



Town of West Boylston

140 Worcester Street, West Boylston, Massachusetts 01583

Conservation Commission Meeting Minutes

Date / Time / Location of Meeting
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Monday, 3-5-2018/7:00 p.m./West Boylston Town Offices, Rm. 120/131

Members Present	William Chase (Chair), John Hadley (Vice-Chair), David Mercurio (Vice-Chair), Emily Eaton and Clerk Toby Goldstein.
Members NOT Present	Mark Meola and Carl Haarmann (Associate Member)
Invited Guests	N/A

Welcome – Call to Order

Time: 7:00 p.m. (Motion made by Mr. Mercurio, seconded by Mr. Hadley)

Approval of Previous Minutes

January 29, 2018

Motion Originator Mr. Mercurio

Motion Seconded Mr. Hadley

Treasurer – Financial Report

Mr. Chase looked it over (dated 1/31/18) and discussed with board members.

Motion to Accept N/A

Seconded N/A

At 7:00 pm, Mr. Mercurio made a motion to open the meeting. Mr. Hadley seconded. All in favor.

Public Hearing, Town of West Boylston c/o Anita Scheipers, Request for Determination of Applicability, 120 Prescott Street (proposed new Town of West Boylston Senior Center):

(Ms. Eaton read aloud the public hearing posting notice). (William Murray, Places Associates, represented). Mr. Murray gave his credentials. He said that he did wetlands delineation on the site. Showing a map to the board, he pointed out that GIS identified a wooded wetland, but in November, after doing testing

including soil borings, he determined that there was a tiny isolated wetland, but not one under the jurisdiction of the Commission, so that they are seeking a negative determination. Mr. Murray noted that they will have erosion controls along the buffer zone line (straw wattles), and asserted that they will not be doing work within the 100-foot buffer zone. With no further discussion and no further questions from the Concomm members, Ms. Eaton made a motion to close the public hearing. Mr. Hadley seconded. All in favor. Ms. Eaton then made a motion to issue a negative determination, with the condition that the applicant will impose erosion controls as noted. Mr. Mercurio seconded. All in favor.

Informal Discussion with John Farnsworth Regarding Baldarelli, 301 Sterling Street:

Mr. Farnsworth informed the Commission members that he and Edward Baldarelli had a public hearing with DCR in November, 2017, and are waiting for DCR to post the continuation of the hearing. He stated that, one or two weeks ago, they submitted responses to 15 questions from Nancy McGrath of DCR; he just spoke with Vinny Vignaly of DCR who said that he had not seen anything about this on his desk, and he was going to check on that. Mr. Chase asked him what they submitted at the hearing (Mr. Farnsworth gave the board two copies).

First of all, Ms. McGrath asked for specifications for the grindings to be used for cover, as was asked for by MA DOT. He wrote back that they will use hot-rolled, because, after consulting with several environmental resources, they decided that, since they will be within two feet of ground water and if there is any flooding, asphalt would release substances.

Second, he submitted to them details of elevations.

Third, he was asked for a very complete description of how all the work will be done. He submitted sketches and procedures of how they will do de-watering; they will not be removing water, only using barriers. Mr. Farnsworth explained to Ms. McGrath that they will do work according to what MA DOT wants to do with the roadway. He asserted that Ms. McGrath wanted to take out ongoing maintenance, cleaning up of the area, and of beaver debris (which was an issue at the hearing); Mr. Farnsworth, however, asserted that he left in those items because they opine that there will need to be ongoing maintenance for the appearance of the roadway. Eddie would police the area and it will be cleaned up if needed. In response to a question from Mr. Chase about the remnants of the beaver dam at the location, Mr. Farnsworth explained that it was dragged out to the beach (which was alright with Mr. Chase). Mr. Farnsworth commented about the direction of the water flow there, and that DCR draped corrugated pipe over the beaver dam, which he saw the last time he was out there, on DCR's property (they all discussed what was Mr. Baldarelli's property and what was DCR's property).

Mr. Mercurio asked Mr. Farnsworth what was holding up the work? Mr. Farnsworth replied that they were waiting for DCR to issue their permit. Mr. Mercurio asked if there was anything that could be done to expedite the process? Mr. Farnsworth opined that everything possible had been done. Mr. Hadley then asked about the public hearing that they had with DCR. Mr. Farnsworth responded that he thought that DCR did not close the public hearing but continued it, but he had not seen any continuation, and he asserted that he had not talked with Ms. McGrath since December. He mentioned that FEMA and Homeland Security signed off on the project. Mr. Chase opined that there was a 21-Day limit on public hearings. The board and Mr. Farnsworth then discussed what would happen if there was a time limit and who they could talk to about this. Mr. Farnsworth added that DCR also wanted to know how they will do de-watering, and he made up seven sketches and explained how they will use barriers so that they will not actually be removing or stopping the water. David Femia of ZBA (who was present in the audience) noted that the ZBA had deadlines within which a public hearing must take place. Mr. Farnsworth had concerns about other permits expiring; he asked Mr. Chase if he wanted Mr. Baldarelli to re-file with Concomm? Mr. Chase said he did not need to do that. Mr. Farnsworth mentioned that most of the permits are good for two years. He added that they would like to order the box that they need but were waiting until the permit was given. Mr. Chase said that he considers them as having started work already, for permits that look at whether or not work has started in order to remain active. Mr. Farnsworth said that he will call Ms. McGrath and ask her about the continuation date. The board also suggested asking Vinny Vignaly.

Minutes of January 29, 2018 Meeting:

After review of the draft minutes by the Commission members, Mr. Mercurio made a motion to accept the minutes as submitted. Mr. Hadley seconded. All in favor.

Treasurer-Financial Report:

Mr. Chase reviewed the most recent financial report from the Accounting Office (dated 1/31/18) and discussed it with the Commission members.

Complaints to the Conservation Commission:

First to be discussed was a complaint regarding burying of storage tanks at 145 Laurel Street (sent by e-mail). The tanks were 8' by 20' and 8' by 40' in size. The board discussed the sizes of the tanks, whether there was sewer or septic on the property (there is sewer), and they believed that the owner needs a permit; in response to a suggestion from Mr. Hadley, Mr. Chase replied that he would talk to the Building Inspector about it the next day (Tuesday). Mr. Chase then discussed a house on Lancaster Street, which is torn apart and residue from that is in wetlands. In response to a question from Mr. Femia, Mr. Chase thought that the Building Inspector gave the property owner a Cease and Desist order. Mr. Femia opined that the Building Inspector should have information on the property if there is a Building Permit. Mr. Mercurio suggested that the owner also needed a dumpster permit.

Miscellaneous Mail and Paperwork:

Mr. Chase looked over whatever mail and paperwork was there for the board, and discussed it with the board if necessary.

Next Concomm Meeting Date:

The next scheduled meeting date of April 2, 2018 was alright with all members present.

At 7:35 p.m., with no other business to discuss, Mr. Mercurio made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Mr. Hadley seconded. All in favor.

NEXT MEETING **Monday, April 2, 2018**

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Motion Originator	Mr. Mercurio
Motion Seconded	Mr. Hadley
Time of Adjournment	7:35 p.m.

Signatures

Submitted by:	Toby S. Goldstein, Clerk
Date Submitted:	

