

# Conservation Commission



19 WASHINGTON STREET  
SHERBORN, MASSACHUSETTS 01770

June 25, 2014  
Sherborn Town Hall  
7:00 PM  
Minutes of the Meeting

**Members Present:** Alex Dowse, Steve Gaskin (chair), Michael Lesser, Kelly McClintock

**Staff:** Bridget Graziano (Conservation Administrator/Agent)

**Absent Members:** Andrea Stiller, Jessica Pettit

**Guests:** Mike Boucher, Susan Tyler, Peggy Novak, Desheng Wang, Chee-Chong Tai, Carol McGarry

Mr. Gaskin called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Mr. Gaskin asked for any items not reasonably anticipated within 48 hours of the meeting.

The Agent noted that she would like to add a discussion on 1 Knollcrest Lane for an amendment. Mr. Gaskin moved to add a discussion on possible amendment to the Order of Conditions. Mr. Lesser seconded and it was voted to approved 4-0.

Per Open Meeting Law, Ms. Tyler (resident) is recording beginning at 7:03PM.

## **1 Knollcrest Lane – Request for Amendment to Order of Conditions DEP# 283-295**

The applicant and property owner, Mr. Boucher, was present for the discussion. The Agent reported reviewed proposed amendment and presented the findings based on the plan and a site visit. She stated that there is a change in grade outside the approved Limit of Work originally approved in the Order of Conditions DEP 283-295. The Agent explained this is an area that was specifically restricted from the removal trees or alteration of any kind by the MA Natural Heritage Program. In addition to this change, there was ~~considerable amount of additional~~ grading, expansion of house and addition of deck. The Agent recommended that this be considered a moderate amendment under the Sherborn Wetlands Regulations and a public hearing should be held.

The Commission discussed the possibility of ~~amending the~~accepting this plan ~~as a minor amendment as request. The Commission agreed that in order for thsi to be considered a minor amendment all work would need to take place inside the original approved limit of work. This is a requirement under the Massachusetts Endangered Species Act from Natural Heritage Program's review of this project. and to move all work back into the limit of work with no grading.~~The applicant, ~~Mr Boucher~~ agreed. Mr. Gaskin moved to accept this revised amendment

as minor provided that the Mr. Boucher moved all work into the original approved limit of work line so as to not violate the requirement of MA Natural Heritage Program. Mr. McClintock seconded and it was voted to approve 4-0. ~~????The finding???????~~ Will be scheduled for the next meeting when a new plan will be submitted showing the only change with footprint of house and new deck. The applicant agreed to provide an amended plan at the next meeting in order for the Commission to set conditions of the revised plan for the minor amendment.

## **Determinations**

### **111 Coolidge Street - (continued from 6-5-14 meeting) Proposal to construct an agricultural building within land in agricultural use**

Mr. & Mrs. Michaud were present as the applicants. They presented the proposal for the construction of new barn within land in agricultural use. It was noted that they are asking to qualify under the Agricultural Exemption 310 CMR 10.04. The Agent recommended this be permitted as qualifying under the exemption, if the y-Michaud's do not add fill to Bordering Land Subject to Flooding, divert roof run-off into a dry well and erect erosion controls prior to construction, which are to be reviewed by the Agent. Mr. Michaud presented the ~~an~~-addition of an agricultural swale to divert stormwater run-off from the site, in order to filter sediments before water reaches the wetland and to, this is for the protection of the wetland resource. The Agent agreed she thought this would be a good addition as there is some effect to the wetland from continue run-off from the agricultural operations. Mr. Gaskin moved to approve this proposal under a Positive 2B and Negative 5 provided that all Best Management Practices are implemented. Mr. Lesser seconded and it was voted to approved 4-0.

### **7 Curve Street – Proposal to install replacement septic system**

No one was present to represent the applicant. The Agent presented the proposal for the installation of a replacement septic system. She reported that the proposed project was 84' feet from the Bordering Vegetated Wetland and was within existing lawn. Therefore, she recommended a Negative 3 with special conditions. Mr. Gaskin ~~voted-moved~~ to approved as a Negative 3 with conditions, erosion controls and restoration of all disturbed areas. Mr. Dowse seconded and it was voted to approved 4-0.

### **181 Maple Street – Proposal to perform soil testing and installation of septic system**

No one was present to represent the applicant. The Agent presented the proposal for performing soil testing and the installation of a replacement septic system. She reported that there were no wetland resources within 100' of the limit of work and no riverfront within 200;-feet of the limit of work. The Agent recommended a Negative 1, 4, and 6. Mr. Gaskin moved to accept the Agent's recommendation of a Negative 1, 4, and 6. Mr. McClintock seconded and it was voted to approved 4-0.

### **152 Maple Street – Proposal to replace the well casing**

No one was present to represent the applicant. The Agent presented the proposal for the replacement of well casing to be completed by hand. She reported this was 5'-10' from the Bordering Vegetated Wetlands. She recommended a Negative 3 with special conditions be issued for this proposal. Mr. Gaskin moved to approve the proposal for replacement of well casing with special conditions for erosion controls and replanting of any disturbed vegetation. Mr. Lesser seconded and it was voted to approve 4-0 with conditions.

**19 Ivy Lane – Proposal to perform soil testing and installation of septic system**

No one was present to represent the applicant. The Agent presented the proposal to perform soil testing and installation of septic system. She reported that there were no wetland resources within 100' of the limit of work and no ~~R~~riverfront within 200-~~feet~~; of the limit of work. Therefore, she recommended a Negative 1, 4, and 6. Mr. Gaskin moved to approve the proposed project under a Negative 1, 4, and 6 Determination. Mr. Dowse seconded and it was voted to approve 4-0.

**Forest Street Map 16 Lot 20A- Proposal to install bog bridges over trails for multipurpose use**

No one was present to represent the applicant. The Agent presented the proposal for the installation of bog bridges over trails that are multi-use. She reported that these areas have been used as trails for years and the new bridges would protect soil compaction. There was no vegetation on trails that would be shaded from the presence of the bog bridges; this is a general concern of the DEP. She recommended issuing a Negative 3 Determination with special conditions for type of wood and construction. Mr. Gaskin moved to approve the addition of bog bridges on trails ~~for bog bridges~~ under a Negative 3 Determination. Mr. McClintock seconded and it was voted to approve 4-0.

**25 Page Farm Rd- Amendment to DOA for pond aerator (RDA-14-64)**

The Agent reported that there was an amendment for the proposed work. The amendment was approved in the field by the Agent and a Commissioner~~s~~ as it was very time sensitive. Originally, the approved Determination did not request trenching lines to the house from the electrical box. This needed to be done at time of installation. The Agent agreed~~noted that~~ this was a small one-foot trench and would not eaffect the wetland resource. She requested a post-construction site visit. Mr. Gaskin moved to amend the Determination RDA-14-64 to allow for a one-foot trench from the electrical box to the house. Mr. Lesser seconded and it was voted to approve 4-0.

Ms. Tyler departed from the room at 7:40pm with recording still going.

The aAgent asked if Mr. Liffiton had been notified of the recording, he stated he ~~was~~had been told.

**Discussions**

Ms. Tyler returned at 7:42pm

**Discussion #1- Review of possible substantial changes to the Sherborn Wetlands Regulations**

Mr. Lesser stated that he has made a ~~requested with-to~~ the Town Administrator to speak with Town Counsel on removing the appendices of bylaw applications under the Regulations and how we deal with referencing regulations. Mr. Lesser is hoping to get advice in a timely manner. He asked the Agent to resend the email request to Mr. Williams about the use of Town Counsel. The Commission was asked about other substantial changes that each Commissioner would like to propose. Mr. Dowse stated he had a few and the Commission is in possession of his concerns from our last review of the Regulations. Mr. Gaskin wants to review Section 5.1.b. Mr. McClintock stated he would hold off until the public hearing. In addition, Mr. Lesser also wanted to discuss with the BOS and possibly the Advisory Committee his thoughts on revenue loss for this department.

~~Ms. Tyler (resident) asked about who the author of the June 10, 2014 paper is.~~

The Commission discussed the fee for the administrative review and loss of revenue.

Mr. Liffiton stated that the ~~fee is not set in the Regulations. The~~ BOH does not have fees in its regulations. ~~and~~ ~~questioned about~~ whether this fee can be in the Regulations. The Commission noted its right to set fee schedule in the regulations is under the Sherborn Wetlands Bylaw.

Ms. Tyler ~~noted~~ BOS ~~discussed~~ ~~of the use of~~ MAPsOnline and asked about use of this instead of a site visit. The Commission agreed this is a useful tool but is not sufficiently accurate ~~and not how this for the~~ Commission ~~operates~~.

The Agent brought up the date for time-line for review of regulation amendments and the Commission agreed to schedule for July 17th and that she would draft a form for applications for residents.

## **Public Hearing**

### **Public Hearing #1 - Washington Street Map 3 Lot 88B&C for a proposal to complete site improvements DEP File # 283-356**

The agent requested the green cards. Mr. Desheng Wang did not have the cards. He went to get the cards.

Mr. Desheng Wang returned with cards ~~and provided them~~ and they were checked. Mr. Gaskin opened the hearing at 8:45 pm.

He presented the proposal for site improvement work and the requested wetland delineation. The Agent reviewed the flag changes made in the field.

Mr. Gaskin moved to continue the hearing to July 17th at 8:00pm for revised plan with changed limit of work and flags. Mr. McClintock seconded and it was voted to approve 4-0.

## **Discussions**

### **Discussion #2 - Update on staffing and budget**

The Commission ~~took~~ began this discussion at 8:23PM. The commission reviewed and proposed changes to the draft job description for an Administrative Assistant ~~Asst.~~ to the Administrator/Agent position. Mr. Gaskin asked to amend #4 for the position. for research and open space land management.

~~Mr. Gaskin asked to amend #4 for the position. for research and open space land management.~~

Mr. Lesser moved to accept the job description for the Administrative Asst. to the Admin/Agent job description for 3-1-0 with the language change from the above-mentioned line #4.

~~Mr. Lesser moved to accept the revised job description for the Administrative Assistant Asst. to the Admin/Agent job description. Mr. Gaskin seconded and it was voted to approve for 3-1-0 with the language change from the above mentioned line #4.~~

Land Management Discussion (part of Agent report)

Ms. Tyler mentioned that ~~thesome~~ telephone poles are degraded and whether it is possible for NSTAR to take the ~~polls-poles~~ back. ~~“Could the polls be brought back to the NSTAR depot?”~~

~~Is possible for the polls to be moved...who to contact?~~

Mr. Gaskin departed at 8:35 PM.

Issues of trash at the playground were briefly discussed. Mr. Lesser thanked Ms. Tyler for picking up the trash. Ms. Tyler noted that there are trash barrels all over town, and it was discussagreed that related maintenance is needed. ~~Mr. Lesser stated that unless people are going to maintain it, the town is certainly not going to, so they should be removed.~~

~~Steve~~ Mr. Gaskin arrived at 8:38 PM.

**Discussion #3 – Candidates for the Commission ~~open seat~~ interviews**

Ms. Tyler was present as a candidate for the open Commission seat. She began her interview by telling the Commission a little about herself. She stated lived here, has and was served on the Commission, ~~and~~ knows the laws, and she had an excellentgoods perfect attendance record, ~~which she has shown at the last meetings.~~

Ms. McGarry was also present as a candidate. She moved to town in 1995 and she was on the recruited by historical committee and is now the Chair, and has experience within town government and, communication issues, ~~recognizing that not all members are on the same side,~~ she has been chair. She has been interested in nature and plants, insects and birds ~~thought that she was going to be an environmental major,~~ and she is enrolled in a native plant wildflowers classes; what sShe brings to the Commission a combination of knowledgeunderstandings, a clear and persuasive way of speaking and management skills for of lands, wildlife and people with understanding of what there. She noted that she can make our usual meeting times and Kelly asked about time and trouble getting to meetings. She felt she could not make daytime meetings, she would be able to help manage lands. She agreed to take Michael asked about training classes and, ~~she agreed.~~ Questions about learning the regulations.

Mr. Lesser noted that he wants to put forth a letter of recommendations to the BOS covering Michael discussed the appointments and reappointments as Steve Gaskin and Jessica Petit wanted to be reappointed and there is one open position, ~~he discussed the memo that we make a recommendation on candidates. If they would disagree then there should be a discussion.~~

~~We can vote on now or reconsider when there are more members, or at least get something to them in July.~~

Mr. Dowse proposed Alex’s slate would be putting forward everyone to the BOS. Alex would like to makeHe movedtion to put forward all candidates forward toas qualified. Mr. McClintock seconded and the motion was not approved 2-2-fails.

Mr. Lesser Steve moved to recommend Steve Gaskin, ~~and~~ Jessica Petit and Carol McGarry as reappoints and carol for appointment to the Commission. Mr. Gaskin seconded and it was voted to approve Steve. Susan mentioned other candidates want to apply 3-10.

~~Michael mentioned at some point they want to move ahead.~~

**Approval of Meeting Minutes of 3/20/14, 4/3/14 & 4/22/14, 5/15/14 – none reviewed.**

**Signing of Warrant** – Mr. Gaskin signed the warrant

### **Conservation Administrator/Agent Report**

- Conservation Land Maintenance – ~~In addition to the previous discussion, discussed at 8:12pm. Kelly~~Mr. McClintock mentioned the Leland parking lot area needed maintenanceshould move the forest to the parking area. Mr. McClintock reported he ~~would like would like to mulch and get rid of saplings.~~

A resident, Peggy Novak, stated that she ~~who~~ may know someone who may want to volunteer to assist with the regular mowing of the Barber Reservation parking area. Mr. Lesser would like to have the grasses mowed to alongside the stone walls, so as not to lose any fields and inadvertently create more forested, woody edges along stone walls.

The Commission notified new ~~comers to the~~ meeting attendees that ~~the~~ meeting is being recorded.

### **Adjourn**

Mr. McClintock moved to adjourn at 9:16 pm, Mr. Dowse seconded and ~~its~~ was voted to approve 4-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Bridget R. Graziano  
Conservation Administrator/Agent