

**EARTH REMOVAL STORMWATER ADVISORY COMMITTEE
TUESDAY, JULY 19, 2016, 7:00 PM
MINUTES**

Chairman Edward Perkins called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM in the Town Hall

Members present: Perkins, Capes, Hanninen, and McHugh

Member absent: Delaney

COMMITTEE REORGANIZATION

The motion was made by Hanninen, seconded by Capes, to elect Ed Perkins as Chairman. The motion passed unanimously.

The motion was made by Hanninen, seconded by McHugh, to elect Ray Capes as Vice Chairman. The motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARING – GROTON SCHOOL STORMWATER PERMIT

The Committee continued the public hearing to consider the application submitted by Groton School to construct a new access drive to the athletic center as shown on the plan entitled, "Groton School, North Entry Road," prepared by Samiotes Consultants, Inc., dated November 3, 2015. The proposed access road will be located at Assessors' Map 219, Parcel 9, and Map 107, Parcel 16, on the westerly side of Farmers Row.

Attorney Robert Collins and design engineer Andrew Truman of Samiotes Consultants represented Groton School at the public hearing. Attorney Collins reiterated that the plan will create a new access road from Farmers Row to the athletic center to accommodate buses and logging trucks.

The Committee received a report dated July 14, 2016 from Nitsch Engineering and a letter dated July 19, 2016 from Attorney Robert Collins requesting waivers of the Stormwater Regulations.

Attorney Collins said the access road would be located in an agricultural field that has approximately six drainage ditches installed in the early 1900's. A considerable amount of runoff flows from Farmers Row onto the site today. The proposed drainage system will improve existing conditions. The proposed access road is not a large-scale development such as a subdivision or commercial site plan. The plan has been vetted by the Conservation Commission and DEP. Groton School purchased and donated the former Decilio property along the western bank of the Nashua River as mitigation for the wetlands crossing.

The proposed road and drainage system will not cause any flooding and will function as designed. Groton School has a stellar reputation for taking care of its facilities.

Member McHugh asked why Samiotes Consultants had not responded to the July 14, 2016 Nitsch Engineering report. The concerns in the Nitsch report should be addressed, and the plans should be revised as recommended in the report.

Attorney Collins said the erosion controls shown on the plan are more than adequate and the drainage system will function during the 100-year storm. It is an academic exercise to run calculations for other storm events.

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Member Hanninen said he shares Member McHugh's concern that there is no response to the Nitsch report. The Committee must be sure the conditions in the field will not be worse as a result of the new road and drainage system.

Mr. Truman said it is a minor issue to calculate other storm events and make the changes to the plan as recommended by Nitsch Engineering.

Attorney Collins said the soils do not have infiltration capability, but the drainage system will function as designed and will improve existing conditions.

Member Capes said the Committee should have an updated list of requested waivers. He said he shares the concern about the outstanding technical issues.

Stormwater Inspector Michelle Collette suggested scheduling a meeting with the design engineer and Nitsch Engineering to review technical issues. Ideally, the work should be done in August during the driest season of the year. The Committee agreed.

The Committee voted unanimously to extend the deadline to act to August 31, 2016 as requested by the applicant.

The Committee voted unanimously to continue the public hearing on August 2, 2016 at 7:15 PM.

NESSP TEMPLE – PROPOSED MODIFICATIONS

The Committee met with, Scott Nelson of Mistry Associates representing the NESSP Temple to discuss proposed modifications to the site plan. The Committee received a report dated June 23, 2016 from Nitsch Engineering stating that the proposed changes to the drainage system are minor and that there would be less impervious area. Committee members asked for clarification on the recent revisions to Sheet D-2 as referenced in the Nitsch Engineering report.

Stormwater Inspector Michelle Collette suggested scheduling a meeting with the design engineer and Nitsch Engineering to review changes to Sheet D-2 since Tim McGivern would be in Groton for the Groton School project. The Committee agreed.

The Committee will continue the discussion on the NESSP Temple on August 2, 2016 at 7:00 PM.

STORMWATER INSPECTOR'S REPORT

Stormwater Inspector Michelle Collette reported on the following projects:

Chamberlains Mill catch basins were clogged which resulted in ponding at the intersection of the subdivision road and Schoolhouse Road. She contacted developer Bob Kiley and the catch basins were cleaned promptly.

Indian Hill Music had dust problems when the existing house was demolished and the concrete foundation was removed. The applicant is connecting to Town water and has a water truck on the site to control dust. The stockpile of loam will be hydro-seeded in the near future.

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Grotonwood submitted an application for a Limited Stormwater Permit. The public hearing will be held on August 2, 2016. The Committee will walk the site on Saturday, July 30, 2016, if it is convenient for the applicant. (Note: At the request of the applicant, the site walk took place on Tuesday, August 2, 2016, prior to the Committee meeting.)

GROTON-DUNSTABLE AT PLAY - FILING FEE WAIVER REQUEST

Groton Dunstable at Play requested a waiver of the \$2000 filing fee for a Full Stormwater Management Permit to construct an artificial turf playing field at the high school. Groton Dunstable at Play is applying to be a not-for-profit organization. The group will do fund raising to cover the cost of designing and constructing the playing field.

The motion was made by Hanninen, seconded by McHugh, to waive the filing fee for Groton Dunstable at Play, a not-for-profit organization, provide that the applicant reimburse the Town for any actual costs including advertising the public hearing and technical review, if required. The motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle Collette
Earth Removal Stormwater Inspector