



SUDBURY CONSERVATION COMMISSION **Meeting Minutes of October 21, 2019**

Present: David Henkels, Acting Chairman; Bruce Porter; Mark Sevier; Kasey Rogers; Charlie Russo (6:48 PM); Ken Holtz, Associate Members; Lori Capone, Conservation Coordinator

Absent: Tom Friedlander, Richard Morse

D. Henkels opened the meeting at 6:45 PM under the Wetlands Protection Act and the Sudbury Wetlands Administrative Bylaw.

Minutes:

On motion by M. Sevier, seconded by K. Rogers, the Commission voted unanimously to approve the minutes of September 23, 2019, both regular and Executive Session.

On motion by K. Rogers, seconded by M. Sevier, the Commission voted unanimously to approve the minutes of October 7, 2019, as amended.

Wetland Applications:

Notice of Intent - 151/183 Boston Post Road, DEP File 301-1261

D. Henkels opened the Notice of Intent hearing for the construction of a new animal shelter, parking lot, and associated grading and drainage improvements, continued from July 1, 2019.

Vito Colonna of Sullivan, Connors, and Associates updated the Commission on meetings held with Town staff and the Planning Board and changes made to the plans based on comments received. Changes included widening the drive to 20 feet and extending an area of grass pave, as requested by the Fire Department and moving the building five feet closer to the wetland to maintain a 10-foot offset to the lot line. The Operation and Maintenance Plan has been updated and the existing drainage system has been cleaned out. The Planning Board has requested the applicant evaluate alternative designs that could improve connectivity between the two buildings as well as to the streetscape. Mr. Colonna presented the plans showing the various iterations of the site design.

The Commission discussed options to reduce the amount of parking along Route 20, including moving the parking, installing underground parking, and whether there was an option to utilize adjacent lands for additional parking.

Laurie Lincoln, Executive Director for Buddy Dog, stated that they have been negotiating with Bosse for parking, but the Agreement has not been fulfilled.

C. Russo requested the Japanese Holly be removed from the planting list and asked how the dog run has been modified to manage waste. Mr. Colonna stated that the run has been regraded to an area drain that will discharge to a sump and dry well, located outside the buffer zone. The disinfectants used should kill any pathogens and should not affect the function of the dry well.

Coordinator Capone stated that she had advised Planning staff that the Commission would entertain modified designs but the design should not add additional impervious surface or locate it closer to wetlands than the existing design. The Commission discussed proposed mitigation and whether additional mitigation could be provided to offset any increased alteration of the buffer zone. Proposed mitigation

includes returning an area of existing parking area to vegetation and removing 8,500 s.f. of invasive species. The Commission asked about the likelihood that the invasives removal program would be successful and how the area would be maintained in the future. Mr. Wells of Goddard Consulting stated that the area would be maintained by volunteers but he has never followed a project of this size through to see how successful that would be. He suggested the Commission include a condition that the productivity of the vernal pool be monitored to determine if the mitigation improves the habitat.

Heidi Hampson, Buddy Dog Board of Trustees President, asked if there were any options to increase the footprint of the proposed development M. Sevier responded that the Commission would like a plan that has the least impacts to resource areas. Steve Burt, applicant and head of the Buddy Dog Real Estate Committee, said they would like to proceed with the existing design. He has accepted a compromise on the number of parking spaces, and they have been parking on Route 20 for 50 years. The applicant is meeting with the Planning Board next on November 13. The Commission said they would be open to having a joint meeting with the Planning Board and/or having staff work with the applicant to make modifications to the plan that may be acceptable to both Planning and Conservation.

On motion made by M. Sevier, seconded by K. Rogers, the Commission voted unanimously to continue the hearing to November 18, 2019.

Notice of Intent - 35 Stone Root, DEP File 301-1276

At the request of the applicant, C. Russo moved to continue the hearing to November 4, 2019. Seconded by K. Rogers. All so voted.

Certificates of Compliance:

Lotus Blossom, 394 Boston Post Road, DEP File 301-1021

Coordinator Capone explained that this was an outstanding Order for the installation of the septic system which has since failed. A new Order was recently issued to replace this system.

On motion by M. Sevier, seconded by K. Rogers, the Commission voted unanimously to issue a Certificate of Compliance.

Lorring School, 80 Woodside Road, DEP File 301-859

Coordinator Capone explained that this was an outstanding Order from 2004 for vegetation removal and installation of wood chips to control poison ivy along the third base line. The area has revegetated with primarily native species. There was a small amount of buckthorn and bittersweet along the fence.

On motion by C. Russo, seconded by M. Sevier, the Commission voted unanimously to issue a Certificate of Compliance.

Commissioner and Staff Updates:

2019/2020 SuAsCo River Stewardship Council Community Grant Program

Coordinator Capone notified the Commission that the River Stewardship Council Grant, a rolling grant that seeks to fund projects that protect and enhance the river, is accepting proposals between now and June 2020. This program had previously funded work at King Philip Woods.

Site Visits

Coordinator Capone asked the Commission to confirm their availability for the site visit with the Historic Commission and Board of Selectmen, of the Carding Mill, and also for the site visit with SVT at Landham Brook Marsh regarding the TerraCorps Proposal.

Davis Farm Culvert Replacement

Coordinator Capone informed the Commission that the Public Works Department replaced the culvert at Davis Farm. Work will be completed tomorrow. The existing culvert was in failure and work qualified as

an agricultural exemption under the Act and the Bylaw. C. Russo asked if the new culvert met stream crossing standards. Coordinator Capone responded that the openness ratio is greatly improved and it has a natural bottom, but it is not 1.2 times the bank full width.

Coolidge II Herbicide Treatment

Coordinator Capone informed the Commission that the herbicide treatment at Coolidge II has been rescheduled for Thursday (10/24/19), time to be determined.

On motion to adjourn by B. Porter, seconded by M. Sevier, the Commission voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 PM.