

SUDBURY CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Minutes of the Meeting Held Monday, July 14, 2014

Present: Tom Friedlander, Chairman; Greg Topham; Rob Elkind; Charlie Russo; Bruce Porter; Mark Sevier; Debbie Dineen, Coordinator

Public Comments on items not on the agenda

The Coordinator informed the Commission that two violations have been reported. One is vegetation clearing, and potentially alteration of hydrology, at 158 Belcher Drive. She will visit the site and report back on her findings. The second is a report of cows in a backyard on a lot abutting Bent Pond. Several Commissioners will investigate this report and advise the Commission of their findings.

WPA & Bylaw Notice of Intent: 25 Frost Lane, landscape construction

Present: Edward Denning Dahl; David Burke; Kathy Schrieber

Mr. Burke presented a project involving landscaping and hardscaping (patio/stairs) work on an existing single-family house. A revised plan was presented showing the area of proposed restoration. The house currently has an extensive lawn that extends from a rear knoll to the bordering vegetated wetland along Pantry Brook. The riverfront area (RFA) encompasses most of the rear lawn and a portion of the house.

Two patio areas are proposed along with some re-grading to soften the grade and prevent erosion on the knoll. No change of grade will occur below the 100-year floodplain. Infiltration trenches are sized to infiltrate the new 1,000+- sq. ft. of impervious surface area. Suitable soil was encountered to a depth of 30" in the area of the proposed trenches. All proposed work is on existing lawn area.

To compensate for work in the RFA, mitigation is provided in the form of restoration of existing lawn to native meadow for an area roughly 3,000 sq. ft. in area contiguous with the bordering vegetated wetland. Rather than restoring the entire inner RFA, the restoration will be sited to provide maximum buffering of lawn from the bv. This is appropriate mitigation commensurate with scope of the project.

The Coordinator suggested a Management Plan for the new meadow. i.e. how many times per year to be cut; invasive plant removal; monitoring; the potential for reseeding (rather than just cessation of mowing); and the goals to achieve for a COC, be included in the Order of Conditions. The COC can have on-going conditions for long-term management of the restoration area.

On a motion by C. Russo, 2nd by G. Topham, the Commission voted unanimously to close the hearing. On a motion by M. Sevier; 2nd by C. Russo, the Commission voted unanimously in favor of issuing the OOC as discussed.

WPA & Bylaw Notice of Intent: DPW Powder Mill Walkway Construction

D. Dineen, Coordinator, presented the project on behalf of the Dept. of Public Works

As part of a comprehensive, prioritized walkway construction plan, the Town of Sudbury Engineering Department, Department of Public Work, and the Sudbury Walkway Committee, has determined that a walkway on a section of Powder Mill Road is a safety necessity. In

addition, the drainage inventory performed by the Town of Sudbury as part of compliance with the EPA MS4 Phase II requirements have identified this area as needing significant drainage upgrades to improve the quality of runoff.

This project is being filed under 310 CMR 10.53 (3)(f) as a Limited Project:

(f) Maintenance and improvement of existing public roadways, but limited to widening less than a single lane, adding shoulders, correcting substandard intersections, and improving inadequate drainage systems.

Walkway

A portion of the proposed walkway will be located within 100' of bordering vegetated wetland, and a stream. The walkway will be 5' wide to permit winter snowplowing. It will be constructed of bituminous asphalt. Grading of the slope will be confined to area outside the existing conservation restriction and will be stabilized with a fieldstone retaining wall. Appropriate erosion control will be installed prior to the start of any activity.

Drainage

Existing conditions on site permit untreated roadway runoff to flow to the low point in Powder Mill Road. This area overtops the low point and results in untreated runoff directly entering the wetland. A new catch basin will be installed to intercept and treat this runoff through the use of a grease and gas trap discharging through a flared end section pipe onto a trap rock pad. A sump will be installed in the catch basin to the depth permitted by site conditions. Restoration and stabilization of the eroded slope on the upstream side where the runoff was causing erosion will be filled and stabilized with jute netting and native plantings.

An existing catch basin at the corner of Powder Mill Road and Tavern Circle will be retrofitted with a gas & oil trap hood. The outfall from this basin will be to a rip-rap apron, then to an 8' x 10' forebay and check dam.

This project improves the road for pedestrian safety, improves the quality of runoff entering the stream, restores a degraded eroded channel, and prevents further erosion and sedimentation into a wetland.

As this project is for a foot path (walkway) the requirement is to meet the stormwater performance standards to the extent practicable according to Standard 7. This project results in the significant upgrade of existing drainage structures through the addition of deep sumps and grease/gas traps. One additional catch basin will be added at the low point to prevent any untreated surface runoff, not captured by the existing basins due to the grading, from flowing over the roadway shoulder and entering the stream directly. The work will be done at time of low or no flow.

Commissioners agreed that the project will result in significant upgrades in water quality entering the wetland through the use of new and retrofitted pre-treatment bmps. All new drainage structures must be added to the DPW inventory and prioritized for maintenance to maintain the function of the new structures.

On a motion by R. Elkind; 2nd by C. Russo; the Commission voted unanimously in favor of closing the hearing and issuing the Order as discussed.

Cold Water Fisheries Restoration Grant opportunity

The Coordinator informed the Commission that the Maynard CC agent had contacted her to see if the SCC had any interest in a potential partnership for restoration of a section(s) of 2nd Division Brook in Maynard, just upstream of where the brook enters Sudbury. MCC felt that a grant application may be better received if several stakeholders participated. They were

considering Maynard, Sudbury, and the Maynard Rod & Gun Club as the partnership as 2nd Division Brook flows through lands owned by these abutting owners.

The SCC expressed interest but was interested in more details about the actual participation of Sudbury when it appears the restoration work will take place in Maynard. The Coordinator will find out more details and report back to the Commission.

WPA & Bylaw Notice of Intent: 505 Boston Post Rd., Gravestar

Present: Craig Blake, Woodard & Curran

Mr. Blake presented a plan for the removal of chemical remediation equipment in wetlands along Nobscot Road. The equipment has not run for two years and the site has achieved a level of no significant risk. The NOI seeks approval for the removal of trailer and surface and subsurface pipe system in the wetland to the east of CVS. The trailer houses treatment equipment that was used to treat the tce (Trichloroethylene) which had migrated from a former dry cleaner to the groundwater in the area. The trailer is in the bordering vegetated wetland (bv) at the bottom of a slope. Several monitoring wells will remain for future testing although the level of tce no longer requires treatment. A wooden access bridge will be removed. There is an iron reactive wall underground in the parking lot at CVS. This wall will not be removed.

The trailer will be removed by crane, the area disturbed will be raked, loamed and seeded with a native wetland seed mix. Mr. Blake noted that it is likely poison ivy will quickly colonize the disturbed area.

The Coordinator recommended that the OOC be comprehensive in the extent of restoration, the monitoring of the area post-restoration, and addressing any invasive plants. The key to reducing wetland impact will be the restoration of the area once the trailer and pipes area removed.

Commissioner G. Topham moved to close the hearing and issue the OOC as discussed. Motion 2nd by R. Elkind. Voted unanimously in favor.

Discussion: Meeting Procedures/Efficiency

Electronic Submissions: The Commission discussed the advantages of having all wetland filings and supplemental material submitted in electronic format. Several town boards and committees are already requiring electronic submissions. This will permit an easier, faster, and more environmentally-sensitive way to get all materials to all Commission. The Coordinator suggested requiring one original, signed, hard copy of all wetland filings along with the electronic version. She noted that under the local bylaw, a public hearing should be held to adopt this change in procedure. Commissioners agreed and a public hearing will be scheduled for Aug. 11, 2014.

Subcommittee Assignments: Chairman Friedlander noted that a brief discussion was held on June 30th to set up preliminary subcommittees. He would like to add a more detailed discussion to the Aug. 11 agenda to identify specific subcommittees along with their goals and objectives.

Order of Conditions: Town Center Restoration Project

The draft minutes of the June 30, 2014 hearing were not received from the minute-taker. Therefore the Coordinator could not draft an OOC without the knowledge of the discussion at

the hearing. Commissioners did not believe that there was anything specific at the hearing that should be included in the OOC. The Coordinator stated that she was very involved in the project planning from a wetland perspective and felt that with the knowledge that no changes were made at the hearing, oversight from the Chairman, or other SCC members, she could draft an OOC that reflected the project's intent and met the performance standards of the WPA and local bylaw. Chairman Friedlander agreed to review the OOC prior to issuance.

WPA & Bylaw Notice of Intent (cont.) 26 Briant Dr.

Present: Katie Finkenzeller; Tobin Shulman; Blair Jackson

Mr. Schulman presented a plan for the construction of a patio, driveway, and house entryway reconstruction. All work is located on already disturbed areas of a single-family house lot and all work is 100% within the 100' upland resource area. The NOI proposes the addition of 825.5 sq' +/- impervious surface. Infiltration of the additional peak rates of runoff is proposed to compensate. Good soils in the area of infiltration has been demonstrated.

Specific work includes:

- An enlarged covered entry with landscaping to direct people to the front door;
- A turnout along the existing driveway for several guest cars with a designated path to the front door;
- A patio/spa area on existing lawn that will contribute to the increase overall impervious surface;
- Proposed native plantings at the top of the slope to assist with runoff attenuation and add wildlife value.

The Coordinator explained that all work was on existing areas currently in residential use. The jurisdictional resource areas consist of bordering vegetated wetland associated with an intermittent stream, bank, and 100' adjacent upland resource. The project meets the requirements of the local wetlands bylaw by infiltrating runoff from additional impervious surfaces and providing mitigation in the form of the planting plan at the top of the slope to assist in uptake of fertilizers, pesticides etc. used on the existing lawn.

On a motion by G. Topham; 2nd C. Russo; the Commission voted unanimously in favor of closing the hearing and issuing the OOC as discussed.

Chairman Friedlander wished to thank former Chairman, Greg Topham, for his recent service to the Commission. He stepped in to Chair the Commission at time of unprecedented member turnover and amid several large, controversial projects. His leadership and actions were respected by the Commission and his commitment to the Town should be commended. Commissioners and staff agreed and thanked former Chairman Topham as well.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:15pm.