

**CITY OF MARLBOROUGH
CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

Minutes

January 5, 2012 (Thursday)
Marlborough City Hall – 3rd Floor, Memorial Hall
7:00 P.M.

Members Present: Edward Clancy-Chairman, John Skarin, Dennis Demers, Dave Williams, Lawrence Roy and Priscilla Ryder-Conservation Officer and Allan White (arrived at end of meeting)

Absent: Michele Higgins

Discussion

City of Marlborough Dept. of Public Works

Proposes to create a trench to improve drainage behind the homes at 63 and 73 Schofield Dr., 119 and 127 Evelina Dr. and 64, 74 and 84 Bergeron Rd.

Ken Calder from the Marlborough DPW was present. He noted that because they did not get consensus from ALL the neighbors to this wetland, he has not finalized the application so he would like tonight's meeting to just be a discussion of possible solutions to the drainage problem associated with the wetland behind the homes on Bergeron, Evelina and Schofield Rd.

Mr. Calder explained that he had received a call from Tom Sullivan at 63 Schofield Rd. asking for some help with a drainage problem the neighborhood is experiencing. He visited the site and saw how wet the back yards are. He noted that the existing flared end pipe which exits water from the wetland was only receiving about 15% of the flow. He noted that the wetland appears to be mounded so water is going around the sides rather than through the middle of the wetland. As a consequence the yards fill up with water and the water has no way to get out so it sits in these yards.

Mr. Calder presented three options to address this issue, Option A would create a trench through the middle of the wetland from the base of the detention basin outlet on Brazeau Cir. and discharge it to the existing flared end which is located on the 84 Bergeron Rd. property. This would be the best, least expensive and most direct option. Option B would direct water around the property boundaries onto 63 Schofield Rd., 73 Schofield and then be directed to the flared end on 84 Bergeron Rd. However, all the neighbors except 84 Bergeron Rd. have granted permission to access their property. The owners of 84 Bergeron Rd. the Kundu's have stated clearly they will not grant any access to their property. Option C would add a catch basin over the drain pipe to drain water directed there by the trench noted in Option B and would be located in the low point on 73 Schofield Dr.

The owner at 119 Evelina Dr. indicated that his yard is always wet; sump pumps are going all the time. He provided pictures of this area to the Commission.

Mr. Blake of 73 Schofield Rd also provided some photographs showing the flooding of this area this past year and previous years. The raised garden beds are often under water and the problem has only gotten worse over the years. He also asked what the trench would look like. (Commissioner Larry Roy arrived) Mr. Sullivan explained that his yard continues to get wetter and wetter and he is concerned about his shed sinking.

Mr. Demers asked whether the DPW could survey the elevations of the area and provide a plan showing the grades in the area. The only way the trenches will work is if there is adequate grade change from the top near the detention basin to the outlet from the wetland.

The Commission discussed some trench drain location alternatives which would avoid the 90 degree turn at 63 Schofield Dr. and reiterated the need to have this engineered to ensure that it can. Mr. Calder explained that the trench would be a 4' trench with side slopes to allow water to more quickly flow out, there was some discussion about trench design. He was asked to provide a sketch for the formal application to be filed.

Mr. Kelley of 58 Brazeau circle asked about the extent of clearing around the detention basin. Mr. Calder said the clearing would be minimal.

After further discussion about past attempts to correct this problem by the developer of Brazeau Cir. and the need to get the owners of 84 Bergeron Rd. on board, the neighbors asked if options B and C could be pursued so this correction isn't delayed by the one neighbor not in favor. Mr. Calder said he'd go back and see if that was feasible and work out a more detailed engineered plan to come up with a solution. Once that is done they will file for a wetland permit. He hopes he will be able to file for the February 2, 2012 meeting. The neighbors thanked Mr. Calder for trying to find a solution. The neighbors will be notified for the next meeting.

Discussion:

- Beaver Management –The Commission reviewed the Holliston Conservation Commission's beaver management plan. The town of Holliston designates areas where beavers can be left to be and areas where they should be removed. The Commission reviewed this document and asked Ms. Ryder to work on drafting a similar set of policies for the City of Marlborough that the Con. Com., Board of Health and DPW would use to better manage the exploding beaver population. Ms. Ryder will work on this and provide it when it is ready.

Correspondence/Other Business:

The following correspondence was reviewed and the Commission voted unanimously to accept and place on file.

- Letter from Alice Wright – haying on Elm St.
- Letter to John Deli Priscoli, dated Nov. 30, 2011 RE: Wetland violation \$100 fine DEP 212-1083 – “0” Crowley Dr. Vestas project.

- Letter from R.A.D. Sports, dated Dec. 12, 2011 RE: MAIA Monthly Status Report – Nov. 2011.
- Letter to Robert Dickinson, dated Dec. 14, 2011 RE: DEP 212-997; Wetland violation \$100 fine – Regency at Assabet Ridge
- Letter to John Mercier, dated Dec. 14, 2011 RE: Wetland violation \$100 fine – DEP 212-1083; “0” Crowley Dr. Vestas project
- Letter to Todd Lyons, dated Dec. 22, 2011 RE: Wetland violation – DEP 212-1016, \$200 fine – Cook Lane-subdivision-Mauro Farm.

Other business:

- 17 Rolfe Rd. - (Dennis Demers abstained from this discussion since he has a conflict and has been working with the owner.)Ms. Ryder indicated that she has been working with the home owner and he replaced the drain pipe under his driveway to alleviate flooding and potential icing problems. An emergency certificate was issued for this work. A full notice of intent will be filed shortly for the installation of a sewer line connection and for the repair of the driveway.
- ITAM 111 Neil St. Ms. Ryder reported that she inspected this site today and found that all the trees had been removed from the back area all the way to the brook. The Commission asked her to contact the owners and issue a fine as needed. They will need to replant the trees removed.

(Note: Allen White arrived at the conclusion of the meeting)

Meetings – Next Conservation Commission meetings – January 19th and February 2, 2012 (Thursdays)

Adjournment – There being no further discussion the meeting was adjourned at 8:32 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Priscilla Ryder
Conservation Officer