



Acton Conservation Commission

Meeting Minutes

February 15th, 2023

7:15 PM

Virtual Meeting

Present: Jim Colman (Vice-Chair), Jillian Peters, Kate Warwick, Zywia Chadzynska, Amy Green

Absent: Terry Maitland (Chair), Peter Hocknell

Conservation Agent: Mike Gendron

7:15 The Vice-Chairman, Jim Colman, explained that the Terry Maitland would be absent and he would be the acting Chair. Jim opened the meeting and read virtual meeting guidelines.

7:17 The Vice-Chairman announced that the public hearing for **247-249 Pope Road DEP 85-1337** has been continued to the virtual meeting on **March 1st, 2023 at 7:15 pm.**

Regular Business

7:18 **Notice of Intent:** 431 Main Street; DEP 85-13xx

Representing the applicant was Ted Doucette of Doucette Engineering. Ted explained that the project was to replace an existing septic system, using a Presby system which is designed to provide higher level of treatment. Ted stated that a site walk was conducted with the commissioners and that all of the work is occurring outside of the 50-foot no disturb setback. He also mentioned that there is not any room on the property to move the proposed system and that the plan has already been approved by the Board of Health. Amy Green asked about the red oak on the property and stated she would like to see tree protections put in place.

The Vice-Chairman announced that there is no DEP number for this project and the public hearing would be continued to the virtual meeting on **March 1st, 2023 at 7:20 pm.**

7:26 **Notice of Intent:** 530 Massachusetts Avenue; DEP 85-13xx

Representing the applicant was Paul Kirchner of Stamski & McNary, Corey York of the Town of Acton DPW and Kara Lafferty of the Friends of Gardner Field. Paul explained that the current design of Gardner Field does not include stormwater management, and the proposed plan would introduce an underground infiltration system to the design in order to meet subchapter X requirements. Paul showed that a small portion of the infiltration system is inside the 100-foot buffer zone and connects to a drainage outfall (flared end level spreader) that is within the 50-foot and 75-foot setbacks. Paul stated that this outfall is proposed in this location because it is unsafe to have in the middle of the



field and the Acton Water District (AWD) has requested that water not be drained toward their property because it is a potential well site.

Zywia Chadzynska explained that alternatives should be considered because there is a structure inside of the 75-foot setback; Amy Green brought up that there is a 0-foot setback for wetland-dependent structures. Jim Colman stated that he would like to see something in writing that details how the drainage outfall would impact the future well and water supply if located on that side of the property.

Paul displayed a sketch which showed the two alternative locations (one in the middle of the field, one near the AWD property). Paul explained that this project is being proposed within groundwater protection zone 2, which is why the AWD is so invested.

Kara Lafferty discussed that the intention of the project is to create a universal park that can accommodate disabled youth and adults. She stated that the park needs parking so that people don't have to cross the busy street and she urged the commission to not locate the outfall in the middle of the field. Jim agreed that the middle of the field is not a favorable alternative.

The Vice-Chairman announced that there is no DEP number for this project and the public hearing would be continued to the virtual meeting on **March 1st, 2023 at 7:25 pm.**

8:06 Amended Order of Conditions: 115 River Street; DEP 85-1323

Representing the applicant was George Mihov of Howard Stein Hudson. George gave an overview of the project and pointed out that there were two site walks conducted to look at the project. George explained that since the last hearing, the rain garden had been moved outside of the 75-foot no structure setback.

Amy Green asked if there was a planting plan for the rain garden; George said there is and read off the plants incorporated in this plan. Amy asked if the O&M discussed maintenance of these plants; George responded that it did.

Amy stated that she would like to have the agent be notified before the rip rap is put in place and the outfalls are finalized.

Hearing no further comments/questions the Vice-Chairman closed the hearing.

Hearing closed at 8:17 pm.

Decision

Amy moved to order an amended order of conditions, with the special condition that the conservation agent be notified prior to the rip rap and drainage outfalls being finalized. Zywia seconded the motion and the roll call vote was unanimous.



Zywia Chadzynska – **Aye**; Kate Warwick – **Aye**; Jim Colman – **Aye**; Jillian Peters – **Aye**; Amy Green – **Aye**

Administrative Updates

8:19 Emergency Certification: 2 Taylor Road

Mike Gendron explained that an emergency certification was issued on 2/9/2023 to allow the Highway Department to clear muck and debris out of an outfall that drains to a wetland, and to dig a small ditch to allow water to pass through the drain. This work would be conducted to stop the storm drains from overflowing and creating dangerous slicks of ice across Taylor Rd approximately 2-3 inches thick.

Consent Items

Minutes of February 1, 2023

Jillian Peters moved to approve the minutes of February 1, 2023.
Amy seconded and the roll call vote was unanimous.

Certificate of Compliance; 406 Central Street DEP 85-1324

Amy moved to issue the Certificate of Compliance
Zywia seconded and the roll call vote was unanimous

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 PM.

Documents and exhibits used at this meeting:

Amended OOC Filing for 115 River Street; DEP 85-1323
NOI Filing for 431 Main Street; DEP 85-13xx
NOI Filing for 530 Massachusetts Ave; DEP 85-13xx
Meeting Minutes for February 1st, 2023

All documents can be found at: <http://doc.acton-ma.gov/dsweb/View/Collection-16302>