

**ACTON CONSERVATION COMMISSION
MINUTES
April 16, 2014
7:15 PM
TOWN HALL - 472 MAIN STREET
ROOM 204**

RECEIVED
MAY 8 2014
TOWN CLERK
ACTON

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Terry Maitland, Willam Froberg, Tom Arnold, Andrew Magee, Amy Green, Jim Colman, Theresa Portante-Lyle

NATURAL RESOURCES DIRECTOR & RECORDING SECRETARY: Tom Tidman

VISITORS: Scott Hayes, Janet Adachi, Adria Osborne, Marta Nover, Becky Williamson, Henry Nover, Marsha Charter, Dean Charter, Ed Bennett, Peter Gelles

7:15 Abbreviated Notice of Resource Area Delineation: 121 Hayward Road (010)

Abbreviated Notice of Resource Area Delineation located at 121 Hayward Road (town atlas plate E-2, parcels 261-2, 261-3, 262, 272 & 273) filed by Steven Steinberg of Acton Management, Inc.

Scott Hayes of Forsite Engineering, presented the project. He reported that Chuck Carson had flagged the wetlands in August of last year. There is an intermittent stream with a poorly defined bank on the site and a Bordering Vegetative Wetland on the opposite side of Hayward Road. The intermittent stream flows south to north.

Mr. Magee asked if the flags indicate the top of bank. Mr. Hayes replied that they do but the bank was poorly defined. Mr. Froberg asked how the delineation was determined. Mr. Hayes answered that it was based off of the intermittent stream flow since there was no definitive change of slope. Mr. Geiles, an abutter, noted that the stream also runs through his yard and has some flow. Mr. Magee remarked that this was helpful in defining it as an intermittent stream. Mr. Colman noted that the given geography indicates this is not an exact line.

Hearing was closed at 7:35 PM

Decision: Mr. Magee moved to issue an Order of Resource Area Delineation, accepting the delineation as presented. Mr. Arnold seconded; vote unanimous.

7:30 Notice of Intent: 114 River Street continued to May 21 at 7:30. No further discussion.

7:45 Notice of Intent: Bruce Freeman Rail Trail (030)

Notice of Intent filed by Susan McArthur representing the Massachusetts Department of Transportation. The project is Phase 2A of the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail, a multi-use recreational trail that will run along the former Lowell Secondary railroad line owned by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Phase 2A is a 4.88-mile long segment of land that will extend from the Phase 1 completed trail, beginning at the intersection of Route 225 and Route 27 in Westford, heading south for about 800 feet through Carlisle and then into Acton. It continues in a southerly direction through Acton for about 4.5 miles, to a point about 1,000 feet south of Wetherbee Street for a total project length of 4.88 miles. Some work will occur along riverfront area and multiple wetland areas.

Ms. Green disclosed that she had worked on projects with both the engineering firm, Greenman-Pedersen, Inc. (GPI) and the Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT). Mr. Magee disclosed that his company, Epsilon Inc., has a contract with MassDOT and GPI but in both instances not involved with the BFRT.

Becky Williamson, from GPI, presented for MassDOT, and Marta (Marti) Nover discussed impacts to wetlands. [The slide presentation is stored on the Town of Acton website as a supplement to these minutes.] Ms. Green asked that Marti describe the impact to wildlife at the Dunk and Bubble site. Marti said that the significant wildlife habitat in this area is for waterfowl. Their work will ensure that habitat for waterfowl will not be altered. There was a discussion that wildlife habitat in Bordering Land Subject to Flooding was not addressed.

Mr. Magee pointed out that the 60 linear feet of bank restoration will be seeded only. This is an area (Area 1) that may require re-visiting. The compensatory storage areas could be seeded as well so they could have wildlife value.

Commission noted three specific areas that they would like to visit on a subsequent site walk, and would like additional information provided for the following:

1. Commissioners need to re-visit the Dunk and Bubble site to review plans for "bank" restoration and to better understand what wildlife value the restoration area will provide.
2. The proposed "compensatory storage areas" should be seeded with a mix that provides a value to wildlife.
3. There will be a significant impact to riverfront area, both inner and outer riparian zones. The Commission would like more information about mitigation plans for riverfront impacts.
4. The Commission would like to see an Operations & Maintenance plan for the BFRT.
5. The Commission had concerns about the culvert extension plans for a culvert north of the Concord Road crossing, as well as new cross culverts proposed, and will visit the site with the engineers at the next site walk.
6. There was concern about modification of wetland boundary Station 245 to 248. They will review this in the field.
7. Are there dewatering specifications and plans, specifically for the footings and bridge construction at the Route 2A crossing?
8. Erosion controls are not shown on the wetland side of Wetland Replication area on Sheet 81.
9. The Commission asked that the specification for the NHESP seeding mix be provided.

Certificate of Compliance:

89 Central Street: Mr. Magee moved to issue a certificate of compliance, Mr. Colman seconded, vote unanimous

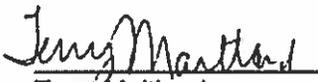
107 Summer Street: site not yet inspected, certificate could not be issued

Minutes:

April 2, 2014 reviewed by AM, TM, AG

Ms. Green moved to accept the minutes of April 2, Ms. Portante-Lyle seconded, vote unanimous.

Meeting adjourned: 9:40 PM.


Terry Maitland
Chairperson

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7:30 Notice of Intent: 114 River Street continued to May 21 (020)

7:45 Notice of Intent: Bruce Freeman Rail Trail (030)

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Certificates: 89 Central Street (040)

107 Summer Street (050)

MINUTES: April 2, 2014 reviewed by AM, TM, AG

