

**CITY OF MARLBOROUGH
CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

MINUTES

March 15, 2007

Memorial Hall, 3rd Floor, City Hall

Members Present: John Skarin-acting Chairman, David Williams, Lawrence Roy, Michele Higgins, and Priscilla Ryder-Conservation Officer

Absent: Edward Clancy-Chairman, Allan White, Dennis Demers

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of March 16, April 6, May 4, June 1st & 15th, and July 6th & 20th, 2006 were reviewed and unanimously accepted as written.

Public Hearing(s)

Notice of Intent (Continuation of Public Hearing)

431 Poirier Dr. (Marlborough High School)-City of Marlborough

Tom Temple, Assistant City Engineer provided an updated plan showing more detail on the plan. He reviewed the project noting it was a resurfacing project for all parking areas and driveways into the high school and includes some additional drainage and curbing which doesn't exist to improve the existing situation. He explained that the students' parking lot includes the replacement of a culvert that wasn't installed properly, the addition of curbing, catchbasins and guardrail. The drainage will discharge into the existing brook. The teachers parking lot will be treated the same as above and three additional parking spaces will be added. He noted that all catchbasins and drainage pipes will be cleaned and inspected PRIOR to construction beginning on the site; to be sure all existing systems are in good working order before they start. Ms. Higgins asked if the pipes and catchbasins had been adequately sized. Mr. Temple indicated they had used their standard layout and this design will be able to handle the flows. The Commission noted that there is in fact sand in the wetland associated with the existing drainage patterns which will need to be removed. Mr. Temple noted that the 1:1 slopes at the edge of the roadways will be riprap, Ms. Higgins asked if there were alternatives to riprap which were softer and more "natural". Mr. Temple said he'd consider an alternative if provided. The Commission asked if there were detailed drawings for the boardwalk. Mr. Temple indicated this work would be done by others, but they could provide a detail of what it should look like and include it in this permit to have it done. The Commission noted that there were stumps and trash thrown in the wetland around the students' parking lot which would need to be cleaned up. Mr. Temple asked that this be included in the conditions as well. He also noted that a section of guardrail along the north section of the parking lot may also be replaced, depending on the cost. This should also be included in the design. The snow storage location is as noted on the plans. After some discussion, the Commission closed the hearing and asked Ms. Ryder to draft a set of conditions for review at the April 5th meeting.

Notice of Intent

The City of Marlborough - DPW proposes to install a gravity sewer between Concord Rd. and Hemenway St. (on existing paper street) as part of the City's continued wastewater system improvement program. A portion of the work is near a river and wetlands. Several neighbors were not properly notified, therefore this item was continued to the April 5th meeting.

Notice of Intent (Continuation of Public Hearing)
Forest St. - Special Olympics Massachusetts, Inc.

Proposes to construct its headquarters facility, including building, parking and drainage, near wetlands at Forest St. Assessors' Map 100, Parcel 19. (Next to Martinangelo Dr.)
At the request of the applicant, this item was continued to the April 5th meeting.

Notice of Intent (Continuation of Public Hearing)
175 Maple St. – 175 Maple St.

Nick Facendola was present on behalf of Daniel Campbell from Level Design Group LLC. Mr. Campbell could not attend due to a family emergency, so Mr. Facendola was present to answer questions. Mr. Facendola reviewed the letter from Mr. Campbell dated March 5th which covered the questions raised at the previous meeting. Ms. Higgins and the rest of the Commission asked several questions as follows: How does the back retaining wall drain and does it drain over the top of the wall? Has this added drainage been included in the drainage calculations? How will the pole in the stream be removed? What type of access will you need? The construction sequencing plan needs to include the removal of the buildings to be demolished. The dumpster pad is too close to the wetland and will drain to the wetland. A new location needs to be provided; this is not acceptable from a conservation perspective. The small sidewalk addition to connect the parking lots should be constructed with a pervious pavement or pavers as it is within the 20' buffer zone. It should also be designed, so that trees do NOT need to be removed. It should be located in an area further away from the stream where the pavement removal and restoration is to take place, so as not to disturb the existing trees.

Mr. Facendola provided a copy of an e-mail from Dan Campbell to the Licensed Site Professional (LSP) from the gas station across the street. The e-mail provided a plan showing the location of contamination on the 175 Maple St. site and required that a Release Abatement Measure (RAM) plan would be needed for the construction of this site. The Commission noted that the Information from the LSP regarding the RAM plan should be provided as noted; specifically details on how dewatering is to proceed given contamination levels.

Based on the plans, Ms. Higgins noted that the bottom of the cultech system appears to be at or IN the groundwater table according to the soil logs. Ms. Ryder noted that the City's Engineer must still review and provide comments on this design, but her knowledge was that such systems needed to be at least 2 feet above the groundwater table. The system also CANNOT be within the groundwater table, as this will "export" groundwater from the area, which is not acceptable.

Mr. Facendola indicated he would get the answers to this for the next meeting.

A planting plan for the 20' buffer zone area is still to be provided by the landscape architect and will be submitted at the next meeting. Was a 21E site assessment done for this site? As it has been an industrial site for many years, the potential for hazardous materials is present; therefore, if an assessment has been done that would be useful information in this planning process.

Trash in and around the wetland area will need to be removed. The Commission also noted that tractor trailer trucks are using this parking lot in the evening, they asked Mr. Facendola to convey this to the owner.

After further discussion, the Commission continued the hearing to the April 5th meeting to allow the applicant to address the above noted questions.

Correspondence

The Commission reviewed and voted unanimously to accept the following correspondence and to place it on file:

- Letter to Barrie Hunter, dated Feb. 27, 2007 RE: Permission Granted to Remove Trees in Wetland Buffer Zone- 48-52 Paquin Dr.
- Letter to Robbin Peach, Executive Director of Mass. Environmental Trust, dated March 2, 2007, RE: Support for Assessing River Monitoring and Extending Community Support.

Other Business

- DEP 212-762 Villages at Crane Meadow – Ms. Ryder indicated she has heard from Brian Card and that a plan for the replication area should be forthcoming.
- Japanese Bamboo elimination test spot- Ms. Ryder reported that Don Bishop, who operates a landscaping business, has asked if he might be able to do an experiment using mechanical cutting and grubbing techniques to control the stand of Japanese Bamboo at the Holts Grove Conservation land. No herbicides are to be used. The Commission thought this was a good idea. Ms. Ryder will ask Mr. Bishop to file a Request for Determination of Applicability for this work.
- DEP 212-952 Davis Estates, Farm Rd. - Ms. Ryder noted that the detention basins and some drainage are in place and stabilized. The project is progressing nicely.
- DEP 212-997 Residents at Chestnut Ridge - Ms. Ryder reported that Toll Brothers Inc. will be starting the project within the next few weeks. She has done a site walk with them and established the rules.

Adjournment - There being no further business, the Commission voted to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

**Priscilla Ryder
Conservation Officer**