



**TOWN OF NORTHBRIDGE  
CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

**7 MAIN STREET  
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NORTHBRIDGE TOWN CLERK  
LINCOLN S. ZWIEN

**Meeting Minutes  
August 05, 2020**

Remote meeting via Zoom.

Pursuant to Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, MGL Chapter 30A Section 18 and the Governor's March 15, 2020 Order concerning imposition on strict limitations on the number of people that may gather in one place, meetings of the Northbridge Conservation Commission (NCC) shall be conducted via remote participation to the greatest extent possible. No in-person attendance of members or the public will be permitted, but every effort will be made to ensure that the public can adequately access the proceedings as provided in the Order.

Justine Carroll, Steve Gniadek, Cindy Campbell, Rich Chiras, and Barbara McNamee were present. Justin Arbuckle was absent. Barbara Kinney, Conservation Commission (NCC) Administrative Assistant, and David Pickart, NCC Agent, were also present. There is one (1) open vacancy on the NCC.

Ms. McNamee opened the meeting at 7:02PM by roll call vote of J. Carroll – Yes; Cindy Campbell – Yes; Rich Chiras – Yes; S. Gniadek – Yes; and B. McNamee – Yes.

**Citizen's Forum**

None

**(248-XXX) Osterman Commerce Park, Commerce Drive (Phase 3, Building 4)** (Map 28, Parcel(s) 6, 7, 72, 73, 74). Proposed construction of a 5,000 square foot, single story retail building with associated parking, utility, & drainage infrastructure within the buffer zone of Bordering Vegetated Wetlands. The applicant for this project is VE Properties IX, LLC represented by Allen Engineering & Associates, Inc., 1 Charlesview Rd, Hopedale, MA 01747.

The applicant has requested a continuance to the next meeting.

*Motion made by R. Chiras and seconded by C. Campbell. The NCC voted 5-0 by roll call vote of C. Campbell – Yes; Steve Gniadek – Yes; Justine Carroll – Yes; R. Chiras – Yes; and B. McNamee – Yes to continue the Public Hearing to August 19, 2020 at 7:05PM.*

**(248-679) Douglas Road (Adjacent to 279 Douglas Road)** (Map 3, Parcel(s) 117 & 118). Proposed grading, paving, drainage and erosion control to create a contractor yard within a wetland buffer zone with associated wetland filling and wetland enhancement. The applicant for this project is TJJ Development Corp., LLC represented by Andrews Survey & Engineering, 104 Mendon Street, Uxbridge, MA 01569.

The applicant has requested a continuance of the Public Hearing to the next meeting.

*Motion made by C. Campbell and seconded by J. Carroll. The NCC voted 5-0 by roll call vote of J. Carroll – Yes; Cindy Campbell – Yes; Rich Chiras – Yes; S. Gniadek – Yes; and B. McNamee – Yes to continue the Public Hearing to August 19, 2020 at 7:15PM.*

Shelley Buma asked what were the reasons that the applicant asked for a continuance and it was explained to her that the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) file # was just received with comments that need to be addressed and our Agent needs to prepare his comments, etc. More information will be coming.

### **Old / New Business**

#### Linwood Mill Dam – Discussion

The NCC discussed J. Arbuckle's Email with pictures. All the debris has since washed away. The NCC will keep an eye on the dam for further evidence of breakouts.

#### Lovey's Garden Marketplace - Discussion

D. Pickart has drafted a letter to G. Vecchione regarding the violations. The NCC reviewed the letter and pictures D. Pickart took. Some of the violations include an electric service box which may not be connected, firewood, batteries, debris, etc. right against the pond. The NCC discussed whether they should request the hawker's license be rescinded at this time. If the NCC decides to request that the hawker's license be rescinded, the letter should include notifying the Planning Board, Building Inspector, Town Manager, and be addressed to the Police Chief. The hawker's license is issued by the Police Chief and the license was renewed in April 2020. The license is good for one year and will expire in April 2021.

*Motion made by J. Carroll and seconded by C. Campbell. The NCC voted 5-0 by roll call vote of J. Carroll – Yes; Cindy Campbell – Yes; Rich Chiras – Yes; S. Gniadek – Yes; and B. McNamee – Yes to issue the letter drafted by the Conservation Agent and add the Town Planner and Police Chief to the distribution.*

### **Other**

462 Goldthwaite Road – Kelly Urella discussed the clearing that was done to perform the work that was done on the exterior siding of her house. D. Pickart requested that erosion controls be installed and K. Urella stated that they were done the next day after she met with D. Pickart. There are some pine trees that were dead or dying / rotting that have been taken down. There is a good layer of organic debris on the slope. There was some concern with the storm that missed us. The area will need to be monitored, but will regenerate and the NCC would also like her to plant some vegetation. Planting should not be done now because of the dry / drought conditions. The NCC requested that K. Urella plant blueberry bushes and other decorative plants in various locations on the slope and K. Urella stated she would. No enforcement action is needed at this time per D. Pickart's recommendation. It was an honest mistake and she has been very responsive to the remedies. There is low growing ground cover and the hill is solid (compacted). She has been cleaning the area since she bought the house as the area was neglected and they have also removed some tires.

The NCC suggested following-up with the Whitinsville Water Company (WWC) regarding the erosion / drainage in their paved roadway. K. Urella picks up any trash she comes

across including raking bottles and cans. Per K. Urella, there are lots of parties and homeless people living down there. She asked about putting a sign stating that there is a fine for littering. When following-up with the water company, it should also be asked if the gate could be moved or put a new one at the entrance from the road. Some measures to improve the area / drainage would be good. There are dam issues too. The water closest to the property is very swampy / stagnant. This may improve if the dam issues are addressed. B. McNamee stated the NCC appreciates her concerns and that K. Urella provided very good information.

Signs - D. Pickart has a quote for signs, but we are limited on funds. The quote is for 100 signs at \$350.00 but he will look into the cost for 50 signs.

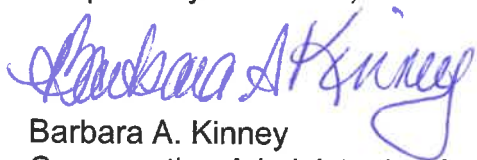
Lake Management / Nutrient Control, etc. – D. Pickart has spoken to several people (one in Upton and one in Northbridge) about coming in to speak and present information about lake management and nutrient control. There is an opportunity to use Community Preservation Funds to cover the cost. He looking at the first meeting in September for the presentation.

The NCC members present performed administrative tasks (signed Orders, etc.) that were needed.

### **Adjournment**

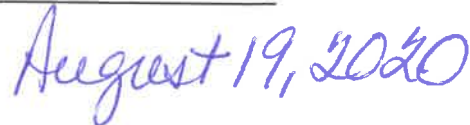
*Motion made by C. Campbell and seconded by J. Carroll. The NCC voted 4-0 to adjourn the meeting about 8:15PM by roll call vote J. Carroll – Yes; S. Gniadek – Yes; C. Campbell – Yes; and B. McNamee – Yes.*

Respectfully submitted,



Barbara A. Kinney  
Conservation Administrative Assistant

DATE APPROVED:



## CONSERVATION MAIL LIST

## WEEKLY REPORTS

- ### ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTS SUBMITTED AT MEETING

- Additional Meeting Materials in Email dated August 05, 2020 from NCC Agent.