



**Waltham Conservation Commission
February 4, 2021
Meeting Minutes**

Meeting called to order at 7:02 p.m.

Attendees: Chair Philip Moser, Vice Chair Bill Doyle, Gerard Dufromont, Bradley Baker, Michael Donovan, and Matthew Deveau

Absent: None.

Development Prospectus:

- **196 Bear Hill Road:** Attorney Bret Francis represented the applicant, Uma Flowers, Inc. Attorney Francis asked the Commission to sign a development prospectus for this new shop. The property is not in jurisdiction.

Motion made to allow Mr. Moser to sign the Development Prospectus made by Mr. Doyle, seconded by Mr. Deveau. All in favor. **Motion passed.**

Public Hearing (continued from 1-21-2021)

Notice of Intent (DEP File # 316-0777)

Applicant: Department of Conservation and Recreation

Property Location: Beaver Brook Reservation

Project Description: Reduce and control invasive plant species within certain portions of the Reservation.

The Commission attended a site visit with the representative, Ale Echandi, on February 1. Ms. Echandi incorporated the Commission's feedback and submitted a Notice of an Insignificant Change.

Commission members asked clarifying questions of the applicant.

Mr. Moser opened the meeting to the public. There were no comments.

Motion made to close the public hearing by Mr. Donovan, seconded by Mr. Doyle. All in favor. **Motion passed.**

Motion made by Mr. Doyle to issue a positive Order of Conditions with two (2) Special Conditions:

1. Herbicides to be used as hand application. There shall be no spraying except for Japanese Knotweed as outlined in the Notice of Intent.

Approved 2-25-2021

2. Allow the removal of Bittersweet at Mill Pond and at other locations as the Department of Conservation and Recreation recommends.

Public Hearing (continued from 1-21-2021)

Notice of Intent (DEP File # 316-0778)

Applicant: Department of Conservation and Recreation

Property Location: 194 Moody Street

Project Description: Remove pier located at 194 Moody Street

Carlos Pena represented the applicant. Mr. Pena explained the process for removing the pier from the Charles River. The Commission asked questions of the applicant for a better understanding of the process.

Mr. Moser opened the meeting to the public. There were no comments.

Motion made to close the public hearing by Mr. Donovan, seconded by Mr. Doyle. All in favor. **Motion passed.**

Motion made by Mr. Doyle to issue a positive Order of Conditions, seconded by Mr. Dufromont. All in favor. **Motion passed.**

Public Meeting

Request for Determination of Applicability

Property Location: 159 Copeland Street

Applicant: Joseph Penta

Project Description: Add second story to existing house foundation.

Joseph Penta represented himself as the applicant. Mr. Penta explained the plans for adding a second story to an existing single-family home. Commission members asked questions and were satisfied with the plans. Mr. Moser pointed out that there is a chain-link fence currently on the property that is encroaching on City of Waltham-owned Conservation Land. As a condition approving the Determination of Applicability, the fence must be removed. The homeowner agreed to remove the fence.

Motion made to issue a negative Determination of Applicability with the condition that the fence will be removed or relocated made by Mr. Doyle, seconded by Mr. Dufromont. All in favor. **Motion passed.**

Public Hearing

Notice of Intent (DEP File # 316-0779)

Applicant: City of Waltham Consolidated Public Works

Property Location: 38 Wimbledon Circle

Project Description: Removal of existing pump station and construction of new pump station.

Derek Costa, the engineer on the project, represented the applicant. Mr. Costa described the project to remove the old pump station and installing the new pump station. Robert Winn, the City's Engineer, and Ian McPherson from the City of Waltham Engineering Department also attended the hearing to respond to questions from the Commission.

Mr. Moser opened the meeting to the public. Jamie O'Connell from Cambridge Water Department provided feedback via email correspondence and also commented on that email during the meeting. Most importantly, Ms. O'Connell pointed out that the existing pump station is encroaching on the Cambridge Water Department's property. Discussion ensued about correcting this encroachment.

Motion made to close the public hearing by Mr. Doyle, seconded by Mr. Baker. All in favor. **Motion passed.**

Motion made by Mr. Doyle to issue a positive Order of Conditions with three (3) Special Conditions:

1. The existing driveway leading to the pump station, as depicted in drawing C-2 of the Plans, encroaches onto the Cambridge Water Department's property. The applicant shall resolve the property line encroachment as part of this project.
2. The applicant shall seed all exposed soil with a native wildflower meadow mix, during and at the end of the project.
3. Applicant shall remove all excess soil from the site.

Seconded by Mr. Deveau. All in favor. **Motion passed.**

Public Hearing

Notice of Intent (DEP File # 316-0780)

Applicant: Hemlock Terrace Development LLC

Property Location: 11 Hemlock Terrace

Project Description: Construct a two-story addition to an existing single-family house.

Bob Bibbo represented the applicant. Mr. Bibbo described the project to add a second story onto an existing single-family house. Each Commission member has the opportunity to ask questions and provide feedback on the project.

Mr. Moser opened the hearing to the public. An abutting neighbor asked several questions and expressed her own concerns.

Motion made to close the public hearing by Mr. Donovan, seconded by Mr. Dufromont. All in favor. **Motion passed.**

Motion made by Mr. Doyle to issue a positive Order of Conditions with one (1) Special Condition:

1. The applicant shall be allowed to connect the rain leaders from the north end of the house to the infiltration system proposed at the front of the house.

Seconded by Mr. Donovan. All in favor. **Motion passed.**

Public Hearing

Notice of Intent (DEP File # 316-0781)

Applicant: Stonehedge Ventures LLC

Property Location: 190 Trapelo Road

Project Description: Rehabilitation of an existing sewer main.

Roy MacDowel and Matt Leidner represented the applicant to describe the project to replace an existing sewer main on the Fernald property. Commission members asked questions of the representatives.

Mr. Moser opened the meeting to the public. There were no comments.

Motion made to close the public hearing by Mr. Donovan, seconded by Mr. Doyle. All in favor. **Motion passed.**

Motion made by Mr. Doyle to issue a positive Order of Conditions with two (2) Special Conditions:

1. Applicant shall add erosion controls around all points of excavation.
2. Applicant shall hydroseed with a native woodland seed mix all disturbed areas.

Seconded by Mr. Deveau. All in favor. **Motion passed.**

Informal Discussion:

- **82 Hardy Pond Road:** The homeowners at this location requested an informal discussion in preparation for a backyard patio refresh. The residents explained the project and asked questions of the Commission for guidance on whether they should proceed with a Notice of Intent or a Request for Determination of Applicability. After a brief discussion, the Commission recommended they file a Request for Determination of Applicability.
- **Resource Area tree removal questions:** Mr. Baker would like to discuss this at a future meeting.

Commission Business

- **Approval of meeting minutes from 1-21-2021:** Motion made by Mr. Baker to approve the minutes from the 1-21-2021 meeting, seconded by Mr. Deveau. All in favor. **Motion passed.**
- **Update on filing fee projects:** No updates.
- **Storer Conservation Land Encroachment:** No updates.
- **Storer Conservation Land Management Plan:** No updates.

Correspondence

- **Belmont Culvert:** A member of the Belmont Conservation Commission reached out to Mayor McCarthy about his concerns with the ongoing Beaver Brook - Trapelo Road Crossing project. Mayor McCarthy updated him on the status of the project.

- **Snow run-off in Newton:** A concerned neighbor contacted the Commission about snow being stockpiled on Rumford Avenue in Newton and the melting snow runs directly into the Charles River. Mr. Moser reached out to the appropriate parties and was assured that the melt flows to on-site stormwater basin(s) for treatment and the Charles River is protected.

Old Business

- No updates.

Committee Reports

- **CPC:** The next meeting is scheduled for February 9.
- **Trust Fund:** No updates.

Site Visit Reports

- **Paine Estate:** Mr. Baker and Mr. Donovan recently lopped invasive vines for approximately 4 hours at the Paine Estate.
- **Storer Conservation Land:** Mr. Donovan visited this location with Ann Clifford and Kevin Thompson to walk the wisteria site. Mr. Thompson will not be able to start until the Spring. Mr. Donovan and Mr. Baker will be lopping in the Wisteria parking lot. Ms. Clifford encourages the Commission to have the RFP go out to advance the project.
- **Mokema Woods:** Mr. Baker visited this site after a snow event and observed the snow from the street was pushed all the way to the end of the street.
- **New High School appeal site visit:** Mr. Doyle and Mr. Dufromont attended the site visit appeal scheduled by DEP with DEP representatives, the applicants, and the parties who appealed the Order of Conditions.

New Business

- No updates.

Motion made by Mr. Baker to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Dufromont. All in favor. **Motion passed.**

Meeting adjourned at 9:32 p.m.