

CONSERVATION COMMISSION
JULY 10, 2001
MINUTES

7:00 PM The meeting was called to order by Evan Owen, Chairman.

Present were Owen, Morrison, Clements, Corwin and O'Connor.

Repair of stairs – Sargisson Beach

The steps to the left of the Sargisson stone marker, leading to the beach, were washed out by two severe rain storms. Land manager, Leroy Johnson, inspected the damage and determined that the steps were beyond repair and should be replaced with something more substantial.

Robert Black was contacted to do the work because he has a supply of granite.

Mr. Black submitted an estimate to install new steps at \$100 per step. The steps from the parking lot need to be replaced, also. There are 13 steps at the location near the parking lot and 20 steps from the driveway to the beach. Member Morrison moved to contract the repair at a cost not to exceed \$3500. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Discussion –Kimball-Chicopee Row Driveway 169-568

Vice chairman Corwin stepped down since she is an abutter to the project, but as a concerned abutter, she had the right to speak.

Robert Black was present. He constructed the driveway for Michael Kimball, who developed the site.

The Commission conducted a site walk on Saturday, July 7, 2001 and observed that the driveway was not built according to the plan. Retaining walls were not built. The area is stabilized.

Chairman Owen made a motion to request that Mr. Kimball submit an "As-built" for the driveway. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

7:25 PM Public Hearing (con't) –Landwest

Clerk Clements read the Public Hearing Continuation Notice submitted by Landwest, Inc. for 314 acres between Townsend Road and Route 119, to define the boundaries of the wetland resource areas and proposed subdivision. Don Yonika submitted a revised drawing showing changes made to the wetland flagging determined during the site walk with Mark West. All the revised plans will be put in a package and submitted to the Commission when the verification is complete.

Vice chairman Corwin asked for a copy of Gary Sanford's report, confirmation that the vernal pools were checked during the breeding season.

Member Morrison made a motion to continue the hearing to July 24, 2001. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

Mr. Hanninen, an abutter, asked when the EIR will be filed.

Mr. Yonika said probably in a few months.

7:30 PM Req. for Det. (con't) McElroy—Mayfield Drive

Clerk Clements read the Public Notice Continuation submitted by Groton Center

Farms, LLC to maintain existing drainage ditches on Assessors' Lot O-198 –C at the end of Mayfield Drive.

The applicant was not present at this time. The hearing was continued to later in the evening.

Survey – Horses and Wetlands

Michelle Girard, former agent for the Townsend Conservation Commission, is working on her Masters Degree and is conducting a survey concerning horses and their effect on wetlands. Each member received a copy and will fill out the survey individually.

William's Barn-Volunteer Liability

Clerk Clements, in his capacity as member of the Williams Barn Restoration Project, has heard from Thomas Wyatt, whose family owned the barn. He would like to donate time and effort to cleaning out the pit located next to the barn.

Mr. Williams would like to have his teenage grandson do the work.

Mr. Clements was told to contact Jean Kitchen, AO to the BOS to find out about liability and insurance.

Mr. Clements would like to work out some form of swap and buy lumber in exchange for what it would have cost to pay for the cleaning out of the pit and removal of the debris.

Mr. Clements said he could get the Fox Run CC land cleaned up for less than the \$400 estimated by Bruce Dubey. That project was already awarded to Mr. Dubey which brought up the policy of hiring contractors to maintain Conservation Land.

Chairman Owen said that at last year's policy meeting, Member Kollarics was adamant that the whole board decide who does work.

Member Morrison moved to grant the Administrative Assistant spend up to \$500 for maintenance of properties without a vote from the board.

The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

7:45 PM Req. for Det. (con't) Ryan Development –Mill Street

Clerk Clements read the public notice to consider the continuation of a Request for Determination submitted by Ryan Development to determine if the area depicted on the plan is subject to the WPA.

Chairman Owen made a second site walk of the area with Brian LaGrasse, engineer, and determined that there were no wetland issues under the current regulations.

Member Morrison made a motion to issue a negative determination.

The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

7:48 PM – Public Hearing (con't) Wiewel – Skyfield Drive

Clerk Clements read the public hearing notice. The applicant was not present but had requested a continuation.

Member Morrison moved to continue the hearing to August 14, 2001. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

7:50 PM Req. for Det. –Sprint—94 West Main Street

Clerk Clements read the Public Notice to consider the Request for Determination submitted by Sprint Spectrum to install a wireless communication facility on property owned by Elliot and Doris Blood on Assessors' Lot 106/15 West Main Street.

Present were Mr. and Mrs. Blood, their attorney, Richard Larkin, Michael Turgeon from Wetlands and Environmental Testing, Inc. and Stephen Song from Pyramid Site Acquisition Services.

The members walked the site on Saturday.

Member Morrison made a motion to issue a negative determination with the conditions that there shall be no equipment in the wetlands and that hay bales shall be on site between the wetland and the trench to ensure no erosion or sedimentation to the wetland.

The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

8:05 PM Public Hearing (con't) –Batten Woods-Forge Village Road

Clerk Clements read the Public Hearing Continuation Notice submitted by Orion Homes for the development of the roadway and single family dwellings in the Batten Woods Village on Forge Village Road on Assessors' Lot V-38—1, 38-2 and 41A.

Member O'Connor made a motion to continue the hearing until August 14, 2001. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

Discussion – Lot 4 Lovers Lane

Members observed erosion from the property during rainstorms that could enter the wetland on the other side of Lovers Lane.

The builder, James Bresnick, will be asked to attend the next meeting to discuss remediation.

Discussion – Lot 5 Lovers Lane

Member Morrison reported that he inspected the site after the rainstorms and the water did not top over the detention basin.

Chairman Owen would like to see an As-built.

Vice chairman Corwin wants verification that the drainage system is working as described in the engineering report and wants runoff calculations. Did the construction of the garage increase the runoff?

Chairman Owen moved to require an As-built and drainage calculations.

The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

8:10 PM Public Hearing (con't) –GLF- Northwoods

Clerk Clements read the Public Hearing Continuation Notice to consider the Notice of Intent submitted by Groton Land Foundation for the construction of two driveways to access two new houses on Northwoods Road on Assessors' Lot 227/110.

The Commission had not received a report from NHESP.

Member Morrison made a motion to continue the hearing on July 24, 2001. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

8:15 PM Req. for Det.—Keyspan—Skyfields Drive

Clerk Clements read the Public Notice to consider the Request for Determination submitted by Keyspan Energy Delivery for the installation of a natural gas main in paved roadway on Skyfields Drive.

The Commission walked the site on Saturday with Brian Butler, Oxbow Associates.

Mr. Butler was present.

Member Morrison made a motion that a negative determination be issued with the conditions that sufficient hay bales be on site to take care of any erosion or sedimentation and that the road be paved within seven days of the installation of the pipe. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

8:30 PM Public Hearing—GDRSD—Chicopee Row

Clerk Clements read the Public Hearing Notice to consider the Notice of Intent submitted by Groton-Dunstable Regional School District for construction of a 145,000 sf building and ancillary facilities on Assessors' Lot 227/117 Chicopee Row.

Victory Fletcher representing Epsilon Inc. presented a revised plan. The Commission walked the site on Saturday.

After much discussion about the plan and NOI that are on file, Member Morrison made a motion to close the hearing. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

9:00 PM Public Hearing (con't) –Galli- 249 Indian Hill Road

Clerk Clements read the Public Hearing Continuation Notice to consider the Notice of Intent submitted by Mel Galli to clean up debris from buffer zone and replant with native plants on Assessors' # T- 38- 0 at 249 Indian Hill Road.

Present with Mr. Galli were Attorney, Cornelius Sullivan and wetland scientist Dave Crossman.

Mr. Crossman flagged the wetlands and presented a plan.

Attorney Sullivan explained that Mr. Galli's intentions were well meaning and he will do what is necessary to remedy the situation. This included planting bushes six feet apart to ensure not further encroachment to the wetland.

Member O'Connor made a motion to close the hearing. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

9:30 PM Order of Conditions

The following Orders of Condition were issued by the Commission:

Fox Meadow Realty Lot 4 Lowell Road 169-788

Fox Meadow Realty Lot 5 Lowell Road 169-789

Fox Meadow Realty Lot 6 Lowell Road 169-786

Fox Meadow Realty Lot 7 Lowell Road 169-787

Member Morrison moved significance, regular and special conditions for the four lots. The motions were seconded

and passed unanimously.

The OOC is on file in the Commission office.

Olson – 687 Townsend Road 169-795

Vice Chairman Corwin moved significance, regular and special conditions.

The motions were seconded and passed unanimously.

The OOC is on file in the Commission office.

West Groton Water Supply District 169-794

Member O'Connor moved significance, regular and special conditions.

The motions were seconded and passed unanimously.

The OOC is on file in the Commission office.

Possible Violation – Lathrop/Heveran – 122 Old Ayer Road

The Commission received a copy of a letter sent to Scott Lathrop and Beatrice Heveran, 122 Old Ayer Road, from Michelle Collette, Earth Removal inspector, concerning runoff from their driveway.

James Brook is on the other side of Old Ayer Road and if the runoff is not controlled, sedimentation could enter the brook.

A letter will be sent to the Lathrop/Heveran's telling them there is a wetland issue.

Prime Gas Station – Boston Road

The Commission received a plan from Ross Associates showing proposed changes to the Prime Gas Station.

There are no wetland issues with this project.

9:45 PM Groton Center Farms, LLC – Mayfield Road

The applicant failed to attend the meeting. The hearing that was postponed from earlier in the evening was continued to July 24, 2001.

9:50 PM With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Anna Kopec