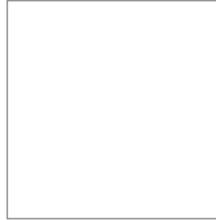


Conservation Commission



19 WASHINGTON STREET
SHERBORN, MASSACHUSETTS 01770

May 21, 2015

Sherborn Town Hall

7:00 P.M.

Minutes of the Meeting

Members and Staff Present: Steve Gaskin, Kelly McClintock, Carol McGarry, Jessica Pettit, Bridget Graziano (Conservation Agent/ Administrator), Kaitlyn Kutzer (Administrative Assistant)

Members Absent: Alex Dowse, Michael Lesser, Andrea Stiller

Guests: Susan Aharonian, Leo Cavanaugh, Neil Kessler, Craig Surman, Dimitre Taslakov, Eliot Taylor,

Mr. Gaskin called the meeting to order at 7:08 pm.

Mr. Gaskin asked for any items not reasonably anticipated within 48 hours of the meeting. The Agent stated that she had received an email from the Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) regarding the two proposals from potential consultants for the proposed project titled "The Fields at Sherborn". She also stated that the ZBA meeting to discuss the proposals from the potential consultants was scheduled at 8:00 PM and she would excuse herself from the Conservation Commission meeting to attend the ZBA meeting with one of the commissioners. The Commission agreed that she should attend.

Determinations

150 North Main Street-Proposal to demolish existing deck and install stairs, two landings, and remove trees

The applicant Dimitre Taslakov was present. He described his proposal to remove trees within the buffer zone of the wetlands as well as the replacement of his deck. The Agent stated that the proposed tree removal is within the 0-50' no alteration zone but the proposal for the deck is not within 100' of a wetland resource area and is not within 200' of a riverfront area. She also stated

that the trees present safety issues because they are leaning towards the home of the applicant and into the driveway of the applicant as well as towards an abutter's home. The Agent then noted that the machinery used to remove the trees would be able to remain on the driveway, preventing further disturbance. She recommended that the Commission encourage the applicant to plant a native species to compensate for the loss of vegetation and the Commission agreed that the Agent would work with the applicant to designate an appropriate species. The Agent then recommended a Positive 5 and Negative 3 Determination. Mr. Gaskin moved for a Positive 5 and a Negative 3 Determination. Ms. Pettit seconded and it was voted to approve 4-0.

35 Page Farm Road-Proposal to demolish existing porch and construct addition with new deck

The applicant Craig Surman was present. He stated his proposal to construct an addition to his single family home. The Agent stated that the existing screened-in porch is 86' from the bordering vegetative wetland found on site. The proposed work and access during construction would occur within the 50'-100' buffer zone. She also stated that the high groundwater table presents an issue for roof run-off. The Commission discussed how the applicant would direct the roof run-off to prevent soil erosion and contamination of the wetland resource. The Agent stated that the limit of work with erosion control measures would need to be established and approved, before any work commenced. The Commission also requested that the applicant add plantings of native species after the project has been completed. The Agent recommended a Positive 2b, 5 and Negative 3 Determination with conditions. Mr. Gaskin moved for a Positive 2b, 5 and Negative 3 Determination with conditions. Mr. McClintock seconded and it was voted to approve 4-0.

3 Coolidge Street-Proposal to perform soil testing

No one was present to represent the applicant. The Agent stated the proposed testing would take place within the 50'-100' buffer zone of a BVW. Although, the area to be tested is previously disturbed buffer and now considered existing lawn. The Agent recommended a Positive 5 and Negative 3 Determination. Mr. Gaskin moved for a Positive 5 and Negative 3 Determination with conditions. Ms. McGarry seconded and it was voted to approve 4-0.

Discussions

Agent left at 8:02 to attend ZBA meeting

Mr. Gaskin moved to accept Mr. Lesser's recommendation regarding the Consultant for "The Fields at Sherborn" Mr. McClintock seconded and it was voted to approve 4-0.

Discussion #1- Leo Cavanaugh on Ward J. Park improvements/new playground

Mr. Killeen was present to discuss plans for a proposal to upgrade The Sherborn Community Playground. Ms. Aharonian from the Playground Committee and Mr. Cavanaugh and Ms. Bowman from the Recreation Commission were also present. Mr. Killeen stated that all of the current equipment will need to be removed and replaced. He then stated that the large tree on the

playground will need to be removed as well and the current fence line would be moved back to provide more space for the playground equipment and the associated safety zones.

The Agent stated that a site visit would need to be performed to determine if any of the work is within the jurisdiction of the commission. Mr. Killeen asked what type of filing would be required and the Agent stated that it is contingent upon the level of disturbance and its proximity to the wetlands. She recommended that Mr. Killeen submit an RDA with plans that indicate erosion control measures and a limit of work. The Commission scheduled a site visit for June 3rd at 8:00 AM.

Mr. Cavanaugh stated that he intends to upgrade the skate park and other portions of the park. He asked the Commission what they envision for the park and how much would the Commission like the Recreation Commission to manage these issues for on their behalf because he is frequently approached with these issues. Mr. McClintock stated that he is unsure about how conservation practices could be incorporated in the activity that could take place there. Mr. Cavanaugh stated that he would continue to explore options for the development of the park and recreation opportunities if the Commission feels that he would be within the limits of the Recreation Commission's power. Mr. Gaskin stated that as long as all plans have little to no impact to the buffer zone he did not feel that the proposed work would be an issue.

Mr. Cavanaugh then asked if a temporary restroom could be placed on the property for those using the park. The Commission stated that they agreed with the proposal and recommended that Mr. Cavanaugh work with the Agent on how to proceed forward. Ms. Bowman stated that the maintenance of the proposed improvements presents an issue for the Recreation Commission and she stated that there is unclear jurisdiction for this property, its improvements, as well as the continued maintenance. Mr. Gaskin asked if the Recreation Commission members that were present were looking for a land swap to better manage the site. Ms. Bowman stated that she felt this would make sense and hopes the Commission will consider it.

Discussion #2 – Barber Reservation Barn, forestry and land management

The Agent returned at 8:34

Mr. McClintock stated that more discussion needed to occur with the Agent and a site visit needed to be scheduled to address the parking lot of Barber Reservation. He also stated that a separate site visit needed to occur at the Hopestill Reservation.

The Agent stated that the students doing the work on the barn at Barber Reservation will not start the proposed work until next fall. She also stated that George Fiske agreed to clean up the site as soon as possible. The Agent recommended a meeting between her, the building inspector, David Williams, and one of the Commissioners to determine the status of the barn.

Discussion #3 – Eagle Scout Andrew Mallet

Mr. Mallet presented his proposed project to build an “orienteering course”. He stated that he is unsure who has ownership over the land that he hopes to build on. He stated that the course, although permanent, will have little impact. The posts used would be pressure treated wood and installed by hand. He stated that there is no longer arsenic present in pressure treated wood and the new form of treatment of pressure treated wood does not lead to as much release of chemicals into the ground as the wood degrades. Mr. Mallet then stated he has purposely avoided all wetlands and chosen dry areas to create the course. Mr. McClintock asked about the longevity of the course as the forest changes. Mr. Mallet stated that this should not be a problem as long as the trails are maintained the course will continue to be usable. Ms. McGarry stated that Mr. Mallet should walk the proposed course with the Agent and/or herself to prevent the disturbance of sensitive vegetation during the use of the course.

Discussion #4 – Review of Town Contract, Sassamon Trace

The Commission reviewed the document and stated their approval.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

Minutes from 4/2/15 Mr. Gaskin moved to accept the minutes as amended. Ms. McGarry seconded and it was voted to approve 4-0.

Conservation Administrator/Agent Report

Administrative Approvals

- **16 Whitney Street** - Proposal for new shed, Approved
- **61 Harrington Ridge Road** - Proposal for pool and spa with associated fencing, Approved with request for final plans
- **25 Parks Drive** - Proposal to replace D-Box and headlines, for Title 5 Inspection, Approved
- **13 Course Brook Road** - Proposal for attached barn- Waived 21 Day requirement for applicant to provide more information for the Agent. Pending surveyor.
- **9 Russet Hill Road** - Proposal to install a new 13'X16' deck, Approved

The Agent asked the Commission members to attend the upcoming Planning Board meeting in regards to the proposed 8M Permit which will allow the use the MWRA aqueduct as a trail system. She stated that the MWRA owns the land where the line exists outright, therefore the process of developing the trail system is less complicated. However, some of the abutters are opposed to the proposal. The Agent stated that the intent is to create a work-around for the farms and Sassamon Golf Course that abutt the system, in order to be respectful of the businesses. The Agent stated the major opposition from the abutters is due to fear of vandalism and theft. Mr. McClintock stated that the farmers have already had these problems without the existence of the trail. The Agent stated she would speak with the town of Framingham to learn what status of their trail is in because it is needed for connectivity to the trail systems of other towns.

The Agent stated that the work being done on the trail at Little Farm Pond has been completed and she recommended that some Commissioners attend a site visit.

Mr. Gaskin introduced Mr. Kessler and stated his interest in being a part of the work done by the Commission. Mr. Gaskin moved to appoint the associate member, Mr Kessler. Ms. Pettit seconded and it was voted to approve 4-0.

Mr. Gaskin moved to adjourn. Ms. Stiller seconded and it was voted to approve 4-0. The meeting was voted to adjourn at 9:01 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kaitlyn Kutzer

Documents Presented at the May 21, 2015 Public Meeting

All documents shall be kept in the Conservation Commission Office files.

Determinations**150 North Main Street-Proposal to demolish existing deck and install stairs, two landings, and remove trees**

- Application and associated plans

35 Page Farm Road-Proposal to demolish existing porch and construct addition with new deck

- Application and associated plans

3 Coolidge Street-Proposal to perform soil testing

- Application and associated plans

Document regarding ZBA meeting: Email by Michael Lesser titled “RE: Comprehensive Permit Peer Review - “The Fields at Sherborn” - Washington Street, Sherborn MA” Dated May 21, 2015

Discussions**Discussion #1 – Leo Cavanaugh on Ward J. Park improvements/ new play ground**

- Plans titled, “ Sherborn Community Playground Sherborn, MA” by Play by Design dated “Build Date” October 20-25, 2015

Discussion #4 – Review of Town Contract, Sassamon Trace

- Draft Town Contract

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