

**TOWN OF ACTON  
CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

**Minutes**

**August 15, 2018**

**7:15 PM**

**TOWN HALL - 472 MAIN STREET  
ROOM 204**

**COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:** Terry Maitland, Amy Green, Jim Colman, Tim McKinnon, Susanne Flint

**NATURAL RESOURCES DIRECTOR & RECORDING SECRETARY:** Tom Tidman

**VISITORS:** Lorraine Black, Janet Adachi, Matthew Kearney, Molly Obendorf, Seth Donohoe, Amy Connell, Terra Friedrichs, Lachlan Patterson

**7:15 Request for Determination: 172 School Street**

*Applicant Lachlan Patterson for a project at 172 School Street, (town atlas plate H-3, parcel 71). The project is the installation of a chicken coop and associated structures within 100 feet of bordering vegetated wetlands.*

Mr. Patterson presented the project to the Commission. He has plans to build a 6 foot by 8 foot chicken coop, to be installed on 4 piers set at a depth of two feet below the surface. The coop would be slightly elevated. There would also be an attached chicken run.

Mr. Colman asked to confirm that the coop would be elevated above ground. Mr. Patterson said, yes, it would be less than 2 feet above ground. Ms. Green also asked would the piers be set two feet into the ground, and Mr. Patterson affirmed.

Mr. McKinnon asked if there was enough lawn to filter the chicken waste before it entered the wetland. Mr. Patterson said there was about 30 feet of lawn, in a relatively flat area, between the coop and the wetland.

The Commission discussed the issue of "Like Structures" noting that if the coop was set on piers that were buried in the ground, it would be considered a permanent structure and as such would be required to meeting the 75 foot setback. Mr. McKinnon asked if the coop could be placed on wheels. Mr. Patterson responded that, yes, he could submit a design with wheels or one that could slide on the lawn with no piers.

**Decision:** Mr. Colman moved to issue a Negative 3 Determination, meaning the area of work is in the buffer zone but will not require the filing of a Notice of Intent. Included in the motion was a Special Condition that the structure be mobile, with no in-ground piers. Ms. Green seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**7:40 Abbreviated Notice of Resource Area Delineation: 530 Main Street**

*530 Main Street (town atlas plate E4, parcel 25) filed by Household Goods Recycling of MA. Wetlands delineation is requested for a future project.*

Seth Donohoe from Ducharme & Ellis presented to the Commission. He reported that he had walked the site on Tuesday, Aug. 14, with Mr. Maitland, Mr. Colman, Mr. McKinnon, Ms. Green, Ms. Flint and Mr. Tidman. At that meeting several flags were moved up-gradient. Mr. Donohoe described 4 wetland areas on the property.

Area A: no flags were moved in this area.

Area B was at the rear entry of the property. This was the area with a paved parking lot and a turn-around area. The Commission noted that area wf/b1 through wf/b10 exhibited evidence of a potential vernal pool. No determination was made regarding the vernal pool.

Area C included Conant Brook BVW and Riverfront. Bordering Vegetated Wetland flag wf/c11 was relocated up-gradient as was BVW flag wf/c16 and wf/c20. An additional BVW flag, wf/c21A, was added at the north boundary of the property.

Area D: No flags were moved in this area but intermittent stream flow was observed in this area.

**Decision:** Mr. McKinnon moved to accept the revised plans, entitled "ANRAD Plan, Revised C Series Flags," dated 8/14/2018; approved for Bordering Vegetated Wetlands, Riverfront Area (Conant Brook), and Land Subject to Flooding. The Commission made no determination regarding the potential vernal pool. Ms. Green seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**7:45 Request for Determination: 242 Great Road (55 Brook Street)**

*J.A. Connell Contracting Inc. for the demolition of an in-ground pool. The project is at 242 Great Rd., Coach Estates, (town atlas plate E4, parcel 35). The area will be backfilled with suitable fill and the area will be loamed. The existing fence will remain in place as a visual barrier. Work will occur within 100 feet of wetlands.*

Amy Connell, representing Connell Contracting, presented the project to the Commission. The plans are fill in an abandoned in-ground swimming pool. The first step is to install a silt sock around the work area. The bottom of the pool will be crushed and removed, per Building Department requirements. The sides of the pool will be broken down to about 2 feet below the surface. The entire pool will then be backfilled with clean gravel. The area will then be loamed and seeded. Ms. Green would like to see the fence between the pool and wetlands remain until after the pool removal is complete.

**Decision:** Mr. McKinnon moved to issue a Negative 3 determination, meaning the work is within the buffer zone but a Notice of Intent filing is not required. Mr. Colman seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**8:00 Notice of Intent:** 446 Massachusetts Avenue, continuance

Ms. Obendorf provided the following response to the questions raised by the Commission at the August 1 meeting:

1. The temporary sediment basin has been sized to accommodate a typical half inch of runoff.  
Approximately 0.85 acres will be disturbed, requiring 1,547 cubic feet of storage. A total of 1,704 cubic feet of storage is provided in the temporary sediment basin.
2. The wording in the Operation and Maintenance (O&M) has been revised to require street sweeping versus recommending it. The O&M has also been updated to add that Maintenance Inspection Logs shall be available upon request on top of being kept onsite at all times.
3. In the event of a greater than 100-year storm, the emergency overflow for infiltration bed-1 is proposed to drain to daylight through the use of a pipe and flared pipe end, instead of overflowing out of catch basin-2.
4. A detail has been provided to specify the "build up" of the proposed retaining wall to the south and adjacent to the proposed parking lot to act as a physical barrier between the wetlands and parking lot to prevent snow from being pushed closer to the wetland.
5. All trees within the buffer zone greater than a six (6) inch caliper have been located and are shown on the plan.

A concern was raised about the maintenance and cleaning of the infiltration beds when under pavement: each infiltration bed has a clean-out on either end of each row of chambers. This allows the row to be jetted and vacuumed. A high pressure water nozzle gets inserted through the cleanouts and suspends solids which can then be vacuumed out; all of which will take place within the chamber bed, subsurface.

Lorraine Black, a Landscape Architect, described the planting plan for the site. Terra Friedrichs asked if the diameter of trees being replaced are equal in diameter as those being removed. Ms. Black said they were adding a significant number of trees and shrubs and referenced the planting plan. All new trees being planted will be 2 ½ inch to 3 inch calipers.

**Decision:** Ms. Green moved to issue a Standard Order of Conditions with one Special Condition: No herbicides or pesticides will be used on this site. Mr. Colman seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**8:15 Amendment to Order of Conditions: 85-1149, Bruce Freeman Rail Trail**

*Conservation Commission will move to re-open DEP File No. 85-1149 Order of Conditions for a minor project change associated with the construction of the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail at the Route 2A Bridge Crossing (town atlas plate D5, parcel 32).*

Mr. Kearney presented photos of the sheeting that had been added along the bridge piers as well as a new plan, Sheet 39, indicating the proposed permanent sheet piling. The top of the sheet piling has been cut in front of the stone box culvert for the full width of the opening.

**Decision:** Mr. Colman moved to amend the Order of Conditions by adding 03-09-2018 Sheet 39 as the plan of record. Ms. Green seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

**Minutes:**

July 18, 2018, reviewed by Amy Green

**Decision:** Ms. Green moved to accept the Minutes of July 18, 2018, Mr. Colman seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 PM.

  
Terry Maitland  
Chairperson

**CONSERVATION COMMISSION  
AGENDA  
August 15, 2018  
7:30 PM  
ACTON TOWN HALL  
472 MAIN STREET  
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**Certificate of Compliance: ~~Summer Street, Maple Creek Farm #85-0457~~**

**Minutes:**

July 18, 2018: reviewed by AG

August 1, 2018: pending

08-15-2018

File Name	Owner	Created	Size	Actions
001 - Agenda 08-16-2018	naturalnes	08/08/18	13 KB	View, Star, ...
010 - 172 School St RDA 2018	naturalnes	08/09/18	5 MB	View, Star, ...
020 - 85-1xxx - 530 Main St ANRAD	naturalnes	08/08/18	3 MB	View, Star, ...
031 - 85-1xxx - 530 Main St ANRAD Plan	naturalnes	07/25/18	2 MB	View, Star, ...
030 - 242 Great Rd aka 55 Brook St RDA 2018	naturalnes	08/08/18	7.36 MB	View, Star, ...
040 - 85-1238 - 446 Mass Ave NOI	naturalnes	08/09/18	1 MB	View, Star, ...
041 - 85-1238 - 446 Mass Ave Drainage Maps	naturalnes	08/13/18	301 KB	View, Star, ...
041 - 85-1238 - 446 Mass Ave Mod Plans	naturalnes	08/13/18	2 MB	View, Star, ...
041 - 85-1238 - 446 Mass Ave Plans	naturalnes	08/09/18	2 MB	View, Star, ...
041 - 85-1238 - 446 Mass Ave Planting Plan	naturalnes	08/13/18	5 MB	View, Star, ...
042 - 85-1238 - 446 Mass Ave Rev SW Rpt	naturalnes	08/13/18	7 MB	View, Star, ...
043 - 85-1238 - 446 Mass Ave Mod Letter	naturalnes	08/13/18	413 KB	View, Star, ...
050 - BFRT 2A NOI Plan Set C3C018 (Sheet 35)	naturalnes	08/08/18	587 KB	View, Star, ...
051 - BFRT Minor Project Change 2A - 20180801	naturalnes	08/08/18	151 KB	View, Star, ...
052 - 85-1149 BFRT OOC 2018	naturalnes	08/15/18	369 KB	View, Star, ...

Download: 836, 274 files - September 18, 10:11 PM