

**HOLDEN CONSERVATION COMMISSION
1130 MAIN STREET, HOLDEN SENIOR CENTER
MINUTES
November 6, 2019**

Members Present: Robert Lowell, Anthony Costello, Mike Scott, Luke Boucher, David Nyman, Kenneth Strom

Not Present: Cathy Doherty

Others Present: Glenda Williamson, Conservation Agent; Alisha Pollinger, Recording Secretary; Scott Morrison, Wachusett Greenways, Tom Larson, Greenwood Estates; Malcolm and Ellen Parkinson, 500 Wachusett St., Steve Sears-David E. Ross Assoc. Inc.

R Lowell called the meeting to order at 7:01 PM

NOTICE OF INTENT - 500 Wachusett Street, Assessing Map 149, Parcel 10. DEP File# 183-0664. Replacement of a failing sewage system and related grading within the 100-foot buffer of a bordering vegetated wetland. Property Owner, Malcolm & Ellen Parkinson. Rep. Stephen Sears, David E. Ross Assoc.

Steve Sears from David E. Ross Assoc. was present to discuss the project. He stated that he was representing Ellen and Malcolm Parkinson for a failing septic and well out front. He stated that they designed a new Title 5 septic system within the 100ft buffer of the resource area and that they are staying 53 feet from the wetland. Steve stated that there will be no removal of vegetation on the property. There is an un-named intermittent stream located approximately 220 feet east of the property and the work is located in DCR's secondary zone. He stated that they submitted the paperwork for DCR Watershed Protection Act determination.

K. Strom asked about other septic upgrades near the project. The neighbors replaced their septic 10 years ago. Both abutters to their property used to have wells but recently changed to Town water.

Motion by R. Lowell, Seconded by K. Strom, it was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED, 6-0-1, TO CLOSE THE PUBLIC HEARING FOR NOTICE OF INTENT - 500 WACHUSETT STREET, MALCOLM AND ELLEN PARKINSON, FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A TITLE 5 SEPTIC SYSTEM WITHIN THE 100-FOOT BUFFER.

REQUEST FOR DETERMINATION OF APPLICABILITY - Mass Central Rail Trail. Construction and upgrading of a Rail Trail located between Mill Street and Princeton Street. Collen Abrams, Wachusett Greenways, Scott Morrison, Eco-Tec.

Scott Morrison with Eco-Tec was present to discuss the RDA. The discussion consisted of a map that indicated the entire layout of the new trail and indicated the culvert crossings. Scott indicated a total of 5 culverts along the new trail. Culvert 6193 is a stone culvert. They will need to raise

the grades near this culvert so there will not be a steep drop off along this section. Culvert 7760 consists of a 12-inch metal pipe in former rail bed. It's an existing rail bed that goes back to the access drive. There will be no changes to the remaining culverts.

Rob Lowell asked how long the stone culvert 6193 is. Scott responded 20-feet and they will need to raise the grades a little bit and cut it back going up the hill. The plan is to level out the road by adding fill to the lowest portions and removing materials from the highest points. Strom asked if they are coming off Mill Street and will there be a lot of earthwork in this section. Scott stated no, but there are a few sections that will go to 7 feet, it rises about 70 feet, they will do their best to keep at 5 feet. If you bring it closer to the brook it gets steeper. K. Strom asked if there would be a lot of tree cutting required. Colleen Abrams stated no, that there are mostly small saplings to be cleared. R. Lowell asked if there would be grading outside of wetland areas and if there would be any restoration of vegetation. Colleen stated that there would be grading in the 100-foot buffer and that no vegetation would need to be planted.

R. Lowell asked what the finished surface of the trail would be. Colleen stated that they would bring in gravel and then apply a layer of stone dust. G. Williamson asked if they would be passing the City of Worcester pump station. Colleen stated that they did not want to use the City's existing access road, that the new trail would run parallel to that in the wooded area. R. Lowell asked the Commission for any additional thoughts and if anyone from the public would like to comment. There were no residents in attendance. R. Lowell suggested that their proposal was adequate for an RDA. G. Williamson suggested a Negative 3 Determination; i.e., the work is located in the buffer zone only and does not require the filing of a Notice of Intent. K. Strom recommended that they send the erosion control plan to the Commission when available.

Motion by A. Costello, seconded by M. Scott, it was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO CLOSE THE PUBLIC HEARING FOR MA CENTRAL RAIL TRAIL LOCATED BETWEEN MILL AND PRINCETON STREETS AND TO ISSUE A NEGATIVE 3 DETERMINATION OF APPLICABILITY AS A PORTION OF THE WORK IS LOCATED WITHIN THE 100-FOOT BUFFER.

PROJECT UPDATES:

Greenwood Estates - Construction/Stabilization Update, Replication Area Update

Tom Larson stated that they had a 3.8-inch rain storm event; all the ponds did exactly what they were supposed to and filled three-quarters of the way. A portion of water bypassed the temporary diversion pipe and hay bales above wetland crossing number two. Sediments were discharged to the intermittent stream and they immediately began cleaning out the silt. They removed 90-percent of the soils initially, Glenda Williamson asked them to stop as it was too wet and they could do the remainder of the clean-up in dryer conditions.

Tom reported on the replication area stating that they seeded the slopes with wetland seed mix. They haven't brought leaves down to use as a winter mulch yet and were waiting for drier conditions. R. Lowell asked if it would be too late for the seed mix to germinate. Tom stated that

Lucas wanted the seed in now and that it would not sprout until the spring of 2020. Tom stated that they surrounded the replication area with silt fence and stump grindings.

Tom stated that they are trying to level everything off and need to grade to the final elevations. There are some pockets where the water collects. Matt Varrell with Lucas Environmental wanted to be there when we were doing that. As I mentioned before there was an error made of the plant count. G. Williamson stated that there are 22 trees and 6 different species. R. Lowell asked about the site schedule for the next couple months. Tom stated that there is a slope being designed and all the plans were submitted. The uphill side of the road you can cross, the downhill you cannot. Everything has to go on 20-inch lifts and will end up with rip rap, all done before the frost. R. Lowell said a couple weeks of work and not in the winter time. Tom stated that underground electric can be done in the winter time, all the utilities are in except electric on Stephanie.

Tom stated that they do have water migrating from the Harrington Ave outflow. There is 2-foot diameter pipe that comes down, follows the rip rap swale and enters a manhole. It is piped under Deanna drive and then enters a small detention area and filters slowly through the hay bale line. Tom stated that DPW wants us to camera that line.

Tom Larson stated that the pipe for Crossing number two is a 4-foot diameter, the slopes are one to one and has to be reinforced with geo-grid. K. Strom asked what utilities were installed. Tom replied water sewer and surface structures. G. Williamson asked about the status of crossing number two. Tom stated that the drop inlet went in today. R. Lowell asked if there was a catch basin structure. Tom stated yes. K. Strom asked for an update on the clean-up of the stream. G. Williamson stated that there were still some deep pockets of sediments that need to be removed. Tom stated that there is a 45-foot drop across the crossing and that they placed hay bales all along the outlet before entering the stream at the bottom. R. Lowell asked about the final grade. Tom stated 18 feet a cover starting at the wing wall and the max is 18 feet of cover over the crossing.

61 Manning Street

Glenda stated that the homeowner has done no additional work at the property. The Commission is waiting for him to add boulders along the 25-foot no disturb zone and to plant shrubs in the area.

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.

G. Williamson stated that the larger boulders still have not been installed behind the home. K. Strom asked about the gutter downspouts. D. Nyman asked when this COC was last discussed. R. Lowell replied, in September. G. Williamson asked if he could put some markers on the trees as opposed to boulders. The Commission does not like the use of signs as demarcation as they do not provide a physical barrier to encroachment. R. Lowell asked aside from the demarcation has anything been done, we may need to specify. L. Boucher asked what's the offset from the wetland, how close does he have to be? G. Williamson stated that he needs to place boulders along 25-foot no disturb zone. The boulders that are in place are smaller rocks spaced far apart. R. Lowell asked if we were looking for more boulders in that section. G. Williamson stated that he needs to place larger rocks closer together. R. Lowell stated that the home has already been sold and we could

give the builder a couple of months to get the work done. The Commission agreed that larger boulders be placed behind the home and to request the builder complete the work within the next two months.

MINUTES

June 5, 2019. There are still edits that need to be made to these minutes.

Motion by D. Nyman, seconded by L. Boucher, it was VOTED TO APPROVE THE JULY 10th, 2019 CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES AS CORRECTED BY A VOTE OF 6-0.

August 7, 2019. Needs to be revised and edited

Motion by R. Lowell, seconded by M. Scott, it was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO ADJOURN THE NOVEMBER 6, 2019 CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEETING AT 8:15 PM.

APPROVED: _____