**CITY OF MARLBOROUGH**

**CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

**Minutes**

**December 4, 2014 (Thursday)**

**Marlborough City Hall – 3rd Floor, Memorial Hall**

**7:00 PM**

**Members Present:** Edward Clancy-Chairman, Lawrence Roy, John Skarin, Dennis Demers. Also present was Priscilla Ryder-Conservation Officer,

**Absent:**  Karin Paquin, Allan White and David Williams

**Public Hearings**

**Request for Determination of Applicability**

Section of I-290 and Rte. 85 Connector - MDOT

Bill Clougherty from MDOT District 3 was present. He explained that the project involves the fabrication and installation of overhead and ground mounted guide and traffic signs along a section of I-290 and Rte. 85 Connector. The limits of the work extend from the City of Worcester to the Town of Hudson. Two of the signage support structures are to be installed within the 100 ft. wetland buffer zone and two smaller signs will be in the Riverfront Area of the Assabet River. Each sign location was identified on the plan and discussed. Holes will be dug to install the footings which are larger than what exists today. Holes will be made with a vertical auger machine and disturbance will be limited. All excess materials will be spread away from the resource area and stabilized. After some discussion, the Commission closed the hearing and voted unanimously 4-0 to issue a negative determination with standard conditions for notification of the conservation officer and soil stabilization.

**Notice of Intent (Continuation)**

Off Hudson St. - Sage Investors Inc. (Howe’s Landing) - Dennis Demers abstained from this discussion due to a conflict of interest.

Ms. Ryder indicated that the Commission had received approval for the drainage and layout of the project from the City Engineer, Evan Pilachowski, which was what the Commission was waiting for. The hearing was closed. However with only 3 members to deliberate on this item the Commission needing 4 for a quorum, this item was continued to the next meeting to vote on an Order of Conditions. Ms. Ryder will provide a draft.

**Notice of Intent (Continuation)**

424 South St. - South Street Realty Trust

At the applicants request in order to pull the remaining information together this item was continued to the December 18th meeting.

**Notice of Intent (Continuation)**

358 Berlin Rd. - Marlborough Brazilian SDA Church

At the applicants request this item was continued to the January 8th meeting.

**Notice of Intent (Continuation)**

93 Framingham Rd. (Lot 7) - Melanson Development Corp. Inc.

At the applicants request in order to gather additional information this item was continued to the next meeting on December 18, 2014.

**Notice of Intent (Continuation)**

93 Framingham Rd. (Lot 8) - Melanson Development Corp. Inc.

At the applicants request in order to gather additional information this item was continued to the next meeting on December 18, 2014.

**Draft Order of Conditions:**

* DEP 212-1142; 1 D’Angelo Dr. and 150 Cedar Hill St. – Ken’s Foods. The Commission reviewed a draft Order of Conditions, made some edits and voted unanimously 4-0 to issue an Order of Conditions as drafted and amended.

**Certificate of Compliance:**

* DEP 212-1093 19 Boston Post Rd. – Royal Crest Bldg. 21/22 - this was voted on at the last meeting, therefore, no action was taken.

**Project Updates/Discussion:**

* Dennis Demers asked the Commission to look into the use of straight salt no sand for winter roadways which is the policy of the DPW now. He is concerned that this may have negative impacts to the wetlands and water quality and wanted to know what the science says about this practice, if it is environmentally sound or not. He is also concerned that straight salt will rust out all the drainage structures and put added cost onto the city in the long run in the form of repairs and replacements. The Commission agreed that this should be looked into, Ms. Ryder will make some inquiries to OARS and Div. Fish and Wildlife to see what the science says about this too. She will report back to the Commission and then if needed, the Commission will meet with the DPW to discuss.

**Correspondence/Other Business:**

* Felton Conservation Land – Community Garden ideas. Ms. Ryder will provide some alternative locations for a community garden at the next meeting.

**Meetings:**

* Next Conservation Commission meetings: December 18th, 2014 and January 8, 2015 (Thursdays)

**Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:00 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Priscilla Ryder

Conservation Officer