

Wakefield Conservation Commission – Minutes – February 13, 2020

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Attendance: Chairman Jim Luciani; Bob Romano; Frank Calandra; Teresa Belmonte; Peter Miller; Elaine Vreeland; Judy Green

Absent: Mickey Laskey, Yue Ren

1/23/20 minutes – Mr. Romano made a motion to approve the 1/23/20 minutes.

Ms. Belmonte made a second to the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

DEP#313-585 – 610 Salem Street – SBAB Capital Trust, LLC – Notice of Intent: continued public hearing – construct a 37-unit residential building with associated utilities, parking, storm water management and grading within riverfront and within the 100' buffer to a wetland. This matter was continued to 2/27/20 at the applicant's request.

DEP#313-590 – 9 Ware Street – Jerome Altieri – Notice of Intent: continued public hearing – construct an 18'x24' addition within 100' of a wetland – Mr. Altieri stated that drywells would be installed to capture roof runoff. No trees will be removed.

Ms. Vreeland has confirmed the wetland line.

The Commission had no issues with this proposal.

This matter was continued to 2/27/20 as a file number from the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) has not yet been issued.

DEP#313-582 – Lovis Avenue Ext. – Robert Casaletto – Notice of Intent: continued public hearing: Construct a 3-lot subdivision with associated roadway, utilities, storm water management and grading within 100' of a wetland – John Ogren of Hayes Engineering and Attorney Brian McGrail were present for the applicant. Mr. Ogren submitted responses to questions posed by the Commission. He stated that 6,355 feet of trees (124 trees) would be removed. He noted that the infiltration system on Lot #2 could be moved, allowing retention of four trees. He also suggested leaving the infiltration system in place and instead planting an additional four trees.

Mr. Luciani stated that he would rather retain the four mature trees.

Mr. Miller felt that further review was needed to determine the impact to the buffer zone of such a large tree loss.

Mr. Luciani suggested that the Commission engage, at their expense, a consultant to help provide a more definitive determination of this loss.

Mr. Ogren felt that this request is unfair at this point.

Mr. Romano expressed his concern with the loss of water uptake as well as canopy loss.

Mr. Miller made a motion to engage an ecological consultant at the Commission's expense, selected by Chairman Luciani, to assess the impact of tree loss.

Mr. Calandra made a second to the motion. It passed unanimously.

Wakefield Conservation Commission – Minutes – February 13, 2020

Mr. McGrail stated that the applicant would be willing to pay the difference in cost should the price trigger a bid review requirement.

Mr. Calandra asked if the applicant could provide anything further to enhance the wildlife corridor in the buffer zone.

Mr. Luciani suggested planting additional native shrubs for food source within 50' of the wetland.

This matter was continued to 2/27/20.

DEP#313-547 – 94 Butler Avenue – Request to extend Order of Conditions – Attorney Brian McGrail was present for the applicants. Mr. McGrail stated that they are currently working with the Town on an environmental clean-up resolution.

Mr. Romano made a motion to extend the Order of Conditions for three years.

Mr. Calandra made a second to the motion. It passed unanimously.

DEP#313-486 – Town Common at Lake Quannapowitt – Vote on minor modification – the applicants seek to change the size of the temporary boat ramp.

Mr. Romano made a motion to consider the change to the dock a minor modification.

Ms. Belmonte made a second to the motion. It passed unanimously.

DEP#313-553 – New Salem Street culvert – Request for Emergency Certification – Town Engineer Bill Renault has requested the certification as the culvert is collapsing. The Town is planning to replace the culvert sometime this year but would like to assess this problem more immediately.

Ms. Belmonte made a motion to issue an Emergency Certification.

Mr. Calandra made a second to the motion. It passed unanimously.

2019 Annual Report – Mr. Romano made a motion to accept the report.

Ms. Belmonte made a second to the motion. It passed unanimously.

Commission re-appointments – Mr. Romano made a motion to issue a letter to the Town Council requesting the re-appointment of Mr. Luciani and Mr. Laskey.

Mr. Miller made a second to the motion. It passed unanimously.

This meeting adjourned at 8:40PM.