

**CITY OF MARLBOROUGH
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Minutes**

**April 5, 2012 (Thursday)
Marlborough City Hall – 3rd Floor, Memorial Hall
7:00 P.M.**

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

Absent: Allan White

Public Hearings

Request for Determination of Applicability

123 Farmington Circle - Donald Monty

Proposes to install an above ground pool within 50 ft. of a stream.

Donald Monty was present and explained that he wants to install an above ground pool in his back yard. He has enough room to place it outside the 50 ft. buffer zone and away from the house. He will be using cartridge filters to filter the water. The area is mostly flat so there is minimal grading needed. Really he just needs to remove the sod, add sand and install the pool. The Commission determined that the disturbance will be minimal and voted unanimously 5-0 to issue a negative determination of applicability with no conditions. (Larry Roy had not yet arrived)

Notice of Intent

63, 73, Schofield Dr. 58 Brazeau Cir, 64, 74 Bergeron Rd.

The Marlborough Dept. of Public Works proposes to create a trench to improve drainage behind the homes at 63 and 73 Schofield Dr. 58 Brazeau Cir. and 64 and 74 Bergeron Rd.

Chris LaFreniere Assistant City Engineer and Ken Caulder from the DPW Street Division were both present to explain the project. Chris LaFreniere described the area as a ½ acre wetland which over the years has begun to fill in. Based on complaints from the neighbors there has been some problems with flooding over the past several years. To help address this problem they are proposing to install a trench through the wetland, from the discharge of the detention basin at the end of Brazeau Cir. and convey this water into the existing cross drain which crosses from Bergeron Rd. to Schofield Rd. through the house lots and just below the wetland area. The pipe will be perforated. Their goal is to channel the surface water from the detention basin and lower the groundwater table a bit to eliminate the flooding to homes, while still maintaining the wetland.

The Commission asked if easements were going to be sought from the neighbors, Mr. LaFreniere indicated that yes that would be necessary so the City has a right

to maintain it. However, the intent here is for the neighbors to keep the ditch open and keep it flowing with minimal involvement of the DPW. Mr. Clancy noted that it is unusual to ask to lower a wetlands water level, but under the current circumstances, given the detention basin above, and the gradual filling in of the wetland with the vegetation that this seems like a reasonable solution to help protect the homes.

Mr. Sullivan an abutter at 63 Schofield Dr. explained that he is in favor of this project. Over the past few years his back yard has been getting very wet, they never had this amount of water before. He noted that it does appear that the overgrowth in the wetland, which used to be more concaved, is pushing the water to the edges of the wetland and flowing into his yard. The shed which used to be on dry land is now in water. Mr. Blake of 73 Schofield Rd. also spoke in favor of the project. He asked questions about the swale construction and depth. Mrs. Blake asked about the new catch basin design and location.

Ms. Higgins also asked how Chris LaFreniere calculated that the wetland was 3' higher than in the 1960's topo maps. He replied that he just looked at the comparison of the water levels then and now and made a rough calculation.

Mr. Clancy asked for clarification on construction sequencing and tree clearing

Certificate of Compliance

- DEP 212-1071 173 Cullinane Dr. – Mr. Garafalo's wall repair in the back yard.

Discussions:

- Community Garden – Update
- Approval of Cider Knoll Community Garden rules and regulations
- Italian American Club (ITAM) – Neil St. – tree plantings plan - review
- Review NPDEP discharge permit for Ft. Meadow Reservoir Weed Treatment
- 79 Chase Rd. – questions about wall

Meetings – Next Conservation Commission meetings –May 3rd and May 17th, 2012 (Thursdays) (Note: No meeting April 19th)

Adjournment