



TOWN OF NORTHBOROUGH
Conservation Commission
Monday,
May 12, 2014
Conference Room B
Town Offices, 63 Main Street, Northborough, MA 01532

Conservation
Commission
Approved
6-9-14

Present: Greg Young, Wayne Baldelli, Diane Guldner, Todd Helwig, and Chelsea Christenson

Absent: Mo Tougas and Tom Beals

Others Present: Mia McDonald – Conservation Agent; Eileen Dawson – Recording Secretary; Jo-Ann Sullivan – 103 Church Street; Bill Pantazis – 10 Mulberry Lane; Robert Palma – 171 Carriage Hill Road; Chuck and Kelly Strobel – 30 John Edward Drive; Brittanie Reinold – Massad Landscaping; Pat Blake – Coleman House, and Mark Farrell – Green Hill Engineering.

Mr. Young opened the Conservation Commission meeting at 7:00 p.m. Mr. Young reminded all that the meeting was being audio recorded for transcription purposes.

Review Minutes of April 14, 2014:

Commissioners discussed the minutes and suggested a little more information regarding the history of the Matraia Property.

Mr. Helwig motioned, Mrs. Guldner seconded, and it was voted 4, 0, 1 with Ms. Christenson abstaining, “To approve the Minutes of April 14, 2014 as discussed.”

Public Hearings:

Ms. Guldner read the legal advertisement including:

Request for Determination of Applicability for 103 Church Street, Map 55, Parcel 39 filed by Jo-Ann Sullivan for pruning and removal of trees for health and safety purposes within the 15 foot buffer of a bordering vegetated wetland.

Notice of Intent for 112 West Main Street, Map 79, filed by Patrick Blake of Coleman House for the construction of a paver patio, walkway and enlargement of a planting bed within the Riverfront Area.

Notice of Intent for 314 Church Street, Map 43, Parcel 17, filed by Mark Farrell of Green Hill Engineering for Karen Scopetski for the repair of a septic system on a single family house lot within the buffer zone of a bordering vegetated wetland.

Request for Determination of Applicability for 171 Carriage Hill Road, Map 27, Parcel 52 filed by Robert Palma for tree removal within a bordering vegetated wetland for safety purposes.

7:10 pm Determination of Applicability, 103 Church Street, Map 55, Parcel 39
Tree pruning and removal within 15-foot buffer of bordering vegetated wetlands for health and safety purposes.

Applicant: Jo-Ann Sullivan

Ms. Sullivan, applicant and property owner, explained the details of the pruning and brush removal of overgrowth of native and of invasive species, proximity of work to the wetlands, and the safety concerns for the nearby garage. Ms. Sullivan gave the abutter list and signature cards to Ms. McDonald.

Commissioners discussed the invasive species, suggested cutting down to the ground and adding bleach to stumps (invasive species), spray painting tree that marks the 15' no disturb area, and recommended cutting back and pruning annually without need for additional permitting from the Commission.

Mr. Young asked for audience comment; no one responded. Mr. Young requested action.

Mr. Helwig motioned, Mr. Baldelli seconded, and it was unanimously voted, "To issue a Negative Determination of Applicability for 103 Church Street, Map 55, Parcel 39."

7:20 pm Notice of Intent, 112 West Main Street, Map 79, Parcel 52, DEP File # 247-1072

Construction of a paver patio, walkway and enlargement of a planting bed within the Riverfront area

Applicant: Patrick Blake, Coleman House

Mr. Blake, property owner, explained the plans to add a patio and walkway (total 1,400 square feet), add plantings and move some planting to other locations, and keep fence and existing bushes in place. Mr. Blake explained that residents have difficulty walking on the back of property due to uneven grass and landscape. Mr. Blake explained the interest in the patio to have some outdoor barbeques and events for the 17 or so residents that would like to enjoy the outside area.

Commissioners discussed the property, roof recharge, and impervious calculations being well below the allowed amount, the proximity to the riverfront area, and the safety concerns for residents.

Mr. Young asked for audience comment; Mr. Pantazis, abutter, and Mr. Stroble, abutter, commented on the concern of the activities requiring lights, agreement with the planning Board that all activity would be in the front of the property, and the screening view of the property. Mr. Blake explained that no lights are proposed and activities would usually occur at the lunchtime hours a few times per month in the good weather.

Commissioners discussed the impact on the wetlands and insignificant change to the property footprint, safety concerns for residents, and option to plant some arborvitaes as a screen to the abutting properties. Commissioners discussed that the work would need to be done with small equipment such as a bobcat and silt fencing would not be required. Ms. Explained that the fencing would be taken down temporarily to get the equipment onsite, no stock piling would occur, and agreed to put straw wattles behind the fence for erosion control. Ms. Reinold explained that the work would take about 3 days in total.

Mr. Helwig motioned, Mr. Baldelli seconded, and it was unanimously voted, “To issue an Order of Conditions to Coleman House for property at 112 West Main Street, Map 79, Parcel 52, DEP File # 247-1072.”

7:45 pm Request for Determination of Applicability, 171 Carriage Hill Road, Map 27, Parcel 52

Tree removal within a bordering vegetated wetland for safety purposes.

Applicant: Robert Palma

Mr. Palma, property owner, gave the signature cards and abutter list to Ms. McDonald. Mr. Palma explained the details of the dead tree, safety concerns, and Riley Tree Service plans to remove. Commissioners discussed and agreed that the tree should be removed. Mr. Young requested action.

Mr. Baldelli motioned, Mr. Helwig seconded, and it was unanimously voted, “To issue a negative Determination of Applicability for 171 Carriage Hill Road, Map 27, Parcel 52.”

7:53 pm Notice of Intent, 314 Church Street, Map 43, Parcel 17, DEP File # 247-1071

Repair of a septic system on a single family house lot within the buffer zone of a bordering vegetated wetland

Applicant: Karen Scopetski

Representative: Mark Farrell, Green Hill Engineering

Mr. Farrell, representative from Green Hill Engineering, gave the abutter list and signature cards to Ms. McDonald. Mr. Farrell explained the details of the property including: run down property, septic system failed, banks owns the property, plans to add a new 1,500 gallon septic tank, plans to add a new 1,000 gallon pump chamber. Mr. Farrell explained the location of each device, the silt fencing proposed, and straw wattles proposed. Commissioners discussed the silt fencing to be installed 6-12” into the ground by hand. Ms. McDonald asked Mr. Farrell to add the silt fencing requirements to the plans.

Mr. Young asked for audience comment; no one responded.

Mr. Helwig motioned, Ms. Chistenson seconded, and it was unanimously voted, “To issue an Order of Conditions to Karen Scopetski for property at 314 Church Street, Map 43, Parcel 17, DEP File # 247-1071 with the special condition to add the silt fencing requirements to the plan.”

New Business:

- 248 Main Street – violation. Commissioners discussed the violation at Lakeside Oil within 50-60’ of wetlands, contaminated soils that need to be removed, Ms. McDonald’s issued cease work order, installation of silt fence that needs to be fixed, and a Notice of Intent that needs to be filed. The Commission determined that the \$100 fine per day that will begin on Wednesday if the erosion control is not properly installed by then. Commissioners agreed with the actions taken to date.
- 459 Main Street –fine. Ms. McDonald explained the \$100 fine issued to the property owner for installing erosion control with an excavator in the 15’ area. Commissioners

discussed the silt fence needed to be installed by hand or with a ditch witch. Ms. McDonald explained that she has re-inspected and the siltation devices are properly installed.

- 333 Southwest Cutoff: Alteration to Wetland Areas – Ms. McDonald gave an update on the new basin (pump up from the bottom). Commissioners discussed no stock piling within the 100’ buffer zone and asked that this be added to the special conditions section of the OOC.
- 341 Green Street – Hedge - Commissioners discussed the property and agreed to leave the property natural and not require a hedge; the natural forest buffer is fine.
- New England Forestry – subscription. Commissioners discussed the subscription and agreed not to renew.
- National Grid – Commissioners discussed the yearly vegetative maintenance plan.
- 300 Bartlett Street (FedEx) – soap issues. Commissioners and Ms. McDonald discussed the foam (soap) coming off the site and uncertainty of the source. Ms. McDonald explained that she sent a letter asking the owner to investigate the cause and report back to the commission if anything is found.
- 270 School Street - sheds – Commissioners discussed the sheds near the riverfront area, the bank cleanup of brush work done back in 2012, and the findings in 2012 related to the sheds. Ms. McDonald agreed to write a letter to the owner requesting that no accessories or structures be added within the 100’ to the riverfront area without filing a NOI with the commission. Commissioners discussed the property line and the area being outside of the commission’s jurisdiction.
- 8 Moore Lane – permanent markers at 15’. Commissioners discussed the applicant’s request to put flush to the ground permanent markers at the 15’ wetland area. Commissioners requested that visible raised concrete bounds are needed. Ms. McDonald agreed to notify the applicant of the Commission’s expectations for visible markers.

Old Business:

- Informal Discussion: 190 Main Street (DPW Garage) – Dan Nason, DPW Director, and Commissioners discussed the site including: erosion control installed, MA DEP Administrative Order schedule, and DEP involvement. Mr. Nason gave detail to the Weston & Sampson Engineering site involvement and plan design. Commissioners discussed that a NOI filing would not be necessary. Mr. Young requested action.

Mr. Helwig motioned, Ms. Guldner seconded, and it was unanimously voted, “To revoke the NOI filing request for the Town of Northborough DPW for property at 190 Main Street.”

- Order of Resource Area Delineation Extension, 85 Newton Street, Map 7, Parcels 1&2, DEP File #247-923. Commissioners briefly discussed and requested the applicant come before the Commission to discuss request for a 1 year extension.

- Bartlett Pond Herbicide Treatment – bid. Ms. McDonald gave an update on the Aquatic Control Technology proposed bid of \$15,850 (the only bid received). Commissioners discussed. Mr. Young requested action.
Mr. Baldelli motioned, Ms. Guldner seconded, and it was unanimously voted, “To accept the Aquatic Control Technology bid of \$15,850.”

Certificates of Compliance:

- Request for Certificate of Compliance, 57 Fernbrook Road, Map 83, Parcel 39, DEP File # 247-705. Commissioners discussed the property being very stable. Mr. Young requested action.
Mr. Helwig motioned, Ms. Guldner seconded, and it was unanimously voted, “To issue a Certificate of Compliance for 57 Fernbrook Road, Map 83, Parcel 39, DEP File # 247-705.”

- Request for Certificate of Compliance, 7 Belmont Street, Map 109, Parcel 05, DEP File # 247-310. Ms. McDonald explained that the property was a gun shop and an inspection is needed. Commissioners discussed approving pending Ms. McDonald’s approved inspection.

Mr. Helwig motioned, Ms. Guldner seconded, and it was unanimously voted, “To issue a Certificate of Compliance to 7 Belmont Street, Map 109, Parcel 05, DEP File # 247-310 pending an approved inspection.”

Correspondence:

Building Permit Applications: 123 Church Street & 498 West Main Street
Northern Woodlands Magazine & Renewal Request
National Grid – Letter re: Yearly Operational Plan for treatment of rights of way
Zoning Board Applications: 29 East Main Street & 51 Southwest Cutoff
Letter to FedEx at 300 Bartlett re: foamy discharge
Memo: 270 School Street
Memo: 190 Main Street, DPW Garage
Email: Permanent Markers at 8 Moore Lane

Next Meeting:

June 9th at 7pm and Site visits: Saturday, June 7th at 8am. Commissioners discussed and agreed to meet on the 9th and site visits on the 7th.

Adjourn:

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

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

The Conservation Commission meeting ended at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Eileen Dawson
Commission Secretary