

Wakefield Conservation Commission – Minutes – February 27, 2020

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Attendance: Chairman Jim Luciani; Bob Romano; Frank Calandra; Mickey Laskey; Teresa Belmonte; Peter Miller;

Elaine Vreeland; Judy Green

Absent: Yue Ren

2/13/20 minutes – Mr. Romano made a motion to approve the 2/13/20 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 3/12/20 at the applicant's request.

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 – This matter was continued to 3/12/20 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.

This matter was continued to 3/12/20 as a file number from the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) has not yet been issued. The public hearing was not closed, however the Order of Conditions was signed this evening.

DEP#313-XXX – Audubon Road right-of-way – National Grid – Notice of Intent: public hearing – conduct exploratory soil borings within bordering land subject to flooding, 100-foot buffer zone and Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program Estimated Habitat of rare species – Allison Millman of BSC Group was present for the applicants. The proposal calls for soil borings to examine subsurface conditions adjacent to existing transmission lines. Two borings will be in bordering land subject to flooding and two will be in bordering vegetated wetland. All disturbance will be temporary. Temporary 4'x6' wooden mats will be placed atop vegetation during exploratory work.

The Commission had no issues with this proposal.

This matter was continued to 3/12/20 as a file number from DEP has not yet been issued. The public hearing was not closed, however the Order of Conditions was signed this evening.

9 Robert Street – Robert MacAleese - Request to remove five trees within Crystal Lake watershed – Site photos and a letter from the homeowner's tree service were reviewed this evening.

Mr. Luciani asked if it would be possible to retain any of the five trees.

Mr. MacAleese stated that he does not want any trees near the house for safety reasons. A large tree fell four years ago, damaging the house.

Mr. Calandra asked what mitigation was proposed once the trees are removed.

Ms. Vreeland suggested planting high bush blueberries.

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The Commission will conduct a site visit 2/29/20 at 8:00AM.

DEP#313-275 – Heron Pond update – February 2020 soil sample results were submitted this evening for review. It was noted that phosphorus and potassium levels were low and calcium and magnesium levels were high.

Mr. Romano noted that based on the sampling results fertilizer application would be appropriate.

Ms. Vreeland will speak to the property management company, Thayer Associates, to determine what products are used and how often they are applied. She noted that invasive vines need to be cleared from the trees. This needs to be part of ongoing maintenance. The pond itself looked healthy last fall.

Mr. Romano requested that the Commission receive ongoing status updates.

Ms. Vreeland will schedule a meeting with the Thayer Associates to review the noted issues.

Sheraton Hotel – wetland disturbance – Ms. Vreeland spoke with the property manager regarding work activity causing significant erosion into the wetland and Saugus River. The property manager stated that they would install a pillow in the catch basin and shovel out the mud by day's end 2/28/20. Ms. Vreeland will conduct a site visit next week to ensure compliance.

DEP#313-582 – Lovis Avenue – ecological consultant contract – Oxbow Associates has been retained to undertake an ecological review of this lot.

Mr. Miller would like a review of the direct impact of the overall tree loss, not limited to those within the jurisdictional area, and its impact on the wetland.

Mr. Calandra asked that they review whether the 25' setback would be sufficient. If not, what distance would they suggest?

Mr. Miller made a motion to engage Oxbow Associates and accept their submitted contract.

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

DEP#313-565 – 5 Stoney Hill Lane – Request for Certificate of Compliance – Ms. Vreeland conducted a site visit. No outstanding issues were noted.

Ms. Belmonte made a motion to issue a Certificate of Compliance.

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

14 Sunset Road – enforcement order update – The homeowner has filed an appeal in Superior Court to contest the enforcement action. Town Counsel Tom Mullen has issued a response to the filing.

The meeting adjourned at 9:30PM.