



ESSEX CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Minutes for the Meeting of December 6, 2011

Commissioners:

Wallace Bruce, Chairman
Joseph Ahearn
Robert Brophy
Philip Caponigro

Elisabeth Frye
James Rynkowski
Shirley Singleton*

Staff:

James Hankin, Agent

Deborah Cunningham
Administrative Clerk

*Absent

Public Meetings:

The Commission continued a Public Hearing on a Notice of Intent filed by Apple Street Nominee Trust to construct a 20' wide road for a single family development with associated drainage structures, utilities and wetland replication area at Land of Essex Park Road. The applicant has requested that this hearing be continued to the meeting of March 6, 2012. The hearing will be posted in the local paper and abutters will be notified by mail of the new date. On a motion made and duly seconded, the Commission voted unanimously to continue the hearing to March 6, 2012.

The Commission opened a Public Hearing on a Notice of Intent filed by the Town of Essex, Board of Selectmen to review a proposed project which intends to provide the Town of Essex with a management plan for the Alewife Brook, in order to improve the conditions of the brook, specifically for the alewife run. Mike DeRosa of DeRosa Environmental represented the Town of Essex. He gave a brief overview of the history of the area to be covered by the maintenance plan being presented and the reasons for filing the NOI. He advised that the plan would be in place so that the town could do work on the Alewife Brook as needed and as funds and man power were available. Not all of the work outlined would be done at one time or even every year. He advised that the town was still waiting for a response from National Heritage and the DEP. It was suggested that the hearing be continued to January 3, 2012 to allow for these responses to be received. On a motion made and duly seconded, the Commission voted unanimously to continue the hearing to January 3, 2012.

The Commission continued a Public Hearing on an Abbreviated Notice of Resource Area Delineation filed by Sturgis Realty Trust to review an Abbreviated Notice of Resource Area Delineation at 160 John Wise Avenue. The Agent advised that he had walked the area with the gentlemen who had

delineated that area and felt that the lines as presented were accurate. He recommended that the hearing be closed and an ORAD be issued. On a motion made and duly seconded, the Commission voted unanimously to close the public hearing. On a motion made and duly seconded, the Commission voted unanimously to issue the ORAD.

Business:

Vanessa Johnson of the Essex County Greenbelt met with the Commission to obtain their recommendation to the Selectmen to sign an amended Conservation Restriction for property located at 82 Eastern Avenue. Ms. Johnson explained that the amendment would strengthen the current CR and the new language was being added at the request of the State in conjunction with a request for a state tax deduction. The Commission agreed to recommend to the Selectmen that the amendment should be approved. On a motion made and duly seconded, the Commission voted unanimously to recommend to the Selectmen that the amended to the Conservation Restriction at 82 Eastern Avenue be approved.

The Commission reviewed a memorandum outlining the procedure for DPW to advise the Commission of working be planned in areas within jurisdiction and being done under the "blanket" OOC (DEP #021-0566). The memo was approved with the change that the memo would be sent from one commission to the other. The Clerk was instructed to forward the memo to the DPW Commissioners.

The Agent reported to the Commission that he had met with Bill Manuell to review the delineation at 160 John Wise Avenue as requested and in preparation this meeting. In addition, he had worked on the memo being presented for the DPW; met with Rebecca Davis to discuss a possible drainage project at the Essex Elementary playground; met with Randy Lewis about a proposed project at 159 Main Street; signed building permit applications for Boatway's Farm; drove by the DPW's project at Tan Hill on Apple Street and reviewed the NOI for the Alewife Brook maintenance plan. He advised that the project on Apple Street did not appear to have any violations and would be permissible under the "blanket" OOC. He felt that the work would help with erosion and drainage issues into the BVW.

The Chairman presented the minutes for the meeting of November 1, 2011 for approval. On a motion made and duly seconded, the Commission voted unanimously to approve the minutes as presented.

On a motion made and duly seconded, the meeting was adjourned.

Approved: Essex Conservation Commission

Prepared by: Deborah Cunningham, Administrative Clerk