

# STURBRIDGE CONSERVATION COMMISSION

May 16, 2013

Meeting held at the Sturbridge Center Office Building 301 Main Street

7:00 p.m. Open Meeting-Quorum check

Members present: Dave Barnicle, Chairman, Donna Grehl, Ed Goodwin, Calvin Montigny and Joseph Kowalski.

Members absent: None.

Also Present: Glenn Colburn, Conservation Agent, Andrew Cormier Jr., Mark Morin, Leonard Jalabert, Seth Lajoie, Russ Jennings, John Elliott, Tom and Diane Kane, James D'Andrea and Joseph Veneziano, M.D.

## Committee Updates

### CPA, SLAC, Trails Committee(TC):

- EG stated they had a meeting and discussed the Finance Committee vs. the BOS wording on articles that have been approved previously by CPA. EG stated CPA decided to go with the articles that were previously approved by CPA.
- DG stated SLAC is meeting tonight but had recently held a boating course.
- DB stated TC met last Tuesday and discussed trail development which they were in support.
- GC stated there were a number of approved items except the red, blue and white trail and the locations as recommended by Kay Linn. GC stated he had suggested opening up the Arbutis Park Loop Trail which he and two Tantasqua volunteers Ben Robinson and Davis Markum cleaned up and is now open. GC stated he is suggesting that the Commission consider a name change of the Arbutis Park Trail up to the West Ridge Trail changed to the Nipmuck Trail.

*Discussion by the Commission regarding re-naming of the Trails.*

- JK, CM, DB and DG were in favor of presenting a name change to the TC.

### **Approval of Minutes-May 2, 2013 :**

**MOTION:** By JK, seconded by EG to approve the 5/2/13 minutes as presented.

- CM asked if GC had received a planting plan which GC stated no.
- DB stated a change has already been made regarding Allen Peppel's comment that he would be amenable to other trees being planted.

**Vote: 5/0.**

### **Walk-ins:**

Andrew Cormier-Escape Estates:

- AC from Escape Estates stated they are here to discuss with the Commission regarding an amendment of a detention basin at Laurel Woods which was previously approved and would like to come in at a later date to propose a new design with less tree removal.

*Consensus by the Commission to proceed with the proper protocol.*

Joseph Veneziano-240 Roy Road:

- JV stated he is here to request a 6' x 15' lateral connection of his porch to his deck. JV stated footings are proposed to be dug 4' in the ground with the slab 6" above ground. JV stated no trees are proposed to be removed.
- DG asked about water from the roof line.
- Mark Morin from Morin Builders stated there are gutters there now with no issues. MM stated bushes are proposed to be removed. MM stated hay bales are proposed during de-watering and expects about a foot of water and stated if there are issues regarding de-watering he will contact the Conservation 'Agent.

*Consensus by the Commission to proceed with proposed work as a Letter Permit.*

**Public Hearings**

**7:15 p.m. Public Hearing:** Notice of Intent DEP #300-881, 96 Allen Road, John Elliot. Con't. from 5/2/13, waiting for revised plan.

- Seth Lajoie stated the trees to be removed are marked and the revised plan is proposing a 4' x 4' area of 6" minus riprap for the foundation drain.
- JE stated the tree by the shore line is not proposed to be removed.
- CM suggested no excavation of stumps in the 50'-100'.
- GC suggested no tree removals that overhang the water.
- EG asked how they are proposing to fasten the dock on the shoreline.
- JE stated the floating dock is proposed to either be fastened to the dock with a bucket or tied to a tree.
- DG asked when the work will begin.
- The Contractor (not signed in) stated work will begin in about 3 weeks and he will install hay bales, silt fence or straw waddles asap.
- DB asked that the Agent be notified once the hay bales are in place.
- CM agrees with GC regarding no tree removal down by the water.

**MOTION:** By CM, seconded by JK to consider CM request to leave the uprooted tree in place down at the water.

**Vote: 4/1.**

*Discussion and consensus that the work move forward without the dock permit.*

- DB stated that straw waddles are preferred.

**MOTION:** By DG, seconded by CM to approve the revised plan as proposed.

- The Contractor asked when the Order of Conditions will be ready and if the silt fence and haybales get inspected by the Agent prior to work beginning.
- GC stated there is a 10 day appeal period and the OOC needs to be recorded at the Register of Deeds.

**Vote: 5/0.**

**7:30 p.m. Public Hearing:** Notice of Intent DEP #300-883, 110 Westwood Drive, James & Linda D’Andrea. Second floor addition and deck relocation on an existing structure.

- LJ stated this is a proposal for an addition of a second floor on an existing footprint, front porch and an attached deck with associated site work and discussed his submitted narrative with the Commission.
- DB asked for more detail in regards to proposed grass and plantings where the existing wood deck is, where the emergency generator and propane tank is proposed, the re-grading of the south side of the house, proposed parking spaces and the proposed power and water lines down to the dock.
- LJ stated the south side of the house is proposed to be filled.
- CM, EG and DG suggested a site visit.
- JD stated the mulched planting in the public right of way is proposed to be removed along with the other mulched plantings on the property and replaced with natural stone. JD stated he could come back with a landscape plan.
- DB asked about the proposed repair and replacement of the steps down to the lake and stated the work can’t be done until drawdown of the lake October 15<sup>th</sup>.
- EG suggested plantings at the water’s edge.
- JK asked about an 18” oak tree on the plan.
- JD stated the 18” oak tree is not proposed to be removed.

*Public Hearing continued to 6/6/13 @ 7:30 p.m.*

- JD asked the Agent to call when the site visit is scheduled so he can be present.

**7:45 p.m. Public Hearing-** Notice of Intent DEP #300-882, 172 Lake Road, Real J. Jr. & Elizabeth Poirier, Construct new building addition.

- GC stated he did a site visit and the existing house is on piers with the proposed addition to be on piers.

*Consensus by the Commission to do a site visit.*

### **Enforcement**

67 Allen Rd-Brush in the wetland:

- GC stated at the last meeting the Commission had asked that all brush and logs in the wetland be removed and suggested a planting of shrubs and 1 red maple as mitigation.
- TK stated he was given an estimate of \$1100.00 to remove all material by hand and plant near the front of the house.

- JK suggested leaving the brush piles in the wetland and remove lawn clippings near the house.
- CM stated he would like the bulk of the brush out of the wetland.
- EG stated he would like the brush removed from the wetland.
- DG agreed with EG and that it be removed by hand.
- GC stated the brush would be habitat and suggested spreading the brush in the wetland and he would like the planting in front of the property.

**MOTION:** By CM, seconded by EG to remove the brush piles and install plantings.

- JK suggested that the tree be planted in the space south of the power lines.

**Vote: 5/0.**

### **Agent Report**

#### 136 & 138 Podunk Road:

- GC stated he went out to the above addresses and there are two violations which he will issue a letter to the homeowners asking that they clean up the debris behind the stockade fence which is near a wetland.

#### Stop and Shop Gas Station-Route 20:

- GC stated he found some issues at the Stop and Shop gas station on Route 20 regarding a partially filled swale, the DEP sign not posted and gravel that was pushed into the woods. GC stated he had good response from the owner regarding these issues.

#### 3 Cherry Brook Circle:

- GC stated that he will ask Ed Paquette to take care of some knotweed that is in the Riverfront area.

#### Hobb's Brook:

- GC stated he received a maintenance report regarding cleaning of the catch basin.

#### Whittemore and Hall Road:

- GC stated he spoke with Kyle Soper regarding cleaning debris out of the Brook.
- DG stated she noticed some of the debris had been cleaned out of the Brook.
- GC stated he will follow up with this.

### **Correspondence**

#### Edible Perennial Plant presentation:

- DB stated there is a presentation of edible perennial landscaping next Tuesday @ Town Hall 6:30 p.m.

### **Walk In:**

#### 39 Draper Woods:

- GC stated he spoke with the homeowner regarding an area that they would like to lightly fill which he told her no excavation of any kind. GC stated he didn't see any erosion and would recommend that the Commission approve this.

- CM asked if GC did a soil probe.
- GC stated he did not do a soil probe and stated there is no tree cutting and all work is proposed in front of the tree line. GC stated he observed upland vegetation only.
- CM stated he is ok with the Agent's recommendation.
- DB stated he would like the boring test before approval.
- JK agrees with CM.
- EG abstained since he hasn't seen the site.
- GC stated he will go out and do soil testing and if there are no hydric soils he will let the homeowner know it is ok with the Commission to proceed with the work.

## **SITE VISIT SCHEDULE**

## **ADJOURN**

**MOTION:** By EG, seconded by CM to adjourn @ 9:05 p.m.

**Vote: 5/0.**

**A copy of the DVD from tonight's meeting is available upon request if needed from the Audio Department @ 508-347-7267.**