

TOWN OF WENHAM CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes of July 25, 2016
Wenham Town Hall, 138 Main Street

Pursuant to the Open Meeting Law, M.G.L. Chapter 30 A, §18-25, written notice posted by the Town Clerk delivered to all Board members, a meeting of the Conservation Commission was held on Monday JULY 25, 2016 at 7 PM in the Selectmen Chambers.

With a quorum present, Mr. Colarusso called the meeting to order at 7 PM.
Board Members Present: Philip Colarusso, Chair; Robert Burnett; Leo Maestranzi; Michael Novak; Malcolm Reid
Also Present: Margaret Hoffman, Planning Coordinator; Catherine Tinsley, Recording Secretary

Continued Hearings

Notice of Intent (NOI)

DEP 326-0357

Applicant: Larch Row Land LLC

Consultant: Griffin Engineering Group LLC

Location: 213 R /215 R Larch Row

Project: Construction of two single family dwellings and common driveway within the 100 foot adjacent upland resource area to a bordering vegetated wetland.

The applicant agreed to come back to Commission after going before the Planning Board.

Vote: Mr. Maestranzi moved to continue the bearing to a date certain of August 8, 2016 at 7 PM at the Wenham Town Hall. The motion carried unanimously.

Request for Minor Modification

DEP 326-0339

Lot 1 Old Rubbly Road / Miles River Lane, Assessors Map 41 Lot 4, requested by Williams & Sparages on behalf of Michael Crowe, permit originally issued to Chris Van Twuyer

After the site visit to Lot 1 on Miles River Lane, the Commissioners supported the proposed amendment to the plan to pull the footprint of the structure forward to dramatically reduce the impact to the wetlands.

Vote: Mr. Maestranzi moved, and it was seconded to grant the minor modification to DEP 326-0339 Lot 1 of Miles River Lane. The motion carried unanimously.

Applicant Michael Crowe was present in the audience.

New Hearings

Notice of Intent

Applicant: Michael Ahern, Gordon College

Consultant: Wetlands Preservation, Inc.

Location: 255 Grapevine Road – Coy Pond

Project: Project for the control of nuisance vegetation at Coy Pond, affecting properties at Gordon College Campus at 255 Grapevine Road

Ms. Hoffman read the legal ad for the public hearing as printed in the Salem News on July 14, 2016.

Present for Gordon College was Curtis Young, Senior Consultant at Wetlands Preservation Inc.

Michael Ahearn, Applicant for Gordon College

Keith ?

Photographs of Coy Pond were provided to the Commissioners and included aerial views of the area and the specific vegetation in the pond.

Mr. Yong referenced a large google map of Coy Pond and identified the boat launch area and the areas where the vegetation is encroaching and having a significant impact on the pond and the use of the pond. Coy pond is vegetated at a density greater than 50 percent. Coy Pond ranges on average from one to two feet in depth with several feet of organic muck on the bottom. The project will improve the overall condition of the pond and restore the vegetation balance for habitat and recreation uses. Part of the presentation included the relation of the other ponds in the system Gull Pond, Round Pond, Chebacco Pond, and Gravelly Pond. Gravelly Pond is a reservoir that drains into the system. Only localized treatment will be used to remove the native invasive species such as coontail, and floating water lilies. Surface "grab" water sampling is done in the spring time and the water quality was favorable.

The management program will be done in two phases. The first phase is the use of the herbicide Diquat Dibromide (Reward), a fast acting, short term, area specific control of submersible plant growth that is injected into the water and AquaPro, a glyphosate-based systemic for shoreline weed and grass control. The use of these herbicides required DEP permitting. Phase two includes long term control to remove vegetation by machine and transported away; this would be done in spring 2017 (March).

The NOI identifies a 10 acre area to be included in the project for the first three year term of the Order of Conditions. Perpetual care of certain areas maybe sought to maintain the control of the pond. The long term goal is to reduce phosphorous to naturally reduce the plant life.

There are no known vernal pools in the area being proposed for mulching.

Raking is done in the early spring to avoid/ minimize impact on the amphibians/turtles/ fish; the rake works very slowly to allow for pond life to escape and operators are trained to watch for pond life.

The Commission requested the following:

1. The scope of work area to be clarified
2. A work plan provided at the start of each year
3. A post work plan
4. Erosion control plan, including the work area and the area used for transferring material
5. The plan/ conditions for the parking location of heavy vehicles
6. Herbicide information
7. The wetland edge used for access/egress be flagged (does not need to be surveyed)

The Commissioners were granted permission to walk the property; a site visit was planned for Saturday.

The Commissioners anticipated having a decision at the August 8 meeting.

Vote: Mr. Maestranzi moved, and it was seconded, to continue the hearing to a date certain of August 8, 2016 at 7 PM in the Town Hall. The motion carried unanimously.

Other Matters: there were none to come before the Commission

Administrative Business:

Minutes- June 27, 2016

Vote: Mr. Maestranzi moved, and it was seconded, to approve minutes of June 27, 2016 as written. The motion carried unanimously.

The Commission unanimously adjourned at 8 PM.

Respectfully Submitted By

Catherine Tinsley
8.2.16