

**CITY OF MARLBOROUGH
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Minutes**

June 2, 2011
Marlborough City Hall – 3rd Floor, Memorial Hall
7:00 P.M.

Members Present: Edward Clancy-Chairman, John Skarin, Dennis Demers, David Williams, Lawrence Roy and Priscilla Ryder-Conservation Officer

Absent: Michele Higgins and Allan White

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of May 5th and May 19th, 2011 were reviewed and unanimously approved as written

Public Hearings

Request for Determination of Applicability
33 Hayes Memorial Dr. - Rotadyne, Inc.

Dick Baldeli, representing Veron Landscaping who will be doing the work for Rotadyne, Inc. was present. He explained that the building is having trouble with wetness on the slab foundation. They would like to install a subdrain around the building to discharge into an existing catchbasin which is near the front parking area. The existing catchbasin is to be replaced with a new catchbasin with a 4' sump. The work is proposed 30-35' away from the wetlands. A few small trees would need to be removed for machine access and to install the trench and piping. Depth of subdrain would be 3' with crushed stone and filter fabric. Mr. Clancy asked where the water table was and whether such a subdrain might inadvertently drain the wetland? Mr. Baldeli said he wasn't sure where the water table was since they had not dug any pits. Mr. Roy asked if monitoring wells could be installed to determine this depth. Mr. Baldeli suggested doing some test pits to see where the water table falls. He said he would dig two pits one at the end and one at the corner of the building. This should reveal a lot about the soil and ground water. Mr. Clancy said to be sure Ms. Ryder also observes the holes. With the applicants consent, the meeting was continued to the June 16th meeting to give the applicant time to gather the information requested about the groundwater table.

Request for Determination of Applicability
945 Concord Rd. - Vasil Kote

No one was present. However, Ms. Ryder indicated she had been out to the site and the shed they are proposing will be well away from the wetland and should not pose a problem. The Commission voted 5-0 to issue a standard Negative Determination with conditions to notify the Conservation Officer when work is to begin.

Request for Determination of Applicability
84 Waterford Dr. - Sunovion Pharmaceuticals, Inc.

Bill Bergeron from Hayes Engineering was in attendance representing his clients Sunovion Pharmaceuticals Inc. (formerly Sepracor). He explained that they need to do some pavement repairs where the pavement has buckled and deteriorated. He showed the Commission colored photos and a plan of the areas that needed this work. The test pit showed that the sieve analysis was not good, so lots of

ice filmed under the pavement during the winter causing all the buckling. Therefore, they will need to remove and replace the sub-base. To relieve the moisture in the pavement, a sub drainage system will be added. This does not impact the groundwater table which is considerably lower. Some of the work is within the 100 foot buffer zone, so he was asked to file a Request for Determination of Applicability for this work. Mr. Demers asked how long the project would take. Mr. Bergeron estimates 2 weeks of work. Mr. Bergeron explained that a petro mat- filter fabric material will be used as a more water proof layer under the pavement. The work is 80' from the wetland at the closest point, silt sacks will be used in catch basins during this construction. There being no further questions, the Commission closed the hearing and voted unanimously 5-0 to issue a negative Determination of Applicability with standard conditions for notification and erosion controls prior to beginning work.

Request for Determination of Applicability (Continuation)

181 Boston Post Rd. - The Best Western Royal Plaza

The Commission received the Operation and Maintenance plan requested at the last meeting. Therefore, they closed the hearing and reviewed the draft negative Determination of Applicability. The Commission voted 5-0 to issue a Negative Determination as written and amended for this project.

Notice of Intent (Continuation)

280 Locke Dr. - Cermax Corporation/Massachusetts International Academy (MIA)
Robert Weidknecht of Beals and Thomas, Atty. Arthur Bergeron and Daniel Xu, director of the Massachusetts International Academy. Mr. Weidknecht explained that at the last meeting, he was asked to get input from the City Engineer regarding the slopes. Based on Tom Cullen's review, he did not want the curlex on the 1:1 slope as originally designed, so this has been altered to just have a boulder slope which changed the slope a bit. The drainage was also altered to include an intercepting drainage trench which will also serve to infiltrate stormwater. He provided revised plans dated 6-2-11. Mr. Clancy read the e-mail provided by Tom Cullen to Ms. Ryder explaining his concerns about the slopes, Mr. Cullen had not seen the most recent changes yet. After some discussion, the Commission agreed that the conversion from a parking area to a field is a good example of a positive change within the Wetland Supply Protection District. Mr. Clancy summarized that the slopes and drainage all look OK as proposed and nothing should enter the wetland. The Commission is waiting for final approval by the City Engineer. They asked that Ms. Ryder draft a set of conditions for the next meeting and get feedback from the city engineer. The hearing was continued to June 16, 2011 with the applicants consent.

Discussion:

1. Desert Natural Area Conservation Land - Trout Unlimited discussion with Bruce Osterling.
Mr. Osterling who is on the Sudbury Valley Trustee Board and a member of Trouts Unlimited explained that the Trouts Unlimited Board has been looking at trout streams throughout the area to ensure they are still healthy and happy systems. They have been evaluating the streams in the Desert/Memorial Forest conservation lands over the past few months with the state biologist to find out the health and viability of these trout streams. The initial visit in the spring indicated that the streams look healthy. The State wants permission to shock the

- streams to see what type of fish are living there and they plan to do this in July on both sides of the pipe line. Once it is done, they will do a report on the findings. They believe all these streams in the Desert can be designated “cold water fisheries” – right now only one of the streams is so designated. Trouts Unlimited is also interested in “helping” the stream either by adding plants or removing dams or increasing “riffle” areas etc. But, they don’t know what is needed yet until the state biologist takes a look and provide some input and recommendations on what, if any action is needed to improve and or repair the habitat. He also has a boy scout who is very interested in the stream system and helping out where he can on this project. The Commission asked questions about the shocking process and locations of the streams. They expressed support and thanks to Mr. Osterling for taking on this project and voted unanimously to endorse this trout habitat restoration effort. The Commission asked to be kept updated about the outcome and wanted to be notified when the “stream shocking” program was to be done.
2. Beaver dams at Cider Knoll - Ms. Ryder noted that there are several beaver dams that will need to be manipulated to avoid flooding of abutting homes septic system. The Commission gave permission to pursue whatever needs to be done to correct the problem.
 3. Conservation Commission 2010 Accomplishments and 2011 Goals - The Commission reviewed the 2010 accomplishments and the 2011 goals and voted unanimously to approve it and place on file.
 4. Community Garden progress report - Ms. Ryder discussed the proposal to create a community garden at the Cider Knoll conservation land and the costs of water line etc. She took soil samples this past week and sent them to be tested, results should be back in a week. The Commission decided that the gardens should be tilled and prepared for planting this summer and to generate interest for the garden spaces before investing in the water line. Ms. Ryder will pursue this and provide progress reports on the community garden.

Meetings – Next Conservation Commission meetings – June 16th and July 7th, 2011 (Thursdays)

Adjournment - There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Priscilla Ryder
Conservation Officer