

Conservation Commission



19 WASHINGTON STREET
SHERBORN, MASSACHUSETTS 01770

April 22, 2009

Sherborn Town Hall

7:30 P.M.

Minutes of the Meeting

Members Present: Michael Lesser, Andrea Stiller, Carl Shedd, Bridget Graziano (Administrator), Steve Gaskin (Chair), Alycia Goody (7:50)

Members Absent: Rob Eckert, George Pucci

Associate Members Present: Eliot Taylor Guests: Doug & Pat Cassell, John McAllister and Wayne Perry (Norfolk Ram), Jeanne Guthrie,

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:30 P.M.

Public Hearing #1- (continued from December) Farm Pond Phase II rain garden

Norfolk Ram Representatives John McAllister and Wayne Perry explained new changes to the rain garden plan: it will be moved towards the lake, drawings and engineering plans will be altered to reflect this, and there will be an easement with Artemis Joukowsky, the owner, so that the rain garden may be placed on his property. Provisions for a roadside path, which would possibly be installed at some future date, will also be incorporated into the plan.

The stormwater management value of the water-quality swales on each side of the rain garden by the Pond in the original plan was discussed. Norfolk Ram noted a significant value of these swales (e.g. decreased rain garden maintenance, improved sediment removal and greater “water quality volumes” for stormwater management regulations), and their low cost (as primarily grading that would be done by CM&D). Given the uncertainty of the timing of the sidewalk and the benefits of the swales, it was decided to include the swales with the forebays as in the original plan, and they would feed into the revised raingarden design/location that allows for a future sidewalk. The design and location of these swales should allow for pedestrian safety by

lessening the difficulty of stepping off the road alongside them. Other issues were as follows. The second raingarden away from the Pond was outside of Commission jurisdiction. The plan for the new catch basin 7 by the Pond needs revised to address a conflict between a 4-inch inlet and 18-inch outlet. All existing catch basins will be cleaned before the start of construction. Any sidewalk in the future would need to be submitted to the Commission for approval, and any references to the sidewalk being “concrete” should be dropped.

The Commission gave recommendations for species of native plants to be used in the rain garden by the Pond. In general, plants are to be less than 3-feet tall, dense, native, and salt-tolerant, and in a natural looking arrangement. It was moved to accept the proposed NOI subject to these revisions discussed at this meeting. This was seconded and accepted unanimously. It was moved to close the hearing. This was seconded and accepted unanimously.

Public Hearing #2- (continued from March) 57 Maple Street In ground pool GLM Engineering Consultants

A revised plan was submitted with additional erosion control and details on dewatering location and setup. It was noted that an instruction for dewatering should be added. The OOC will state that if the pool needs to be emptied, this should be approved during a meeting or by communication with the Agent, and the runoff will be directed to a site designated on the plan outside the buffer zone which will be surrounded by a circle of strawbales. It was moved to accept the Notice of Intent and revised plan subject to the one change. This was seconded and accepted unanimously. It was moved to close the hearing. This was seconded and accepted unanimously.

Discussion #1- Farm Pond Reservation proposed second stairway, needs extension on Order of Conditions DEP # 283-288

The extension was granted based on a unanimous vote. The town now has a three year extension to complete the second stairway at the Town Beach, expiring June 12, 2012. The Town also agreed to close off the unfinished stairway to prevent residents for utilizing it.

Public Hearing #3- Changes to the Sherborn Regulations

Members discussed implementing a tiered fee system for RDAs with different fees depending on the type of project (single, multi-family, commercial, etc.). They also discussed charging applicants for extra site visits for RDAs, Certificate of Compliance, or Notice of Intent, if the agent needed to return due to a change in plan, not enough information, etc. It was moved to continue this hearing. This was seconded and accepted unanimously.

Discussion #2- CM&D cost for consultant

It was proposed to utilize Joyce Hastings as a Consultant for the CM&D project. Bridget will let Dan Merrikin know the budget for our consultant for the reimbursement of fees associated with hiring a consultant for CM&D New Garage.

Discussion #3- 111 Coolidge Street Enforcement Order

It was moved that the Commission ratifies the enforcement order signed by the Chair. This was seconded and accepted unanimously.

Discussion #4- George Morgan- Forest & Trail for Hidden Meadow

It was noted that George Morgan spoke with Bridget and asked for 20 to 30 straw bales to be placed on the wet areas of Hidden Meadow Trail near Bear Hill to prevent the horse riders from damaging the trails. The straw bales may be paid for by Forest & Trails. Ways to prevent horse traffic in muddy conditions were discussed. It was decided that the Commission will invite the new head of Forest & Trails in for a discussion at our next meeting.

Approval of Minutes

It was moved to accept the March 5, 2009 minutes as altered by Commission members. This was seconded and accepted unanimously.

Approval of Determinations of Applicability

The following Determinations will be reviewed at the April 22nd meeting. Based on the recommendations of the Agent, the determinations will be signed and approved by the Commission:

<u>Address</u>	<u>Description of Work</u>	<u>Findings</u>
111 Coolidge Street	Enforcement Order (ratify)	APPROVED
114 Farm Road	Certificate of Compliance	APPROVED
34 Farm Road	Installation of Septic System	POSITIVE
63 Lake Street	Certificate of Compliance	APPROVED

Administrator’s Report

324 Western Ave- Forestry Practices – Dr. Sullivan. Best management practices- should not be creating small pools or creating a vernal pool via logs. It was decided to research Conservation’s role in the Forestry Plan approval process and speak to Dr. Sullivan at a future meeting.

168 Maple Street- Replacement Septic System, the administrator noticed work taking place in buffer zone (Negative Determination in April 2004). Bridget spoke with the owner, Mr. Miner, he stated he does not want to work in the buffer zone and all disturbances were due to the septic system replacement. Mr.Miner stated he will leave the property as is.

15 Dexter- Update on Bridget's meeting with Cindy Ostrowski. Bridget reported that the resident was clearing more trees than the Commission expected, but that the trees were outside Commission jurisdiction.

67 Brush Hill- A non-punitive enforcement order was signed requesting remediation for the removal of invasive vegetation from the riverfront by planting native species to prevent erosion along the brook bank.

53 Woodland- Order of Conditions (11-2007) states the planting of 3'-4' High Bush Blueberry and Northern Arrowwood. Owners reported that they can only obtain 2' plants. The Commission decided that the owners could not get the require height in plants, they would need to discuss an alternative plan with Bridget. Applicant for Commission seat- Dudley "Will" Willis Jr. will be invited to our next meeting

Parkland Acquisition and Renovation for Communities- Barber Reservation and Forest & Trail- Bridget presented the potential for the Conservation Commission to apply for state funding for renovations to the Barber Reservation Barn or acquisition of land for the Town. The Commission suggested that Bridget speak with the Open Space Committee to see if there is any land there are interested in purchasing and would be apply for funding from the state. Michael explained, he was designated to work with the Open Space Committee and would look into it.

Bridget explained to the Commission that she had been meeting with members of Forest & Trails to start the process of renovation cost assessments for the Barber Reservation Barn. She will continue to work to see if the Commission could receive funding to complete the work to restore the Barn for Town use.

Adjournment: There being no other business to attend to, a motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 9:40 P.M. This was seconded and accepted unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Suzanne Trainor
Minutes Clerk

Cc: Board of Selectmen, Board of Health, Planning Board, Building Dept., Town Clerk, Town Forest, Town Counsel, Sherborn Library, Advisory Committee, D/S Press, Zoning Board of Appeals, Sherborn Garden Club, Forest & Trail Assoc., Assessor, Groundwater Protection Committee, Farm Pond Advisory Committee