new/smaller trees to protect them from deer for the winter. She also discussed labeling existing and future plantings so they would be more easily identified by newcomers.

The Chair asked about irrigation. Ms. Jones said that the Commission would pay for a drip irrigation system installation which would be done in the spring.

She said the Pezwick Park sign would be installed by the DPW.

Ms Rocklen suggested wayfinding and informational signs (and/or maps) at Endean Park and the Bernie Cooper Park. Discussion was had regarding sign options.

2. CPC report

Ms. Walsh informed the members that they received 7 pre-applications and gave a brief overview of each one. She said that final applications are due in November.

3. Agent update Conservation Planner and Agent, Ms. Jones:

Ms. Jones welcomed Olivia Haglund, the newest Commissioner.

She announced that the Town had officially signed the contracts for the two grants for Cooper Park. She said Cathy Carney would put it out to bid very soon.

Ms. Jones discussed a volunteer work-day at Ellis Pond and Butterfly Garden on Saturday, 10-12. She said it's on social media and would be sent to the Trails Committee for promotion.

4. Board Business

Mr. Washburn noted a row of large white stones placed to block Town property; Willet Park.

It's publicly owned and the stones are blocking access. Ms. Jones said the stones may have been moved or added to. She said she would look further into it to see who placed them.

Discussion was had regarding what tools would be needed for the volunteer work day.

Motion: Mr. Bamber made a motion to adjourn.

Mr. Gear seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously, 7-0 by roll call vote.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 9:05 p.m.

Next meeting: November 2, 2022 at 7:30 p.m. Location: Hybrid, GoToMeeting and Rm. 24/Town Hall.

Respectfully Submitted by Lynn Marchand