

Minutes Meeting of 11/9/05 – Groton Gardens Engineering

Present: Michelle Collette, John Schmid, Mike Tusino, Tom Delaney, Mark Slager, Ken (project manager), Robert Walker, Margot Hammer

Mrs. Collette noted that the purpose of the meeting, per the BOS, is to correct the drainage problem. She said that this is an Off-line meeting with the BOS to serve as the Town's witness. She noted that we are here to work together and not to squash the project or to cause grief. She stressed that Ken has done an outstanding job of abating the emergency.

Mr. Walker said that he wants an understanding of the perceived problem.

John Schmid, JNEI, said that the drainage system doesn't appear to have the capability to handle the volume and the water is not infiltrating. He suggested that the basin may have filled up with silt. He said that it is not clear whether this is a design flaw or because the system was designed for lesser amounts than it is getting. He said that water has breached the basin twice and the project is not completed. He said that there is a problem with flooding at the red house on Anthony Drive.

Mr. Slager said that he didn't know about the second breach and said that he doesn't understand why the basin breached with a four inch rain and not a six inch rain. He suggested that these events led to the problem.

Mr. Schmid disagreed, noting that the system should have an overflow.

Mr. Slager said that they are proposing building up the berm.

Mr. Schmid said that this doesn't provide for overflow.

Mr. Slager said that it does.

Discussion ensued regarding what caused the system to fail.

Mrs. Collette noted that pond was overflowing into neighboring properties and this was not even close to a 100 year storm. She said that there were six inches of rain over two to three days, not 24 hours.

Mr. Walker said that the system is not finished and not all drainage controls are in place.

Mr. Slager said he wants to build up the berm to 219, which will double the capacity.

Mrs. Collette said that the applicant needs Mass Highway permission for a tie-in.

Mr. Slager said that the berm is now at 217.2.

Mr. Schmid said that he is pushing for a hard connection, which makes for a better perception. He said that this will force the flow under Rt. 119 with the pipe. He said that the bottom of the system should be scraped next spring and some infiltration trenches added.

Mrs. Collette suggested that maybe Mass Highway would put in an additional basin to catch more runoff from Rt. 119.

Tom Delaney suggest running the water down the front of property and tying into the Mass Highway basin on the same side of the street, which then flows across the street underground. He said that that is a shorter run.

Mr. Schmid said that he likes the option suggested by Mr. Delaney.

Mr. Walker said that he thinks the system is designed for a 100 year storm.

Mr. Schmid said that he found in the Landtech design that they went to the liberal side on everything, rather than the conservative side. He said that 6.4 is an acceptable rate but they need a waiver for less than 8.2 from PB site plan review. He said that there is no room in this type of design for anything except optimal conditions. He noted that soils can change from here to there and that he doubts they are getting 2 minutes per inch infiltration. He also suggested permanently clogging the 1st basin.

Mr. Walker said that won't go before the ZBA but said that he will fix the basin voluntarily.

The meeting ended at 3:40 pm.