

Essex Conservation Commission

December 16, 1997 - Minutes

Present: Edwin Perkins, Chairman, Robert Brophy, R. Jeffrey Lyman, Edith Messersmith, Peter Perrigo, Thomas Prentiss.

Meeting called to order at 7:35 p.m.

A Request made by Patrowicz Land Development Engineering for the Commission to Determine the Applicability of the Wetlands Protection Act, M.G.L. Chapter 131, Section 40, for the delineation of the wetlands resource boundary at Old Manchester Road was heard at 7:36 p.m.

Scott Patrowicz, Patrowicz Land Development Engineering, represented the property owners, Stephen Wedlock and Kim Pederson. Patrowicz told the Board that Mary Rimmer of Rimmer Environmental Consulting flagged the wetlands, and that he would like confirmation that the line flagged is the wetlands boundary line. No work is proposed at this time, but they will come back with a filing if any work is done on the property. The total area of the property is 3.38 acres. The Board felt they needed some time to make a site visit to the property and felt the decision should be postponed until the next meeting to be held on January 6, 1998.

Prentiss moved to postpone the decision for the Request filed by Patrowicz Land Development Engineering for property on Old Manchester Road until the Commission's meeting to be held on January 6, 1998, in order for members to make a site visit, seconded Messersmith, with the Board voting unanimously in favor.

Sarah Buckley met with the Board to discuss a project she would like to work on for her Girl Scout Gold Award. She said she is interested in the science field and in vernal pools. She has held a vernal pool discussion for younger children. As a community project, she would like to certify a vernal pool and asked the Board for the best way to approach this, and where there might be an area with a vernal pool. Prentiss suggested that Mr. Febiger's property on Forest Avenue has a vernal pool, or behind his own property at 67 Forest Avenue. It was also suggested that she call Martha Hoar, who runs an environmental science program at the Essex Elementary and Middle School. The Board commended Sarah on her project choice.

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Engineer John Judd, representing Andover Equity Developers, met with the Board to discuss revised plans for Lot 2, Apple Street. Judd told the Board they have taken the house out of the riparian zone. The 80 foot restriction along Apple Street refers to just the structure and not the septic system. Perkins asked if drainage calculations had been done. Judd said they had proposed dry wells, but could give the Board calculations. Perkins then asked if they had any plans to slow down the run-off from the driveway. Judd told him they were proposing a drainage swale. Judd was then asked if they had any plans to surface the driveway. Judd said it was currently paved to a certain point, but that they would like to pave it properly at some point. Lyman asked if there was a lot less change of grade. Judd told him there was. Brophy again questioned the run-off from the slope and its impact on Apple Street. Judd said they would certainly go along with what the Commission preferred, but that the area would be loamed and seeded. Perkins then said he thought the change was now a more reasonable alternative. Prentiss said his only concern was the slope. He wondered how difficult it would be to stretch it out a little, so that it would have a lesser impact. The Board then said they preferred the slope to become a 4:1 slope.

Judd then discussed Lot 4, Apple Street, with the Board. He told them he wrote a letter stating that there was no resource area within 100 feet of the lot. He indicated that on the lot there was a 100 foot restriction area, and then added to that was the width of Apple Street, before reaching a resource area. After review of the plan, the Board said that the Chairman could sign the building permit application.

Judd noted that he would revise the plan for Lot 2 as noted, and then submit a new Notice of Intent.

A building permit application was received for Jason and Amy Heath, for the construction of a single family dwelling on Wood Drive. The Board reviewed the plan and noted the project was outside of the buffer zone. Perkins signed the building permit application.

An as-built plan was received from John Kotch and Vincent DeMore for a common driveway on Belcher Street. Perrigo said he still questioned the size of the pipe.

Open Space Walking Trail, Centennial Grove - Perrigo said he

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went on the site visit of the area. It was indicated to him that the Open Space Committee would like the Commission to co-sponsor the program, or, if the Commission did not want to co-sponsor, then they would like the Commission's support for the program.


The Annual Town Meeting warrant opened. There was a discussion as to whether the Board should place an article to open a revolving fund for the filing fees, so those monies could be used by the Commission. Lyman said he would write the article.

The Finance Committee has requested Boards to submit budgets for Fiscal Year 1999. The budget will be reviewed at the next meeting.

Messersmith moved to close the hearing, seconded by Perrigo, with the Board voting unanimously in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Prepared by:



Gillian B. Palumbo
Administrative Clerk

Attest: