

**CITY OF MARLBOROUGH  
CONSERVATION COMMISSION  
Minutes  
May 1, 2014 (Thursday)  
Marlborough City Hall – 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Memorial Hall  
7:00 PM**

**Present: Members Present:** Edward Clancy-Chairman, Lawrence Roy, John Skarin, David Williams, Allan White and Priscilla Ryder-Conservation Officer.

**Absent:** Dennis Demers

**Public Hearings:**

Request for Determination of Applicability

113 Beach St. - Ezat M. Sohi

Mr. Sohi was present and explained that he would like to expand the existing deck by 4'. The new deck will be on sonotubes, so only a small amount of excavation is needed. Work will be 85' from the wetland. The Commission discussed the back yard and the proximity to wetlands and Ms. Ryder noted bittersweet vines are present and should be removed. The Commission closed the hearing and voted unanimously 5-0 to issue a negative Determination of Applicability with no conditions. He can proceed with his project.

Notice of Intent (Continuation)

397 Bolton Street - The Marlborough Community Development Authority

Proposes to expand the existing parking lot including additional drainage control near wetlands. At the applicants request this item was continued to the May 15<sup>th</sup> meeting to give them a chance to revise the plans.

Notice of Intent (Continued to June 19, 2014)

358 Berlin Rd. - Marlborough Brazilian SDA Church

Proposes to repair and replace their existing parking lot, reinforce some walls, and clean the accumulated debris from the brook, add some landscaping and install a wooden fence near wetlands. At the applicants request this item was continued to the June 19, 2014 meeting.

**Discussion:**

Project updates:

- Avalon Bay Marlborough DEP 212- 1115– violation discussion with applicant and contractor. Tony Sanchez of Avalon, Tim Chorey from VHB, Connor Nagal and Carl Bucknell from LNM Construction were all present. Ms. Ryder noted that the Avalon Project has received its third violation due to silty water leaving the site and as part of the last violation notice had been asked to come in and explain to the Commission what they are doing and what they have done to correct the problems. Mr. Sanchez explained that it is a complicated project containing difficult soil which is hard to control. He reviewed

the violations and the steps they have taken to correct each violation. He turned it over to Tim Chorey who walked the Commission through items as shown on the plans. They have been using a pumping system to pump water through a stable swale with flocculants and then settling it out in a tank. Two baker tanks with baffles are to be delivered tomorrow. They have divided the site into 4 main discharge points, each with its own treatment train. They have looked at sediment Basins A & B to confirm that they can handle the volumes proposed and have ordered the baker tanks with 1200 gallon capacity. Each treatment train was described and they will all be maintained regularly. The jute and “curtains” will be replaced as needed once the flocked material is attached to it. Basin D1 has the tank first and the treatment swale after. They have been using stump grindings and are using a flocculant called PAM on the soil as a soil stabilizer along with hydro seed/tack mix. He also explained that they are trucking material to the adjacent property, Atlantic Co., and using it as fill on that site. Erosion controls and pumping are being used to prevent mud from leaving the site. Mr. Sanchez explained that they now have a new protocol on site and every day, evening and weekend when it rains someone will be out checking the site. Chairman Clancy noted that they had been warned about how difficult this soil is to handle, and hopes they appreciate the Commission’s knowledge about the situation. Mr. Sanchez acknowledged the challenge and gave his commitment that they would work carefully to ensure no further violations occur. They will be relying on the whole VHB team including Griffin Ryder and Craig Lizotte who can also provide input and oversight on the property. After further discussion, the Commission indicated they could proceed, but that any further violation would be met with stiffer fines and stiffer enforcement actions. Mr. Sanchez hoped they would not have to return and assured the Commission they would do a better job controlling the site.

- Ames St. project report. Ryan Bianchetto from Allen and Major was present. He explained that they have constructed the wetland replication area that was required as part of their violation notice for the project. The first phase of restoration, the “pre-replication”, as required by the Order of Conditions, has been completed. He explained that they made some slight changes with Ms. Ryder’s blessing to add a stone channel where the water runs, to prevent erosion. As a temporary measure the water is being diverted through a pipe which will remain in place until such time the replication area vegetation takes and is well established. This will prevent erosion. He reviewed his wetland replication report dated 4-25-14 and explained the steps that were taken in the replication process. John Skarin explained that he did go out to take a look at the area and confirmed that it looked adequate. Ms. Ryder asked whether the soil elevation would indeed maintain the hydric soils necessary, since she was not available to check before they brought in the top soil. Mr. Bianchetto explained that he believes they did. The Commission noted that the replication area would need to be monitored for success over the next two years. A monitoring report will be due in July and then again in October and then in May.

Mr. Clancy also noted that the Commission has received a letter asking for approval of some minor changes to the plans to include some garages and a maintenance building. Mr. Clancy asked Ms. Ryder to invite them to come to the next meeting to discuss.

- 164 Stevens St. - Mr. Skarin has left a note on the excavator machine at this property noting that they may be close to or doing work within a wetland without a permit. When Ms. Ryder returned from vacation she followed up with the owner. They have stopped all work and will file for a permit to do some landscaping and other work on the house some of which will be within the 100 foot buffer zone.

**Correspondence:** The following letter was reviewed and unanimously voted to place on file:

- Letter from Nationalgrid, dated April 21, 2014 RE: Vegetation Management Plan.

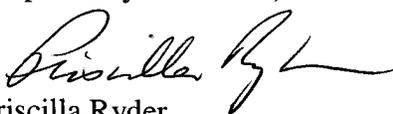
**Other Business:**

- Ms. Ryder noted that the local cable company would like to do some 10 minutes shows on each of the city's conservation land trails in the city. Several Commission members expressed an interest in participating.
- Desert Natural Area- prescribed burn. Ms. Ryder announced that if weather and staff conditions are as required, the burn may take place on Tuesday May 6 or Wednesday May 7 of next week.

**Meetings:** Next Conservation Commission meetings – May 15<sup>th</sup> and June 5, 2014 (Thursdays)

**Adjournment:** There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Priscilla Ryder

Conservation Officer