



## CONSERVATION COMMISSION

78 Main Street, Hudson, MA 01749  
(978) 562-2948

*Paul Byrne, Chair*

*Joseph Rodrigues*

*Marianne Iarossi*

*David Mercer, Vice Chair*

*Emilie Wilder*

*Brandon Parker*

*Jason Weksner*

### Meeting Minutes July 19, 2018

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by chair Paul Byrne

Roll Call: Paul Byrne, David Mercer, Joe Rodrigues, Marianne Iarossi, Brandon Parker, Emilie Wilder, Jason Weksner

Staff: Pam Helinek (Conservation Agent)

### **Public Hearings**

#### **101 Coolidge Street, continued RDA**

The applicant has requested to continue the hearing until the next meeting. Paul Byrne moved to continue the hearing to August 2 at 7:00 PM. Second by Emilie Wilder, vote 7-0-0.

#### **9 Appleton Drive, NOI, 190-06xx**

**Present: Janice Goldfarb**

#### **Documents:**

- Notice of Intent, 9 Appleton Drive
- Proposed Addition Plan, Lot 44B, 9 Appleton Drive; prepared by GW Site Solutions; signed and stamped by Bruce E. Wilson, Jr., PLS# 36870; dated 4/9/18, revised 7/18/18; scale 1"=60'

The applicant proposes to build an addition to a house in Buffer Zone to Bordering Vegetated Wetland and (possible) Riverfront Area. It is uncertain whether the brook is perennial. The lot is fairly flat. No trees are proposed to be cut. Paul Byrne asked Pam Helinek to mark up a plan showing where erosion controls (silt fence and straw wattles) must be installed. Emilie Wilder moved to close the hearing and issue an Order of Conditions, contingent upon receiving a DEP number with no comments. Second by Joe Rodrigues, vote 7-0-0.

### **Administrative Business**

#### **Discussion – 6 Maxwell Circle**

**Present: Wallace Andrews**

A neighbor called to report landscaping work being done along the bank of a brook. Joe Rodrigues visited the property and was concerned about possible alterations to the bank. Paul Byrne issued an enforcement order requiring work to stop. Pam Helinek met with Dave's Landscape Management and determined that they should have obtained permission from the Commission but that the current project was not altering the stream bank. However it did appear

that the bank had been altered at some time in the past. A violation notice was issued to Dave's Landscape Management.

Property owner Wallace Andrews was in attendance to discuss the stream alteration with the Commission. He has been to the Commission twice before in 2002 and 2008 to discuss the altering course of the stream, which he believes has been caused by blockages on his neighbor's property. The Commission explained that streams and wetlands change for various reasons, natural and man-made. They also explained that dumping in a stream is illegal, but that while property owners are permitted to pull fallen branches and other natural debris from a stream they are not required to do so. Several Commissioners will visit the property.

**Minutes** – Paul Byrne moved to approve the minutes from June 21, 2018. Second by Brandon Parker, vote 6-0-1.

### **Discussion – South Street Riverwalk**

The Community Development Department is planning to request funding for two design efforts from the Community Preservation Committee. The first is for work in Liberty Park and the adjoining library/fire station parking lot. This is co-sponsored by the Business Improvement District and possibly the Recreation Division, and includes an ADA compliant walkway, an amphitheater, and improvements to storm water management and the canoe launch. Brandon Parker objected to the inclusion of an amphitheater if it were to block the open view of the Assabet.

Community Development Director Jack Hunter is requesting the Commission co-sponsor the second project, which consists of improvements to the South Street Riverwalk. It includes benches, landscaping, and lighting as well as removal of invasive plant species and planting of native vegetation and a new branch of the path which stays closer to the river where the original bends in towards the skatepark. Emilie Wilder expressed concern about adding additional pavement near the river and said that the new path would be too close to the original to be worthwhile. She has additional concerns about the bank of the river having a landscaped appearance instead of a natural one. There were also concerns about the possibility of trees being removed.

Emilie Wilder moved to support the project with the condition that the Commission is involved in the entire design process. Second by Paul Byrne, vote 7-0-0.

### **Update – Hudson Land Trust**

Five non-government volunteers have expressed interest in being Directors of the Land Trust and have been invited to form the Board of Directors. The Trust will also have Charter Members. Pam Helinek will be setting up an initial Directors' meeting and Linda Ghiloni has been working with some of the Directors who have finalized the By-Laws and are working on incorporation papers and fundraising.

### **Update – Danforth Beaver Dam**

Beaver Solutions installed the Flow Leveler last week and the water dropped enough overnight to drain the path. Pam Helinek will monitor to be sure that it stays dry before work is done to fix up the path.

### **COC Requests**

- **75 Hunter Ave, 190-0607** – work on the patio is completed according to plan and no trees have been cut
- **7 Atherton Road, 190-0244 (Partial)** – Part of Brigham Hill II subdivision, property not in wetlands jurisdiction
- **3 Santos Drive, 190-0131 (Partial)** – Part of Blueberry Hill subdivision, property contains Buffer Zone but house is outside of jurisdiction

Emilie Wilder moved to issue Certificates of Compliance for all three properties. Second by Joe Rodrigues, vote 7-0-0.

### **Adjournment**

Emilie Wilder moved to adjourn the meeting, second by Marianne Iarossi, vote 7-0-0. The meeting was adjourned at 8:12 PM.