

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

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



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

OFFICE MANAGER/SR. ADMIN. ASST.
LYNN MARCHAND

**Conservation Commission Meeting
August 4, 2021
7:30 P.M.**

**Present: Stephen Washburn -Chairman, Kristin Capezio -Vice Chair, Carly Rocklen -Treasurer,
Peter Bamber, John Gear, Heather Miller, Catherine Walsh**

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

The August 4, 2021 meeting was held remotely using GoToMeeting software and in person at 275 Norwood Community Media Studio, 245 Nichols St, Norwood MA, Door 22.

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

Public Hearings:

1. 60 Union St. subdivision Map 15-1 Parcel 5

Notice of Intent No. 251-05XX N2021-08

Applicant: Lorenzo Quinones Torres Representative: Hooshmand Afshar, Taj Engineering

Project Description: Construction of a four lot subdivision with three new single family homes in the buffer zone to a bordering vegetated wetland and the Riverfront Area of Traphole Brook

The Chairman read the public hearing into the record and said that the applicant had requested a continuation to the next meeting on August 18th.

MOTION: Mr. Bamber made a motion to continue the public hearing to August 18th.

Mr. Gear seconded the motion.

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

2. 259A Dean St. substation addition. Map 15 Parcel 21-1.

Notice of Intent No. 251-526 N2021-09

Applicant: Norwood Municipal Light Department

Representative: Daniel Cannata of VHB, Inc.

Project Description: Improvements to the existing substation building located at 259A Dean St including a 300 square foot single story addition onto the existing building.

Addressing the Commission was

Mr. Daniel Cannata, an environmental scientist at VHB representing the Norwood Light Department, Mr. Dan Morrissey from Norwood Light and Allan Rice of PLM. He provided a plan to the Commission and described the proposed project as updates to the existing substation located at 259 Dean Street necessitated by the replacement of the 15 kilovolt switchgear apparatus which was said to be reaching the end of its reliable service life with the work consisting of minor upgrades to the building, 300 square foot addition to the building that will require work within the outer limits of the

200' riverfront area associated with the Neponset and a very small portion of buffer zone associated with bordering vegetated wetland on the side of the substation. He said work is required in approximately 363 square feet of the riverfront area and that they are proposing erosion and sedimentation controls along the limits of the work at the edge of the substation.

Mr. Alan Rice stated that the project will replace some equipment inside the substation building which is the 15KV switchgear. He explained that the building is specialized and was laid out for the equipment that was installed when it was constructed and as a result there were no viable alternatives within the existing building to locate the new switchgear control panels at sufficient distance from the switchgear for safety reasons. The edition will create additional control room space for the new control panels and be located on the south end of the building as shown on the plan with stairs and platforms adjacent to the addition. On the north end of the building he said they are proposing installation of an overhead style roll-up door sufficient to move the new equipment in and out of the building and a shared platform on the north end will be modified in order to work with the new door arrangement.

Ms. Jones stated that there was not a lot of impact on resource areas and the redevelopment is mostly on already impervious surface. She said essentially they are maintaining existing conditions and if it's practical they may be able to do some stormwater improvements.

Discussion was had regarding potential stormwater improvements, project timeline, and revised plan for a check dam.

MOTION I: Mr. Bamber made a motion to approve the NOI with the stipulation that an updated plan including the discussed check dam is provided to the Conservation office and work would not be started until that was received. Ms. Walsh seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously, 7-0 by roll call vote.

Wetland updates and issues:

Beaver Dams at Norwood Airport –Ms. Jones said they received a request on Monday from the airport managers for the emergency certification to breach the beaver dams and Chairman Washburn was able to sign it. She said Norfolk County Mosquito Control District will perform the work on August 16th. The trapping of the beavers was done by the USDA pursuant to an emergency certification issued by the Board of Health. She stated that the issue before the Commission would be to ratify the emergency certification that was previously signed by Chairman Washburn.

MOTION I: Mr. Gear made a motion to ratify the emergency certification. Mr. Bamber seconded the motion.

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

Conservation Commission Business:

1. Orchard/permaculture food forest updates and planning

Ms. Jones said she will send a doodle for when the subcommittee should meet. She said the shed would be delivered on August 18th.

2. Regulatory updates:

Ms. Jones said that the office manager was putting together a review of the fee schedule of similar towns.

3. Trails and land update:

Completion of 2 Scout projects; kiosks at Endean & Mylod field and a new birdwatching platform at Father Mac's.

Trail work day last Sunday organized by the Trails Committee on the Germany Brook trail between Father Mac's and the Savage Center.

Ms. Jones said they were wrapping up the community meetings for the Saint Street Park planning process.

4. CPC report

Ms. Walsh said they are looking to update the plan/tweak the existing plan and do outreach to gather project ideas. She asked the Commission if they could add it as an agenda item to suggest project ideas.

5. Agent update

Ms. Jones said that the General Manager is encouraging Boards to move back to the Senior Center for their in-person meetings.

6. Minutes:

MOTION I: Mr. Bamber made a motion to approve the meeting minutes of March 31st with corrections. Ms. Rocklen seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously, 7-0 by roll call vote.

MOTION II: Mr. Gear made a motion to approve the meeting minutes of June 16th. Ms. Rocklen seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously, 7-0 by roll call vote.

Adjournment:

MOTION: Mr. Bamber made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Gear seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously, 7-0 by roll call vote.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 8:17 p.m.

Next meeting: August 18th at 7:30 p.m.

Location: remotely using GoToMeeting software and in person at 275 Norwood Community Media Studio, 245 Nichols St, Norwood MA, Door 22.