



CONSERVATION COMMISSION

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

David Mercer, Chair

Emilie Wilder, Vice Chair

Brandon Parker

Heidi Graf

James Martin

Debbi Edelstein

Paul Osborne

Meeting Minutes November 19, 2020

Pursuant to Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A, §18, and the Governor's March 15, 2020 Order imposing strict limitation on the number of people that may gather in one place, this meeting of the Hudson Conservation Commission was conducted via remote participation.

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by chair David Mercer

Roll Call: David Mercer, Emilie Wilder, Brandon Parker, Heidi Graf, James Martin, Debbi Edelstein, Paul Osborne, Joseph Mullin (Assoc), Brooke Warrington (Assoc)

Staff: Pam Helinek (Conservation Agent)

Public Hearings

Chapin Road Nature Trail, RDA

Present: Steven Santos, Director of Recreation; Josh Aponte, Recreation Division

The applicant would like to repair two aging bridges which cross small streams and replace a pallet bridge over a muddy area on the Chapin Road Nature Trail, in Riverfront Area to the Assabet River. The first bridge needs new abutments as the bank is eroding beneath the old ones. This work can be done with minimal disturbance. The second bridge needs some additional support beams and will require no disturbance to repair. The pallet bridge will be replaced with a 4'x10' walkway. Brandon Parker has volunteered to lead the project.

Emilie Wilder moved to issue a Negative Determination, second by James Martin, vote 7-0-0 by roll call.

9 Oneida Place, RDA

Present: James Morton

Documents:

- 9 Oneida Place - Plot Plan #709 Book 19920 Page 278 (original 9/20/1988, annotated 10/31/2020)

The applicant would like to replace his driveway in Buffer Zone to Bordering Vegetated Wetlands. The old driveway will be excavated and a new driveway will be installed in the same footprint. The driveway is very close to the wetlands. James Martin asked if there would be any stockpiling of materials. James Morton did not believe so. Emilie Wilder asked if there would

be any elevation changes. The only change is at the entrance to the garage, which has sunk over time. James Martin said that straw wattles would be required and a silt sock in any nearby stormdrains. James Martin moved to issue a Negative Determination, second by Emilie Wilder, vote 7-0-0 by roll call. Special Conditions: straw wattles to be installed along limit of work as shown on RDA plans and to be inspected by agent before work begins; silt sock to be installed in nearby storm drain. No stockpiling of materials on property.

10 Herman Circle, continued NOI, 190-0655

Present: Russ Waldron

Documents:

- Revised Project Description, 10 Herman Circle, Hudson, MA; prepared by Applied Ecological Services
- Conservation Plan for land in Hudson, Massachusetts; prepared by Dunn-McKenzie, Inc; dated 5/1/2020; revised 11/9/2020; signed and stamped by James W. Nieva PLS#39399; scale 1"=20'

The applicant submitted a revised project description and site plan including additional work that is proposed in the front of the house: removing a wall, expanding the driveway, and installing a fence. He has added a raingarden at the side of the house to provide compensatory flood storage, increased the restoration plantings, and added an arbor vitae hedge around the yard. DEP comments were received, requiring that the limit of lawn not be expanded and that WPA form 3 is updated to correctly reflect flood storage displacement.

Emilie Wilder requested a more detailed plan for the rain garden. She commented that the proposed location for the rain garden was shaded and that proposed plantings should be shade tolerant. Debbi Edelstein asked for a species list for the Riverfront restoration plantings. James Martin commented that no fertilizers or herbicides should be used on the lawn. Heidi Graf said that floodplain displacement by the fence posts should be included in the calculations for the new NOI form. Brandon Parker requested that proposed elevations be shown on the plan. Emile Wilder expressed concern about people walking through the rain garden since there is no space between it and the pool area wall and suggested a walkway be added. Russ Waldron said that the family would not access the yard through that side of the house.

Brandon Parker moved to continue the hearing to December 3, 2020 at 7:00PM, second by James Martin, vote 7-0-0 by roll call. Outstanding items: More detailed plan for rain garden; species list for shrubs in restoration areas; updated NOI form; updated plan with proposed elevations; more details about added features

Administrative Business

Discussion – Healthy Lake Boon MVP Project Update

Present: Dan Barstow, Lake Boon Commission; Hilary King, MVP Program

Dan Barstow gave an overview of Draft Work Plan for the Healthy Lake Boon Project.

Minutes – David Mercer moved to approve the minutes from November 5, 2020, second by James Martin, vote 7-0-0 by roll call

COC Request – 28 Lakeside Ave, 190-0627

David Mercer moved to issue a full Certificate of Compliance, second by Debbi Edelstein, vote 7-0-0 by roll call.

Discussion – Proposed bridge over stream in Wheeler Road Conservation Restriction

Brandon Parker described the proposed bridge, which would be 12 feet long with abutments in Buffer Zone a foot or two away from bank on either side. There will be little disturbance to install the bridge and it will prevent increased erosion due to people crossing at varying locations. The Commission agreed that the bridge could be permitted with an RDA.

Adjournment

James Martin moved to adjourn the meeting, second by Emilie Wilder, vote 7-0-0 by roll call. The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 PM.