

Holliston Conservation Commission

Meeting Minutes

Town Hall- Meeting Room #014

June 13, 2017

7:30 PM

Present: Chris Bajdek, Chair; Rebecca Weissman, Vice Chair; Shaw Lively, Blake M. Mensing, Ann Marie Pilch (Arrived at 7:33 PM), Allen Rutberg, Commissioners; Utah Nickel, Associate Commissioner

Kristin O'Brien, Conservation Assistant

Absent: Jennifer Buttaro, Commissioner; Sheri O'Brien, Conservation Agent

Chris Bajdek, Chair, opened the meeting at 7:31 PM.

Request for Minor Modifications to the Order of Conditions for DEP File #185-806: 7 Katie Way (Lot 10A) - Steve O'Leary, O'Leary Builders, Inc.

- Ms. K. O'Brien explained that the lot has been cleared but no other major work has begun. The new owner of the lot requested a different layout for the house. The changes include a larger garage, a retention wall at the base of the garage versus grading towards the limit of work, a deck, and the house is about 10-20' closer to the limit of work in certain areas.
- The proposed house has the same square footage as the original house.

Dr. Rutberg made a motion to accept the Minor Modifications for the Order of Conditions for DEP File #185-806: 7 Katie Way (Lot 10A). Mr. Lively seconded the motion. Unanimous. (6-0-0).

Proposed Forest Cutting Plan on Summer Street

- A forest cutting plan was submitted for Wenakeening Woods Conservation Land on Summer Street owned by Upper Charles Conservation Land Trust. There are two areas being cut.
- Ms. K. O'Brien explained there are three certified vernal pools (CVP) on site and 2 potential vernal pools (PVP).
- There will be limited clearing around the CVP, per state guidelines.
- Work will cross wetlands under frozen conditions and appropriate precautions will be taken.
- There was discussion about the Commission's jurisdiction.

Camping Permit Request at Adams Street Conservation Land – Jason Walther, Boy Scout Troop 51

- Six boy scouts and two leaders have requested to camp at Adams Street Conservation Land this Saturday June 17, 2017.
- There would be 3-4 tents and they would like to hike about 0.5-1 mile in from the Adams Street Parking Lot.
- They have requested to use a camping stove, not an open fire.
- The Applicant must speak with the fire chief for permission to use a camping stove.
- There was discussion about identifying and mapping potential camping areas for future requests.
- The Commission agreed to issue the permit to Boy Scout Troop 51 and Mr. Bajdek signed.
- The Commission and Marc Connelly identified and marked on a map two possible camping locations near points #1 and #4.

Tree Removal Requests

51 Maple Dell Lane

- There is a large tree on conservation land behind 51 Maple Dell Lane with a large branch hanging over a fence, shed, and playground. The limb has been dropping branches.
- Ms. K. O'Brien explained most of the tree appears to be ok but has asked the Highway Department to assess the tree further. They will only cut what is deemed a safety risk.
- A second tree on conservation land is dead and permission was given to remove it.

53 Stagecoach Road

- Several small and bittersweet engulfed trees fell onto a lawned and landscaped area. They were rooted in to the bank of Jarr Brook.
- Permission was given to remove the trees, and if the stumps were still attached they are to be cut at 3q and left in place.

85 Lake Shore Drive

- A very large, three-trunked black cherry was rotting at the base with obvious insect damage.
- Permission was given to remove the tree.

Update on Potential Violations

77 Ashland Street

- Peter Tartakoff informed the owner that they cannot operate a business out of this property as it is zoned for residential use.
- There were no identified wetland violations.

Strawberry Hill Conservation

- Marc Connelly said he may be able to get some volunteers through the Conservation Associates to remove the debris; however, this may not occur until summer vacation is over.
- It was agreed to delay installing a sign until the debris is cleared.
- Ms. K. O'Brien will contact them later in the season.

Washington Hills Conservation Restriction Update

Ms. Pilch made a motion to accept the Washington Hill Conservation Restriction per the plan entitled in Exhibit A. Dr. Rutberg seconded the motion. Unanimous. (6-0-0).

- The CR will be signed at the next meeting with a notary present.

Review Correspondence

- None to review.

PUBLIC HEARINGS/PUBLIC MEETINGS

Continued Public Meeting - Request for Determination of Applicability for #D-609: Brentwood Conservation Land (Assessors Map 7-6-80) proposed trail culvert repairs . Ian Davis, Eagle Scout Troop 73

- Master Davis returned with three potential kiosk options, a drawing of the trail markers, a more detailed boardwalk design, and a detailed plan of the culvert replacement.
- The boardwalk will be staked if there is too much movement otherwise it will not be fixed to the ground.
- Master Davis stated the first proposed kiosk has a simpler design and will most likely be the one built.
- The details of the culvert replacement were discussed and the Highway Department recommended a 12+corrugated pipe with a cage cap.

- The Commission requested a few hay bales be staked into the creek bed downstream of the culvert to filter the water that flows through during the construction period.
- The culvert replacement will take approximately two weekends.

Ms. Pilch made a motion to issue a negative 3 Determination of Applicability for #D-609: Brentwood Conservation Land with the conditions as stated. Mr. Mensing seconded the motion. Unanimous. (6-0-0).

- Mr. Bajdek signed the proposal.

****New Public Meeting - Request for Determination of Applicability for #D-610: 150 Marshall Street (Assessors Map 7-6-37) proposed turf field replacement . *Chris Guccione, Holliston Youth Soccer Association***

- Mr. Guccione, Mr. Robert Weidknecht, Garth Fondo and Wayne Regan were present and waived the reading of the legal notice advertised in the MetroWest Daily News on June 6, 2017.
- Mr. Guccione explained that the turf is past its useful life by several years.
- Mr. Weidknecht explained the process of removing and replacing the turf, which entails cutting and rolling the existing turf, releveling and filling under the fields, then rolling out the new turf.
- The only materials that will be stockpiled are the rolls of turf (this will be in the designated staging area in the 100qbuffer zone) and bags of the rubber pellets (stored on the gravel parking area).
- The drainage under the fields was discussed.
- Work is to begin in July and aims to be done before soccer season begins in August.

Mr. Lively made a motion to issue a negative 3 Determination of Applicability for #D-610: 150 Marshall Street with the conditions as stated. Ms. Weissman seconded the motion. Unanimous. (6-0-0).

****New Public Hearing – Notice of Intent for DEP File # 185-829: 32 Adam Wheeler Lane (Assessors Map 6-3-37) proposed single family house construction . *Peter Bemis, Engineering Design Consultants, Inc., representing William and Kathleen Delorie***

- Mr. Bemis, and Mr. and Ms. *Delorie* were present and waived the reading of the legal notice advertised in the MetroWest Daily News on June 6, 2017. Mr. Bemis submitted the abutters notification cards.
- Mr. Bemis explained the proposed house, septic, and driveway.
- Board of Health has approved the septic and the owner has an agreement with Alganquin Power and Utilities Corp. to shift the gas line easement on the property so only the driveway would be over the easement. This agreement must be recorded before work can begin.
- There is about 780 sf of work proposed in the 50qno-disturb. The work in this area would include a deck, a permeable path, and clearing to create a separation between the house and the trees.
- Mr. Bemis has suggested removing the dumped debris in the 50qand planting mitigation in areas that have been disturb by dumping.
- The allowance of the driveway over the gas line was discussed.
- The Commission was concerned about the closeness of the large trees to the proposed house. There was discussion about how trees in the 50qbuffer zone can be harmed by construction within the limit of work.
- The Commission stated that they would be very hesitant to allow trees to be cut in the 50q buffer zone, if at some point in the future, the homeowners wanted to remove trees located in the 50qbuffer zone.
- There was discussion on how to minimize unintended damage to trees in the 50qbuffer zone during construction.

- It was agreed that before the issuance of the Order of Conditions all trees within the 50qbuffer zone must be surveyed for health and risk of damage during construction. A protection plan for all at-risk trees must be submitted to the Commission for approval before work begins.
- Instead of a split rail fence, as proposed, six bounds and wetlands plaques will be installed along the 50qbuffer zone line. Mr. Bemis annotated, signed, and dated the plan.
- Native sedge was recommended in the disturbed 50qbuffer zone area instead of lawn or crushed stone.

Ms. Pilch made a motion to close the hearing for DEP File # 185-829: 32 Adam Wheeler Lane. Dr. Rutberg seconded the motion. Unanimous. (6-0-0).

General Business

Potential Violation at 86 Winchester

- The letter was reviewed and discussed. Once edits are made the letter will be issued.

Dr. Rutberg made a motion to adjourn at 9:45 PM. Mr. Mensing seconded the motion. Unanimous. (6-0-0).