

**HOLDEN CONSERVATION COMMISSION
1130 MAIN STREET, HOLDEN SENIOR CENTER
MINUTES
October 2, 2019**

Members Present: Robert Lowell, Anthony Costello, Kenneth Strom, Cathy Doherty

Not Present: Mike Scott, Luke Boucher, David Nyman

Others Present: Glenda Williamson, Conservation Agent; Alisha Pollinger, Recording Secretary; Scott Morrison, Rich Berry, Colleen Abrams, Wachusett Greenways; Tom Larson, Greenwood Estate; Tom McDonald, Peter Ferland, Sudbury Design Group, 119 Chapin Road.

R. Lowell called the meeting to order at 7:21 PM

EXTENSION PERMIT ON ORDERS - 965 Salisbury Street, DEP File #: 183-0613 Senharip Tanoglu - Assessing Map 250, Parcel 37. Single family home, pool, driveway, septic system, utilities and grading.

R. Lowell asked if we have an update. G. Williamson stated that the applicant requested another one year extension. R. Lowell asked, which goes until when. G. Williamson, which goes until November 30th of this year. He had the 3 years, now he wants another extension, this is the lot next to the Holbrook parking area. R. Lowell is this work in progress? G. Williamson all he did was clear the site and install a culvert at the end. R. Lowell are we waiting to do the final restoration? G. Williamson, he has to build a house and a pool. Since then we have discovered there is a vernal pool out there.

Do you have the memo from DPW? R Lowell, yes, we do. G. Williamson, they are requesting that we don't issue the extension, he never did the repair on culvert. Under the Wetland Protection Act, the Commission may deny the Extension if no work has begun, if new information in regard to the site is revealed and if incomplete work has led to damage to the interest of the Act. Since the issuance of the order, the Commission has learned that there is a vernal pool at the back of the lot. The culvert that the landowner installed was constructed too high and not in line with the existing drainage. The culvert is not draining water properly from the upland areas on the site and adjacent properties. The DPW recommended that the Commission not issue the extension until the culvert has been properly repaired. The existing culvert caused flooding and ponding and icing in the road and the front yards of the homes across the street.

R. Lowell said that some progress is important. G. Williamson said he has done nothing in four years other than clearing and stumping the site. K. Strom stressed the importance of public safety, it's a nuisance with the icing in the right of away. G. Williamson other new information, he never got a Construction General Permit. R Lowell sounds like we have compliance issues and some new wetland resources on the site that would need to be factored into a plan. C. Doherty stated that we should move to deny the extension. R. Lowell agreed and asked if there were any other

thoughts. K. Strom you can relay that to the town engineer what's wrong, I don't know if you want to make that an official position. R. Lowell we can make a vote on it. R. Lowell I think that is an excellent comment for the record. K. Strom it's a safety issue with the ice. R. Lowell said last time we issued an extension, it was in good faith that the work would continue. R. Lowell asked the Commission for a motion.

Motion by C. Doherty, seconded by A. Costello, it was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO DENY THE REQUEST FOR A ONE-YEAR EXTENSION, 965 SALISBURY STREET, SINGLE FAMILY HOME, POOL, DRIVEWAY AND UTILITIES IN THE 100-FOOT BUFFER OWNED BY SENHARIH TANOGLU, ASSESSING MAP 250, PARCEL 17.

TOWN OF HOLDEN DPW - RDA- HERITAGE PUMP STATION - Minor changes to site design, Negative 3 Determination issued 1/9/2018

R. Lowell we had already issued a negative determination back in January of 2018. G. Williamson there were just some minor changes, there is additional paved area around the pump station and they are replacing the existing fence. R. Lowell asked the location of the pump station. G. Williamson said it is off Holden Street at the end of Heritage Lane. G. Williamson stated that Ryan Mouradian asked that the Commission review these minor changes to the plan to determine if a new RDA filing would be required.

R. Lowell asked if this was a sewer pump station. G. Williamson replied yes. R Lowell stated that the changes to the original design were minor in nature and asked the Commission for their input.. C. Doherty agreed that these were minor changes. K. Strom asked if the Commission needed to make a formal vote. G. Williamson stated that a formal vote for this item was not required. The Commission agreed that the changes are minor in nature and did not require an amended or new Request for Determination.

MA CENTRAL RAIL TRAIL – Colleen Abrams – Minor changes to site design, grade changes and preliminary review on new section of Rail Trail. Negative 3 Determination issued on 12/11/2018.

R. Lowell asked the applicants to present the changes. Colleen Abrams and Rich Barry with Wachusett Greenways were present to discuss the changes to the approved Determination of Applicability for the rail trail section located between River Street and Manning Street. They presented a USGS Map indicating the sections of the trail where additional grading is needed. Rich stated that the intent of the work was to lessen the grades to keep things as flat as possible on both ends.

Rich Barry referred to the short purple line on the map stating that there is a short hill there just before the first bypass where the grade is now about ten or eleven percent. We would like to regrade the trail here so that it's closer to three percent. Over here on the other side, there is a longer section after you come out of the bypass, we want to drop the top of the hill and move excavated materials into the lowest portion of the trail. This will reduce that grade from seven to eight percent at the top and six or seven percent and at the bottom. We are trying take the steepness out of both ends. Scott Morrison stated that essentially what happened was that we permitted a negative

determination for the Rail Trail towards River Street and both ends needed refinements to the connection there.

G. Williamson asked about the current status of the relocation. Colleen stated that the trees within the easement had been removed and that no stumping has occurred. Colleen stated that there is a DCR logging project about to commence and that they cannot build up at the end of the slope during all the cutting. There is still going to be a 200-foot section of the seven percent grade. If we were to eliminate anything over five percent it would be too much work. R. Lowell stated that seven percent is much better than twelve percent.

G. Williamson asked what their timeline was for completing the work. Colleen replied as soon as possible. G. Williamson asked Colleen if they have found a contractor. Colleen stated that bids were due on October 7th. Colleen Abrams stated that this time we had asked the contractors to take responsibility for the erosion controls. The contract requires them to maintain and install them. Colleen asked G. Williamson if she would like to review the work again once the erosion controls had been installed. G. Williamson replied yes.

Scott Morrison stated that the second issue they would like to discuss is a new section of rail trail that will be located between Mill Street and Princeton Street. They provided a sketch of the new trail on a USGS topo map. The map indicated the new trail and the location of five existing culverts along the trail. R. Lowell asked if the new trail was an existing rail bed. Colleen stated that the majority of the central trail is existing rail bed but that shrubs and small saplings have become established and need to be removed.

R Lowell asked if they would have to do any additional drainage work on the trail. Colleen stated that they would regrade the trail so that the center portion of the road would be higher than the side slopes. This will allow water to drain away from the trail. Colleen stated that there is a very wet area along the trail that would have to be addressed. R. Lowell said that the Commission's main concern is that they are not causing any additional erosion and would not be blocking any existing flows. Colleen stated that they would be improving the existing headwalls but would not be replacing any culverts.

R. Lowell asked if the existing stone culvert is considered a historical resource. Colleen stated that a review of the historical resources along the new trail section was part of the Mass Trails grant application. She had already sent this information in and that it did not come up as a cultural resource.

C. Doherty asked if the new path would be located further down Mill Street from where it is now. Colleen stated yes, a new section of trail would be constructed from Mill Street to the existing rail bed and that the entrance would be further north on Mill Street. Colleen stated that there is an existing parking area at the corner of Mill Street and Route 31. A. Costello asked if they would be enlarging the existing parking area. Colleen stated no, that they don't think it would be necessary.

Rich Barry stated that if the Commission requires a RDA, they can certainly provide that. R. Lowell asked if there would be any disturbance to existing resource areas. Rich replied that the

work entails grading the trail and doing small improvements on the existing culvert inlets and outlets. The grading work is located within the 100-foot buffer of resource areas and there will be no direct impacts to resource areas. K. Strom suggested that they file an RDA for the trail work, all Commission members agreed.

PROJECT UPDATES:

119 Chapin Road- Drainage Improvements

Peter Ferland with Sudbury Design Group was present to discuss the project. The Commission asked for additional information on the drainage design at their previous hearing in September. Peter stated that since then, they have sent an engineer to the site to determine the depth to groundwater. He stated that two test pits were dug; the first test hole came back at 30-inches and the second with a depth to groundwater at 33-inches. Peter stated that they had to redesign the drainage. They used very shallow culvert systems, 30.5 inches is the height required. He stated that they need 14 culvert units. For over flow he said they are proposing an inspection to bring it up to the required grades.

The other proposal is the swale, we would like to dig the swale out, add 1 ½ inch stone, add a pipe towards the top of it and filter fabric on top just to add area for more storage capacity.

Other questions the board had asked was about, the septic system and the height, there is a 15 foot set back, reaching of the septic fail, we are outside of the set back of the septic system. The bottom of the septic system is at elevation 98.5 and the bottom of the wall is at elevation 89. We are outside of the 15 foot of septic fail, the slope goes down. R Lowell asked if they had a reserve field? Peter Ferland stated yes, we do have the reserve field. In our packets he provided the drainage plan calculations and the engineer notes for the test holes. The terrace we have a multi flow system and up against the wall, I'm proposing a 12 inch where the branches are and the main trunks are 18 inch, it will be a transport system, and it will empty out and put a 4 inch pipe. R. Lowell it's got the fabric around it? Peter Ferland it has the fabric around it. We are trying to dry it out quicker, that's the whole purpose. We will have stone under the footing for the capacity of water going there also. Peter stated that they are putting the drain high for the stone to collect the water and then release into the culvert system. If the culvert reaches capacity it will go back to the surface. R. Lowell stated that he didn't think the Commission needed to take any action. The Commission agreed that a filing with the Commission would not be necessary.

61 Manning St

Cathy Doherty said that she drove by the site today and it looks like they are digging out more. G. Williamson stated that the homeowner is supposed to be installing boulders along the 25-foot no disturb zone. She would contact the owner to see what work is being done. She stated that he installed straw wattles and planted grass and would like the Commission's opinion on what type of shrubs to plant in the buffer zone. The Commission suggested highbush blueberry and alder. R. Lowell suggested referring to the DEP wetland plant list for additional ideas. R. Lowell proposed that we review the work that is currently being done on the site and provide the owner with planting options.

Greenwood Estates

Tom Larson stated that the slope along Deanna Dr. is stabilized with grass where it was hand-seeded. He stated that the surveyors marked the location of the primary protection zone under DCR's jurisdiction behind the loam pile. He stated that they installed orange construction fencing along this entire boundary.

R. Lowell asked about their tentative construction schedule? Tom Larson stated that they would be starting on the wetland crossing on Friday or the following Monday and everything it laid out on the plans that we approved. He stated that Nick Dipillato is installing utilities and they are doing so based on the elevations.

C. Doherty stated that there are rocks in the trail near Unionville Pond. Tom stated that they have to do the replication in this area and the trail comes across. Tom Larson stated that the entire area has been staked out and that they will be posting no tres-passing signs. K. Strom asked if the hikers could be re-routed and there are contours that are really steep. Tom Larson said four wheelers use the trail as well and there are stakes with blue ribbon marking the edge of the trail.

Tom stated that Matt from Lucas Environmental and Glenda came for inspections for the next stage on planting and Matt will be out there for the locations of where the plants go. Matt said that getting the elevations correct in the replication area was critical. Tom stated that they had organic soils delivered to the site to be used in the replication area. The soil must be 50 percent compost and 50 percent loam and must have the proper pH. Matt will inspect the soil before it is added to the replication area. Tom stated that they would finish the grading in the replication area in the morning and that they will bury some dead trees as snags for wildlife. They will also leave some boulders in the replication area to create more diversity.

Tom stated that after the area is graded and organic soils are spread, they would need to plant shrubs and trees. R. Lowell asked how many trees and shrubs they would be planting. Tom stated that the area could support 25 large red-maple trees. G. Williamson asked if they were allowed to use ALB host trees in the replication area. Tom stated that there are four nurseries in the State, he spoke with one the landscapers and they are low on supply this late in the year. R. Lowell said planning in advance was best and asked if they intended to plant in the Fall. and might be available in other markets, was the plan to do was planting this fall? Tom Larson stated that they wanted to plan in the middle of October. G. Williamson suggested that they look at the number of trees and shrubs proposed again. The Commission felt that the numbers look exceptionally high for the size of the area. C. Doherty recommended going back to Lucas and have them check the numbers again. G. Williamson stated that she would discuss this with Matt. Tom Larson ask how many ALB trees are in Holden. G. Williamson said she would get a recommendation from the ALB Program in Worcester as to whether or not ALB host species can be planted in the replication area. G. Williamson said that they may need to wait until the Spring to plant. Tom stated that once the grading was complete and the organic soils added, he would contact Glenda for a site inspection.

Tom Larson discussed the work on the wetland crossing. He stated that they will have the wingwall structure on site either Friday or Monday. There will be a drop inlet on the uphill side, there is also a second one that's going to catch the water. Right now everything just flows over the steep slope. Tom stated that they will be redirecting the flow from the stream above the crossing

with a sanbag diversion. Water will hit the sandbags and flow to pipes that cross the road and eventually to the stream. G. Williamson stated that she would like a site visit to inspect the diversion as soon as possible. Tom stated that after the crossing is installed, they will begin to build the road up and stabilize the side slopes with mulch grindings.

REQUEST FOR CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE – DEP File # 183-0654

95 Chapin Road, Assessing Map 208, Parcel 48. Amanda Malone. Construction of a fenced-in, 18'x36' in-ground pool with 800 square feet of stone decking on two sides.

This request was continued from the previous hearing. G. Williamson stated that she spoke with the property owner and was told that the blue pipe laid in the resource area was to flush the pool filter out for regular maintenance of the filter and that no pool water would be discharged to the resource area. The site is fully stabilized at this time.

Motion by K. Strom, seconded by C. Doherty, it was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO ISSUE THE CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE FOR AMANDA MALONE, 95 CHAPIN ROAD, CONSTRUCTION OF AN IN-GROUND POOL, DEP FILE # 183-0654.

REQUEST FOR CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE – DEP File #183-0562

119 Chapin Road, Assessing Map 220, Parcel 38. Gordi Olin. Single Family home, driveway, septic and replication area. Matt Marro Environmental Consulting.

Gordi Olin requested a final COC for the lot. G. Williamson told Gordy to submit a replication area monitoring report and that the area had to be well-vegetated with wetland species prior to the sign off. G. Williamson said that she received a monitoring report from Matt Marro Environmental Consulting dated September 2019. The report stated that the area is more than 75 percent vegetated with wetland species. The remainder of the lot is fully stabilized.

Motion by C. Doherty, seconded by K. Strom, it was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO ISSUE THE CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE FOR GORDY OLIN, 119 CHAPIN ROAD FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A SINGLE-FAMILY HOME, DRIVEWAY AND REPLICATION AREA, DEP FILE # 183-1562.

REQUEST FOR CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE - DEP File # 183-0660

70 Rondeau Road, Assessing Map 98, Parcel 35. Eric Duvo. Replacement of a failing cesspool with a Title 5 sewage disposal system and related grading. Steve Sears, David E. Ross Assoc.

G. Williamson stated that the area is fully stabilized and that the contractor did a very good job. The erosion controls are still in place and the landowner may remove the erosion controls at any time.

Motion by C. Doherty, seconded by K. Strom, it was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO ISSUE THE CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE FOR ERIC DUVO, 70 RONDEAU ROAD, CONSTRUCTION OF A TITLE 5 SEWAGE DISPOSAL SYSTEM, DEP FILE # 183-0660.

REQUEST FOR CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE - DEP File # 183-0637

Lot 3, 129 Quinapoxet Street, Assessing Map 102, Parcel 1. Construction of a single-family home in the 100-foot buffer. Jim Harrity -Builder

G. Williamson showed the Commission photos of the yard, gutter downspouts and back yard. She stated that the developer did not bury the pipes that carry flows from the gutters on the home. Jim had previously mentioned that he extended the above-ground pipes to prevent ponding and to direct rainwater away from the foundation and that they were only temporary. K. Strom stated that the rocks along the back property line are not large enough. Larger boulders (3 – 4 feet) should be brought in and spread evenly along the back yard at the 25-foot no-disturb zone.

The request for a final Certificate of Compliance was denied. The Commission would like to see larger boulders to act as a permanent demarcation and want the gutter drains buried. The Commission will revisit this request at their next hearing on November 6, 2019.

REQUEST FOR CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE - DEP File # 183-0559

337 Wachusett Street, Lot 1A, Assessing Map 163, Parcel 61. Timothy Benson. Construction of a single-family home, driveway, utilities and grading. Blair Enterprises.

G. Williamson stated that the original request for Certificate for Compliance was denied back in June of 2013. There was more fill added to the back of the lot and the grading in the back yard seemed steeper than the original plans. G. Williamson stated that the homeowner has no intention of doing any additional grading in the back yard. One of the conditions of the original order was to install a permanent demarcation. G. Williamson stated that there are large boulders at the base of the slope and that the lot is fully stabilized.

Motion by C. Doherty, seconded by K. Strom, it was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO ISSUE THE CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE FOR TIMOTHY BENSON, 337 WACHUSETT STREET, CONSTRUCTION OF A SINGLE-FAMILY HOME IN THE 100-FOOT BUFFER, DEP FILE #183-0559.

REQUEST FOR PARTIAL RELEASE - DEP File # 183-0145

Lot 56, 260 Sycamore Drive. Assessing Map 208, Parcel 17. Construction of a municipal pumping station, access road and water lines as part of the Town's water system improvements project.

A partial release was never issued for this lot. It is believed that the lot is located within the easement for the access road to the pump station and this may be why the open Order is still showing on their deed.

Motion by C. Doherty, seconded by K. Strom, it was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO ISSUE A PARTIAL CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE FOR LOT 56, 260 SYCAMORE DRIVE, ASSESSING MAP 208, PARCEL 17, DEP FILE #183-0559.

REQUEST FOR CERTIFICATES OF COMPLIANCE - DEP File # 183-0633, 0634, 0635

Lots 1, 2 and 3 Fisher Road Assessing Map 243, Parcels 33, 34 and 35. Wingspan Properties/Finlay Engineering. Single family homes, driveways and associated grading in the 100-foot buffer.

The areas along Fisher Road and the front of the lots have been cleaned up as requested by the Commission. All of the yards are fully stabilized. The replication area for the driveway crossing on Lot 1 is fully established, i.e. there is 75 percent vegetative cover with wetland species and planted saplings.

Motion by C. Doherty, seconded by K. Strom, it was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO ISSUE THE CERTIFICATES OF COMPLIANCE FOR WINGSPAN PROPERTIES, LOTS 1, 2 AND 3 FISHER ROAD, SINGLE-FAMILY HOMES, DRIVEWAYS AND ASSOCIATED GRADING IN THE 100-FOOT BUFFER, DEP FILE #'S 183-0633, -0634 AND -0635.

Minutes

Motion by C. Doherty, seconded by K. Strom, it was VOTED TO APPROVE THE MAY 1ST, 2019 CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES AS CORRECTED BY A VOTE OF 4-0.

The Commission needed more time to review the June 5, 2019 and July 10, 2019 meeting minutes. These will be added to the Commission's November 6th meeting agenda.

Motion by K. Strom, seconded by C. Doherty, it was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO ADJOURN THE OCTOBER 2, 2019 CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEETING AT 8:56 PM.

APPROVED: _____