



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 April 4, 2019

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

Centennial Beach – NOI, DEP 190-06xx

Present: Steven Santos, Director of Recreation; Michael Easler, Weston&Sampson

Documents:

- Notice of Intent, Centennial Beach; prepared by Weston & Sampson; dated 3/20/19
- Memorandum: Town of Hudson – Centennial Beach Renovation Tree Inventory & Assessment; prepared by Rachelle McKnight, Weston & Sampson; dated 2/20/19
- Centennial Beach Renovation Project; prepared by Weston & Sampson; dated March 2019; scale 1"=40'

The applicant proposes a beach renovation project designed to improve drainage and erosion concerns, replace the deteriorating bathhouse, replace failing landscape features, improve safety with better lines of site, and address the lack of site-wide accessibility.

Pavement will be reduced in the parking lot, pervious paver paths will be added around the structures. The lawn area will be terraced via retaining walls and runoff will be directed to rain gardens. Unhealthy trees will be replaced with native species appropriate to the conditions. Beach sands will be replenished. A wall is proposed by the shoreline in an area of BVW. Vegetation from the 152 square foot patch of BVW would be cleared to provide for a boat launch area.

Joe Rodrigues expressed concerns about runoff from the parking lot washing the beach away and about oil in the runoff reaching the water. Michael Moonan said that regrading would direct runoff away from the beach and riprap would be installed to slow runoff. A swale will direct water from the parking lot to an existing rain garden. Sandy soils will absorb oil. Joe Rodrigues requested that deep sump oil separators be used in catch basins.

Paul Byrne asked about the material proposed for the shoreline wall. He expressed concerns that waves will bounce off a hardscape wall, causing erosion in other areas. Joe Rodrigues suggested using riprap instead of a vertical wall.

Emilie Wilder asked if vegetation that was removed would be replaced with grass. Michael Moonan said that mixed understory plantings would be used.

Brandon Parker asked about the percolation rate of the pervious pavement and whether it should actually be considered new impervious surface. He also asked about the budget for maintenance of the new beach features. Michael Moonan said the plantings were chosen to be low maintenance. Marianne Iarossi said that the LID features they proposed required maintenance to function correctly. Steven Santos said that maintenance was handled by DPW and he had worked closely with DPW Director Eric Ryder during the design to be sure that it was maintainable. Michael Moonan said catch basins had been located to be easily accessible for cleaning. Marianne Iarossi asked about vacuuming pervious pavements. Steven Santos said that sand could be cleaned with blowers. Michael Moonan said that the pavement was in blocks of concrete that could be lifted for cleaning. Hudson resident Courtney Smith asked if chemicals would be used to clean the paths. It will not.

Marianne Iarossi asked for the percent increase in landscaping, and how many trees that were in good condition were proposed to be removed. There will be less canopy and more understory. Only one healthy pine tree is proposed for removal due to grading changes.

Paul Byrne moved to continue the hearing to April 18th at 7:00. Second by Joe Rodrigues, vote 7-0-0. Commissioners will submit questions to Pam Helinek to give to the applicant in advance.

12 Lakeshore Drive, RDA

Present: Bruce Saluk

Documents:

- Site Plan, 12 Lakeshore Drive; prepared by Bruce Saluk & Assoc Inc; dated 10/17/18; scale 1"=10'

The applicant proposes to demolish an existing carport in the Buffer Zone to Fort Meadow Reservoir and construct a garage in the same footprint. The garage will be slightly smaller than the carport. Erosion controls will consist of straw wattles and silt fence. Paul Byrne moved to issue a Negative Determination with the following conditions: (1) Pre-construction meeting to be held with conservation agent for inspection of erosion controls; (2) All materials will be stockpiled on the driveway in front of the house. Second by Emilie Wilder, vote 7-0-0.

Administrative Business

Minutes: Paul Byrne moved to approve the minutes from February 7, 2019. Second by Marianne Iarossi, vote 7-0-0

Presentation by Green Hudson – Plastic Bag Ban Bylaw

Present: Elisa Pearman, Courtney Smith

Members of Green Hudson gave a presentation regarding a Plastic Bag Ban Bylaw that they are proposing for the November Special Town Meeting. They asked the Conservation Commission to sponsor the warrant article. Emilie Wilder moved to sponsor the bylaw article, second by Marianne Iarossi, vote 6-1-0.

COC Requests

Paul Byrne moved to issue Certificates of Compliance for 13 Orchard Drive (190-0193), Old North Road (190-0519 and 190-0586), and 307 Chestnut Street (190-0301). Second by Emilie Wilder, vote 7-0-0

Enforcement Order – 4 Marlboro Rd

Pam Helinek issued an Enforcement Order to the property owner at 4 Marlboro Road after a second tree cutting violation. Paul Byrne moved to ratify the EO, second by Emilie Wilder, vote 7-0-0.

Well Water Contamination

- **Emergency Certification – DPW**

Pam Helinek issued an Emergency Certification to DPW to install a temporary water treatment facility at the edge of BVW at the Chestnut Street Well site. Paul Byrne moved to ratify the EC, second by Joe Rodrigues, vote 7-0-0

- **Letter to EFSB**

Pam Helinek drafted a letter expressing renewed concern by the Conservation Commission, due to the recent well water contamination, about the safety of Hudson's drinking water if the proposed Eversource transmission line project disturbs soils in the rail bed near Hudson's wells. Paul Byrne moved to send the letter to the EFSB, second by Joe Rodrigues, vote 7-0-0.

Discussion – 4 LaFrance Drive

A section of the yard near the Assabet River had been permitted for invasive removal and the planting of some native shrubs. This was done, but the shrubs are small, and lawn is being maintained around them. The intent had been for a natural area. The Commission agreed that Pam Helinek should issue a letter requiring the area to be planted with native grasses or wildflowers and not mowed.

Discussion – Westridge Condominium

- **COC resign** – the original COC was never recorded, the Commission resigned
- **Maintenance contract** – Documents referenced in the Conditions in Perpetuity of the Order of Conditions regarding Storm Water Maintenance and Snow Removal cannot be found. The Westridge Condominium Trust has written a document documenting their understanding of their maintenance responsibilities and will record if the Commission approves and signs it. The Commission will review and sign next meeting.
- **CR Land** – Lloyd Geisinger, current owner of the CR parcel, would like the town to take the land. The Conservation Commission would need to agree and it would need approval by

Town Meeting. The Commission wanted more information on the capped area which contains soils contaminated with arsenic. Pam Helinek will research and report back.

Adjournment

Paul Byrne moved to adjourn the meeting, second by Emilie Wilder, vote 7-0-0. The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 PM.