



TOWN OF NORTHBOROUGH
Conservation Commission
Monday April 8, 2013
Conference Room B
Town Offices, 63 Main Street, Northborough, MA 01532

Conservation
Commission
Approved
6/10/13

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- Present:** Greg Young, Diane Guldner, Todd Helwig, Tom Beals, Mo Tougas, and Wayne Baldelli (arrived 7:07 pm)
- Absent:** Chelsea Christenson
- Others Present:** Mia McDonald – Conservation Agent; Eileen Dawson – Recording Secretary; Ziad Ramadan – 85 Newton Street; George Connors – Connorstone Engineering; and Girl Scout Troop 30465 members.

Mr. Young opened the Conservation Commission meeting at 7:03 p.m. Mr. Young reminded all that the meeting was being recorded.

Review Minutes of March 11, 2013

Commissioners discussed and had no changes to the minutes.

Ms. Guldner motioned, Mr. Helwig seconded, and it was unanimously voted, “To approve the March 11, 2013 minutes of the Conservation Commission.”

Butterfly Garden Revitalization Project, Watson Park, Junior Girl Scout Troop 30465

Girl Scout Troop 30465 members explained their plans to improve the Watson Park Butterfly Garden area including: fundraising plans with date TBD, fix or replace 2 birdhouses, watering schedule plans, clean out beds, add new bushes if needed, move roses, add various plants, add a bench (if costs allow), add signs and tags, and add mulch.

Commissioners asked questions about time lines, costs, and maintenance plans. The Troop explained that cleaning would start within the month, plantings and a bench would depend on fundraising, and the troop would have a plan for watering the plants (transfer responsibility to future troops), anticipate \$50-100 for costs mostly for mulch expenses (Co-leader of troop owns Garden Girls and will donate some supplies). Commissioners discussed helping with funding once the fundraising efforts were completed. Commissioners explained that the leaders should contact Mia McDonald regarding funding needs. Commissioners asked that all work be hand dug due to proximity to the wetlands. Ms. McDonald explained to the leaders that herbicide treatment may occur in July (signs will be posted) and not to use the water from the pond for watering the garden during this time.

Mr. Young requested action.

Ms. Guldner motioned, Mr. Beals seconded, and it was unanimously voted, “To allow the Girl Scout Troop 30465 to move forward with the Watson Park revitalization project.”

Public Hearings:

Mr. Tougas read the legal advertisement for the following public hearing:

Notice of Intent filed by the David & Therese Turpin for property at 394 Davis Street for construction of single family home within 100' of BVW.

Tree Removal Policy filed by the Conservation Commission for Adoption of Tree Removal Policy.

7:16 pm **Tree Removal Policy** - Adoption of Tree Removal Policy into Northborough Wetlands Regulations. Ms. McDonald explained that the draft policy distributed this evening is the same as last month's. Commissioners discussed and changed some wording that the "RDA *shall* be filed" and to define trees as "6 inches or greater in diameter at breast height." Ms. McDonald commented that once approved, the policy would be posted on the town's web-site. Mr. Young requested action.

Mr. Helwig motioned, Ms. Guldner seconded, and it was unanimously voted, "To accept the Tree Policy as presented and amended."

8:44 pm **Notice of Intent, 394 Davis Street**
Construction of a single family home within 100 foot buffer zone of bordering vegetated wetland resource areas on the property.
Applicant: David & Therese Turpin
Representative: James Tetreault, Thompson-Liston Assoc.

Commissioners briefly discussed that the applicant and/or representative was planning on attending this evening; however, no one was present this evening to discuss.

Mr. Tougas motioned, Ms. Guldner seconded, and it was unanimously voted, "To continue the Public Hearing for 394 Davis Street until May 13, 2013 at 7:15pm."

New Business

- **343 Newton Street** – well location on previously permitted plan with current Order of Conditions from the Commission. Mr. Ramadan explained the new Board of Health regulations adopted over a year ago and the impact on his project already in process. Mr. Ramadan explained that the new regulations requires that a well is 100' from the wetlands (his well is 58' from the wetlands). Commissioners discussed two others options in order to comply with the new Board of Health regulations; however, the proposed plan (58' from the wetlands) has much less impact to the wetlands than the alternate plans would. Commissioners and Ms. McDonald discussed and agreed that a letter should be written to the Board of Health supporting the current plans.

Mr. Tougas motioned, Mr. Helwig seconded, and it was unanimously voted, "To write a letter to the Board of Health in support of the plan and well location as presented on the existing Order of Conditions."

- 5 Davis Avenue – Commissioners and Ms. McDonald discussed the berms and curb paving that is needed on the property, siltation devices that need to be secured, and the erosion issues. Commissioners discussed that the property owner needs to reinstall the silt fencing, and possibly add stone for support. Commissioners requested that the property be placed on the DPW list for the addition of a berm and curbing. Ms. McDonald agreed to meet with Mr. Litchfield, Town Engineer, discuss and have a site visit to assess needs.
- Watson Park signs – Commissioners discussed the signs that have been removed and need to be replaced; Ms. McDonald agreed to contact the Fish and Wildlife to discuss.
- 100 Ridge Road – Commissioners discussed the tree cutting, trunks on the ground within 15’ of wetlands, and need to visit the site; Ms. McDonald agreed to visit the site and review.
- Open Space Committee– Commissioners discussed the interest in Open Space having their two alternates become full members and adding a new member to make ten total members. Commissioners agreed to support; Ms. McDonald agreed to send a letter on behalf of the Commission supporting Open Space Committee’s request.
- The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, May 13, 2013; Commissioners discussed and agreed to meet on May 13, 2013.

Old Business:

- Informal Discussion: 26 Alcott Drive – special condition of common ownership. Commissioners and Ms. McDonald discussed the property and special condition according to the Assessor’s Office as unbuildable and taxed accordingly. Commissioners and Ms. McDonald discussed the applicant filing an ANRAD for next month.
- Informal discussion: Mt. Pisgah, Ball Hill and Wrack Meadow conservation area. Ms. McDonald gave an update on the next April 25th meeting scheduled to discuss putting conservation restrictions on properties, asking local residents to donate or have a restriction put on property, and the three towns involved. Ms. McDonald explained that there is no money in Northborough’s budget (money was used to pay for Schunder’s property) to offer to pay land owners for sections of their property.
- Informal Discussion: site conditions at 300 Bartlett Street – Ms. McDonald explained that no activity has occurred this week and a Geo-Tech engineer is now involved. Ms. McDonald gave an update on the improvement with the basins and the need for swale sizing on the as-builts.
- Informal Discussion: 55 Hudson Street – George Connors, Connorstone Engineering, explained his plans including: buy the property, tear down the existing house, build an office building, and the changes in zoning of the downtown areas. He explained that Goddard Consulting has been analyzing the riverfront, wetlands, and resource areas. Commissioners discussed Mr. Connors plans for re-development, needs for alternative analysis, and their recommendation for an ANRAD filing. Commissioners discussed the riverfront area degraded status and the need to leave the current root system in place (not to replace bushes along the bank).

Conservation Commissioners discussed and recommended that Mr. Connors file an ANRAD because he is within the riverfront area. Mr. Connors suggested treating the property as densely developed as defined under the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act.

Certificates of Compliance:

- Request for Certificate of Compliance, 450 Green Street, Map 10, Parcel 34, DEP file # 247-1017.

Ms. McDonald explained that the property has been stabilized and ready for a Certificate. Mr. Young requested action.

Mr. Tougas motioned, Ms. Guldner seconded, and it was unanimously voted, “To issue a Certificate of Compliance for 450 Green Street, Map 10, Parcel 34, DEP file # 247-1017.”

- Request for Certificate of Compliance, Route 20 and Route 9 Intersection, Map 109, Parcel 15, DEP File #247-932.

Request for Certificate of Compliance, Northborough Crossing, Map 98, 107, 108, 109, 106, Parcel 2, 1, 3, 15 and (5, 6, 7), DEP File #247-884.

Commissioners discussed the Route 20/Route 9 Intersection and Northborough Crossing requests for certificates. Ms. McDonald explained that Mr. Litchfield, Town Engineer, has not yet fully reviewed the plans and a letter regarding stormwater compliance has not been received. Ms. McDonald explained that the Commission may vote on the Certificate, but not issue it until the review has been completed. The Commissioners discussed the need to fully review a project of this size. Mr. Young asked for a vote to continue the review.

Mr. Tougas motioned, Ms. Guldner seconded, and it was unanimously voted, “To continue the review for the Requests for Certificates of Compliance for DEP File # 247-932 and DEP file #247-884 until the Town Engineer has reviewed and approved all the work required on the Orders of Conditions.”

Old Business:

- Town Cleanup – May 27th – Ms. McDonald reminded all about the upcoming event.

Adjourn:

Commissioners had no further business to discuss. Mr. Young requested action.

Ms. Guldner motioned, Mr. Baldelli seconded, and it was unanimously voted, “To adjourn the Conservation Commission meeting.”

The Conservation Commission meeting ended at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Eileen Dawson

Commission Secretary