



T O W N O F
S T O N E H A M
M A S S A C H U S E T T S
Town Hall
35 Central Street

Stoneham Conservation Commission
781-279-2696

**STONEHAM CONSERVATION COMMISSION
MINUTES OF MEETING
OCTOBER 26, 2020
REMOTE 7 PM**

7:02pm start

Bob Parsons, Ellen McBride, Alex Rozycki, Rob Fotino, Norman L'Esperance, Megan Day, Jessica Gerke and Domenick Cimina

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PUBLIC HEARING:

11 South Marble

Adrian Poci

The regulation of the flow of water in backyard, in and out of the channel, by replacing the old pipe and extending it along the entire length of the channel. Notice of Intent Continued

Bob Parsons mentions it's an intermittent stream and Dr. Poci would like to rescind his Notice of Intent. Ellen McBride mentions the enforcement order from April 2019 because of violations from Wetlands Protection Act the Conservation Commission paid for Rimmer Environmental to assess his yard. Dr. Poci needs to do a restoration plan. Dr. Poci says contacting a scientist to advise on the channel project is financially unfeasible. He talks about the pipe at his neighbors at 15 South Marble followed regulations and extends to his property, and that he will contact this Engineering company to extend pipe to length of property.

Ellen McBride believes Ms. Rimmer's report said Department of Environmental Protection would not let that happen. Dr. Poci says there is a paper from the court that his neighbor John can send to prove the culvert work is legal. Bob Parsons says that if the underground culvert precedent is set it can be reviewed.

Dr. Poci says the culvert is a court decision. His intention is to talk to the engineering company. He and his wife as engineers do not agree with Ms. Rimmer's assessment. Dr. Poci is willing to plant from a list of recommended wetland species. It is his intention to cover the pipe.

Bob Parson said taking away a resource area to put in a pipe is unlikely. If Dr. Poci seeks out an engineering firm it should not be for a covered pipe. Mr. Parsons says we will look at adjacent project and that he is willing to go to site but cautions to not spend money until we are all on the same page.

Ellen McBride says we will look at original documents. The enforcement order is related to clear cutting in the yard which needs to be restored.

Bob Parsons says we want to protect everyone's best interest and work with Dr. Poci.

Rob Fotino asks about a site visit.

Bob Parsons agrees and mentions the Commission is an extension of the state.

Dr. Poci will look for paperwork to send into office. He bought and planted 8 blueberry bushes.

Ellen McBride made a motion to continue, seconded by Norman L'Esperance.

Roll call Yes Bob Parsons, Ellen McBride, Alex Rozycki, Rob Fotino, Norman L'Esperance, Megan Day, Jessica Gerke and Domenick Cimina 8/0

Rear Hillside Ave.

Jim Juliano

Construction of a new single family house with driveway and associated grading in the 100 foot buffer zone. Notice of Intent continued/Request for Determination of Applicability continued.

10/23/20 site visit from ZBA did not allow neighbors on the property.

Motion to continue by Ellen McBride, seconded by Norman L'Esperance.

Roll call yes Bob Parsons, Ellen McBride, Alex Rozycki, Rob Fotino, Norman L'Esperance, Megan Day, Jessica Gerke and Domenick Cimina 8/0

Montvale Ave Culvert

Mel Higgins/David Klinch

Amended order of Conditions requested

Bob Parsons recaps the original Notice of Intent was by Epsilon for Eversource, install conduit, construction trenchless installation of conduit changed to open cut and install which requires Weston & Sampson to design. Site visit attended, design complete, amend OOC, meets stream standards, good project for the Town, changes accepted. Mel Higgins thanks all. Michael Hager thanks and says Eversource will start work next year. Ellen McBride motions to close hearing, seconded by Norman L'Esperance.

Request to forward to David Klinch before 11/16/20 meeting vote.

Roll call yes Bob Parsons, Ellen McBride, Alex Rozycki, Rob Fotino, Norman L'Esperance, Megan Day, Jessica Gerke and Domenick Cimina 8/0

100,200,300 Park Terrace

Ryan Bianchetto, Allen & Major

Bob Parsons recaps that revised plans reviewed to accommodate DCR comments. Watershed improvement, DCR and Melrose as partners some day. Ellen McBride makes motion to approve amended OOC, Alex Rozycki seconded. Mr. Bianchetto asks it be sent to Woburn office. Most likely spring construction start. Roll call yes Bob Parsons, Ellen McBride, Alex Rozycki, Rob Fotino, Norman L'Esperance, Megan Day, Jessica Gerke and Domenick Cimina 8/0

12 Sparhawk

Robert Zeuli for Mike Amirault

Request for Determination of Applicability for fence and deck

Motion to continue made by Ellen McBride, seconded by Norman L'Esperance.

Roll call yes Bob Parsons, Ellen McBride, Alex Rozycki, Rob Fotino, Norman L'Esperance, Megan Day, Jessica Gerke and Domenick Cimina 8/0

18 Clearview Rd

Patrick Carroll

Request for Determination of Applicability for addition

Motion to approve negative determination of applicability with hay bales and siltation fencing by Ellen McBride, seconded by Norman L'Esperance. Roll call yes Bob Parsons, Ellen McBride, Alex Rozycki, Rob Fotino, Norman L'Esperance, Megan Day, Jessica Gerke and Domenick Cimina 8/0

DISCUSSION ONLY:

2 North Street

Bear Hill Golf Course

Discussion of restoring impacted areas and tree plantings.

Trees removed without permission, will restore impacted areas in the spring. Good transparency. Ellen McBride wants neighbors to be aware plan will be approved by the Commission.

3 Daniel Drive

Joseph Penney

DCR report

No update, revisit next meeting.

Montrose Ave

Jenny Lecoq

Greenway Picnic Bench Install

Director of Stoneham CDC Jenny Lecoq installed benches within 200 feet of Riverfront. Planted native trees and proposed activities need to be run by Conservation Commission. Group will visit Commission in 2021. Ellen McBride mentions the bike rack at Sweetwater Brook as another example of what you don't know you don't know and we hope to increase everyone's knowledge. Bob Parson states communication with Town Departments is critical, and has spoken to Brett Gonsalves about open communication.

Garden Club

Jeanne Grieve

Meeting dates and potential plantings

Whip Hill meetings and does work at Whip Hill, communication so Conservation Commission knows of and approves activities in public forum. Jeanne Grieve is now President and Garden Club has a long association with Whip Hill as they have been meeting there for 40 years. September-December 3rd Thursday of every month meeting at Whip Hill and then May another meeting. Horticulture committee meets May every Tuesday until October that maintains walled garden at Whip Hill. Set up decorations at Christmas with Arts and Crafts Committee. Sometimes clean and reorganize cabinets. There have been no meetings at Whip Hill 2020/2021 because of covid. National Garden Club and Plant America have requests for local grants. They asked for \$250 for 5 bushes to enhance granite marker at Whip Hill. Skip Cleveland will dig holes, another landscape company will transfer. Mahoney's offered 25% discount on purchase. Submitted 10/15/20 and waiting for grant approval.

Ellen McBride states she is not in favor as Whip Hill is a park not a garden, dedicated plants needs maintenance, would crowd the tree and butterfly bushes grow a lot.

Jeanne Grieve said the grant application happened quickly, going forward will conform. Is not able to modify planting but Garden Club will be responsible for upkeep, not sure when they will know status of grant. If they don't get the grant they will not do the work. The yearbook with meeting dates was sent to Conservation in August.

Ellen McBride asks that we see the dates before they are printed next time for approval.

Eddy Saad

25 Skyewood: Update is turf has been installed. MSDS specs available. Will get as built plans and is happy it is not retaining water. There is a pile with rocks and boulders he would like to flatten and amend the order with new actions on parcel of land he recently acquired to build a wall.

Bob Parsons suggests site visit. Removal of fill is a regulated activity.

Jen DeCourcy mentions an amended order or a notice of intent are similar filings.

Alex Rozycki asks how they can sell a property without closing out their own conditions?

Bob Parsons said multiple filings are likely because of developers.

Ellen McBride states Eddy Saad filed separately from developers, and asks if part to the left of driveway was bought.

Domenick Cimina says he is doing the work for Eddy Saad and it is material from original instruction.

Bob Parsons says if its going to be used for a wall it can be an amended order of conditions. If it is removal of construction debris we can document next steps. Suggests setting a site visit and will be in touch with dates and times.

Eddy Saad is flexible because he works from home.

Whip Hill

Jim Previte

Update

Bob Parsons says they are tracking developments to understand Jim Previte's responsibilities at Whip Hill and Public Works as he wears many hats. Ellen McBride states they met with Brett Gonsalves, Dennis Sheehan and Town's labor attorneys. There are questions if Jim Previte returns as caretaker and the living arrangement, as a Town Employee with or without benefits. Ellen McBride has asked that everyone be at the table to decide.

Jim Previte states he has not heard from anyone and is in limbo. Bob Parsons says the benefits of Jim Previte's years of service is significant. Ellen McBride states Conservation Commission will determine what happens at Whip Hill per Angie Crockett's will. Ellen McBride will contact Dennis Sheehan about budget next steps. Bob Parsons asks if budget can be sent so they can review line items.

Megan Day asks about Jim Previte's understanding Whip Hill; can he be separated from DPW?

Jim Previte originally required he live at the building at night so the building would not be damaged. 35 years ago he became a Town Employee instead of Contract Services and in 2009 there was a split between DPW and Whip Hill. There has been no mention of ending Jim Previte's commitment to 24 hour surveillance of living in. Megan Day states if DPW role goes away does Jim Previte want to be caretaker?

Jim Previte states they would need a contract, they can look at the one he signed 40 years ago to see if workable in labor attorney's perspective.

Ellen McBride states Conservation will have the final say, and has asked if he can revert to a contract worker instead of Town employee. Jim Previte knows every tree in town and has vast historical knowledge with his Tree Warden stipend.

Jim Previte asks to be informed of meetings. Bob Parsons says all will be apprised.

Wetlands Protection Publication

Jessica Gerke

Bob Parsons states public awareness campaign. Could publish on Town website, Stoneham 101 info, Town Meeting, Stevens Street recycling center posted, website, Facebook page.

Megan Day says publish in Independent by emailing news@stonehamindependent.com Mark Haggerty

Ellen McBride says public education in Independent as Conservation Corner monthly.

Megan Day says Patch will publish, create entity Stoneham Conservation to post. Independent has column dedicated to the Town complimentary. Wouldn't bother with the Sun/Advocate.

Jessica Gerke says open to other ideas, please email any changes

Ellen McBride says to add link to Town Website.

Bob Parsons says to add for questions contact Conservation Commission office.

Ellen McBride mentions Pat Blois is happy to correct info in paper.

Alex Rozycki recommends picture to text. Mentions catch basins clogged equal floods. Leaf collection in fall, deicing in winter, soap from car wash, pools chlorine in summer as bimonthly core messages.

Bob Parsons mentions Brett Gonsalves and DPW handle storm water management so Conservation can have them attend to give update as to what Stoneham is doing for Mystic River Watershed Association, Greenscapes, MS4 public notifications so we don't duplicate messages.

Alex Rozycki said to publicize leaf collection and recycling efforts of Town.

Approve Meeting Minutes October 6, 2020

Motion to approve minutes by Ellen McBride, seconded by Norman L'Esperance

Roll call yes Bob Parsons, Ellen McBride, Rob Fotino, Norman L'Esperance, Jessica Gerke and Domenick Cimina. Abstain Alex Rozycki and Megan Day. 6/0/2

Next Meeting November 16, 2020

Motion to adjourn by Ellen McBride, seconded by Alex Rozycki. Roll call yes Bob Parsons, Ellen McBride, Alex Rozycki, Rob Fotino, Norman L'Esperance, Jessica Gerke and Domenick Cimina 7/0