

## Holliston Conservation Commission

### Meeting Minutes

Town Hall- Meeting Room #014

September 19, 2017

7:30 PM

Present: Rebecca Weissman, Vice Chair, Jennifer Buttaro, Shaw Lively, Blake M. Mensing, Ann Marie Pilch, Commissioners; Utah Nickel, Associate Commissioner  
Kristin O'Brien, Acting Conservation Agent  
Absent: Chris Bajdek, Chair; Allen Rutberg, Commissioner

**Rebecca Weissman, Vice Chair, opened the meeting at 7:31 PM.**

### General Business

#### **Request for Certificate of Compliance for DEP File #185-725:36 Kingsbury Drive – Jonathan Gerber**

- Mr. Gerber has a remaining tax bill to pay, and the Treasurer's department stated no permits can be issued until it is settled.

#### **Request for Certificate of Compliance for DEP File #185-770: 208 Mohawk Path – Laura Hutchins**

- A Partial Certificate of Compliance was issued last year pending lawn establishment. The lawn is now stable.

**Mr. Mensing made a motion to issue a complete Certificate of Compliance for DEP File # 185-770: 208 Mohawk Path. Ms. Buttaro seconded the motion. Unanimous. (5-0-0).**

#### **Request for Certificate of Compliance for DEP File #185-782: 57 Old Cart Path (Lot 75) – Guerriere and Halnon, Inc.**

- During the initial site visit a discrepancy was noted in the number and species of trees planted, which were required as a result of a Violation.
- A letter from Fafard explained that the species required were not available at the time of planting.
- Six new birch trees were planted last week and the lawn is not yet established.
- Ms. O'Brien recommends a Partial Certificate of Compliance and require a year for the trees to establish.

**Ms. Pilch made a motion to issue a Partial Certificate of Compliance for DEP File # 185-782: 57 Old Cart Path (Lot 75). Mr. Lively seconded the motion. Unanimous. (5-0-0).**

### **Discussion: Highlands at Holliston Conservation Restriction**

- Ms. O'Brien went on a site visit with Brian Butler, Kyle Cormier, Alex Gow, and the Fafard landscaper.
- The proposed open space was surveyed focusing on the area next to Mayflower Landing and areas of disturbance noted by Fafard. Oxbow Associates will be going back for further assessments.
- Mr. Butler proposed certain areas be maintained as meadow with a periodic mowing schedule. He intends to develop an individual management plan for each area of disturbance.
- The Commission discussed the need to notify homeowners of work with an informal letter.

### **Dam Inspections Update**

- Ms. O'Brien gave an update on the Houghton Pond dam repairs and inspection status of Weston and Factory Pond Dam.

### **Vote on 9/5/17 Draft Meeting Minutes**

- There was not a quorum to vote on the minutes and it will be moved to the October 3, 2017 meeting.

### **Notice of Violation for 194 Lowland Street**

- Addressed during the public meeting.

### **Review Correspondence**

- The Commission signed an invoice for legal counsel.

### **Adams Street Town Forest Parking Lot**

- Ms. O'Brien has received numerous complaints about the extensive erosion occurring through the parking lot and access road. The Highway Department has stated they are not able to address the issue.
- Tom Smith, Highway Department, stated that the construction design did not appropriately account for drainage and a new plan and construction would cost approximately \$30,000.
- The Commission asked Ms. O'Brien to look into a quick fix solution and determine where funds could come from for redesigning the parking lot, including CPC who funded the last project.

### **PUBLIC HEARINGS/PUBLIC MEETINGS**

**Continued Public Hearing – Abbreviated Notice of Resource Area Delineation DEP File # 185-830: 185 Cedar Street (Assessors Map 14-3-1)** proposed wetland delineation . *Joyce Hastings, GLM, Inc* representing *David Adams, Indian Ridge Realty Trust*

- The applicant requested the hearing be continued to the October 3, 2017 meeting due to a change in the wetland scientist.

**Mr. Lively made a motion to continue the hearing for DEP File # 185-830: 185 Cedar Street until the October 3, 2017 meeting. Ms. Buttaro seconded the motion. Unanimous. (5-0-0).**

**\*\*New Public Meeting - Request for Determination of Applicability for #D-616: 33 Brook St (Assessors Map 12-2-3)** proposed septic system replacement . *Eric Dickinson, Civilized Solutions* representing *Russ and Annie Thompson*

- Ms. O'Brien read the legal notice advertised in the *MetroWest Daily News* on September 12, 2017.
- Mr. Dickinson was present and explained the current septic system has failed and needs to be replaced.
- Almost the entire lot is within 100qpf the bordering vegetated wetlands associated with Dopping Brook behind the house.
- All work will be outside the 50qbuffer zone and most of the leaching field is outside the 100q buffer zone.
- The existing deck, which at one point was adjacent to an above ground pool was discussed.
- A condition was added allowing the applicant a replacement deck or patio of the same or smaller foot print of the existing one.

**Mr. Lively made a motion to issue a negative 3 Determination of Applicability for #D-616: 33 Brook Street with the conditions as stated. Mr. Mensing seconded the motion. Unanimous. (5-0-0).**

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Issued by: Shaw Lively

Approved by Commission: 10-31-17

- Civilized Solutions was approached by the owner of 179 Mohawk Path to repair/replace a failing armored wall which is at the 100qline of a vernal pool resource area.
- The owner would like to slope the wall back into vernal pool resource area. The Commission agrees the wall needs to be replaced but a slope would impact the vernal pool. An RDA could be submitted to replace the wall within the same footprint; however, an NOI would be needed if the location of the wall moves into the 100qbuffer zone and the Commission does not guarantee approval.

**\*\*New Public Meeting - Request for Determination of Applicability for #D-617: 194 Lowland St (Assessors Map 9-2-57.1) proposed site stabilization . George F. Connors, Connorstone Engineering, Inc. representing Michael Brumber**

- Mr. Connors, David Click, and Mr. Brumber were present and waived the reading of the legal notice advertised in the *MetroWest Daily News* on September 12, 2017.
- A violation letter was issued for cutting trees and spread mulch as an access road in the 100q buffer zone.
- Mr. Connors submitted a new plan with the wetlands delineated, indicating the disturbed berm and parking lot are outside the 100qbuffer zone; however the cleared area and mulch are between the 50-100qbuffer zone.
- The Highway Department issued a permit for the parking lot (a copy was submitted).
- Mr. Brumber said there was a large fallen tree that he chipped and cleared vegetation in an area that had once been an access road for the well. A large wood chip berm was created around the parking lot to prevent driving into the buffer zone instead of the proposed fence.
- The Commission did not have issue with the two proposed perc tests that will be done outside the 100qbuffer zone.
- The Commission is not pleased that based on history of this lot that work was done in the buffer zone without approval. The Commission stressed no other work in the 100qbuffer zone can be done until a Notice of Intent is submitted and approved.

**Mr. Mensing made a motion to issue a negative 3 Determination of Applicability for #D-617: 194 Lowland Street with the conditions as stated. Mr. Lively seconded the motion. Unanimous. (5-0-0).**

**Mr. Lively made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:56 PM. Ms. Pilch seconded the motion. Unanimous. (5-0-0).**