

TOWN OF NORTHBRIDGE CONSERVATION COMMISSION

7 MAIN STREET
WHITINSVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS 01588
Telephone: (508) 234-0817
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Meeting Minutes December 16, 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, Justin Arbuckle, Cindy Campbell, and Barbara McNamee were present. Rich Chiras was late. Steve Gniadek 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 7:05PM.

Attendees: Deb Castell and Ken Chilton.

Citizen's Forum None

Old / New Business

(248-589) Osterman Commerce Park – Extension to Order of Conditions (OOC) Request
The developer has requested an extension to the OOC.

Rich Chiras arrived at 7:08PM.

The NCC discussed how long the extension should be for and what a typical extension time usually is.

Motion made by J. Arbuckle and seconded by J. Carroll. The NCC voted 5-0 by roll call vote of J. Carroll – Yes; J. Arbuckle – Yes; B. McNamee – Yes; C. Campbell – Yes; and R. Chiras – Yes to extend the OOC for two (2) years from current expiration date.

(248-642) 261 North Main Street (Lot 1) – Request for Partial Certificate of Compliance (COC)

The owner has requested a partial COC so he can get his Occupancy Permit. D. Pickart recommends that the partial COC be issued to release the earthwork and grading, construction of the dwelling and driveway, and the installation of utilities. The OOC would remain in effect for the loaming / seeding and development of ground cover around the new dwelling, installation of the block patio, and the final paving of the driveway.

Motion made by J. Carroll and seconded by J. Arbuckle. The NCC voted 5-0 by roll call vote of J. Carroll – Yes; J. Arbuckle – Yes; B. McNamee – Yes; C. Campbell – Yes; and R. Chiras – Yes to issue the partial COC to release the items recommended above.

Electronic Signatures – Certificate of Vote

The NCC reviewed the document “Vote Authorizing Signatures of Commissioners.”

Motion made by J. Arbuckle and seconded by J. Carroll. The NCC voted 5-0 by roll call vote of B. McNamee – Yes; J. Arbuckle – Yes; C. Campbell – Yes; J. Carroll – Yes; and R. Chiras – Yes to approve this document with the correction of removing S. Gniadek’s name as he is absent from this meeting. B. McNamee will come in to sign the document once this correction has been made.

Minutes

November 04, 2020

Motion made by J. Carroll and seconded by J. Arbuckle. The NCC voted 5-0 by roll call vote of B. McNamee – Yes; J. Arbuckle – Yes; C. Campbell – Yes; J. Carroll – Yes; and R. Chiras – Yes to accept the November 04, 2020 minutes as written.

Other

Stone Hill Condos / Syncarpha Northbridge Solar – Deb Castell from Leland Road was present for the meeting. D. Pickart explained that he has received concerns regarding flooding of Leland Road properties after rainstorms. After the first rainstorm, Stone Hill Condos were contacted to divert their runoff to their basins. Syncarpha Solar did an inspection of their drainage facilities. After the second rainstorm event runoff was still bypassing the detention basin even though temporary swales were built for diversion. The purpose is defeated if the water is not going to the basin. Runoff of untreated water is seeping out of the base of the rip rap slope. D. Pickart is marking up some plans showing the area(s) of concern for the engineer(s) to review and address. D. Pickart also noticed that water is being held back for a long period of time. Some of the basins behind Leland Road are probably plugged with sediment. Some clean out (flushing) of the pipes is probably needed. The drainage easement is very old and it will need to be determined who will need to perform the cleanout. Either the DPW or the developer will need to be approached for the work to be done.

Lovey's Garden Marketplace – D. Pickart updated the NCC that most of the firewood has been moved. One small pile remains. However, it is past the December 02, 2020 deadline. The NCC discussed the situation and wants D. Pickart to contact Lovey's and acknowledge the work that has been done and that he needs to wrap it up by year end or the NCC will consider the next step of an enforcement order. D. Pickart will draft the email and send to Gary Vecchione.

Union Street – The NCC Office is in receipt of several calls regarding work (dumping) near a stream on Union Street. D. Pickart visited the site and determined that the work is about 70 feet from the stream and a wetland is about 30 feet away. The area is somewhat maintained as lawn. D. Pickart called the owner and left a message. He also put a sign at the site stating notice of violation cease and desist and contact the NCC office. The office has not received any acknowledgement of message left or the signage. D. Pickart will draft

an enforcement order that requires the owner to come to a Conservation meeting to address the violations / plans.

Motion made by C. Campbell and seconded by J. Arbuckle. The NCC voted 5-0 by roll call vote of B. McNamee – Yes; J. Arbuckle – Yes; C. Campbell – Yes; J. Carroll – Yes; and R. Chiras – Yes to issue the enforcement order.

Community Preservation Committee (CPC) – B. McNamee explained that the Community Preservation Plan will be available soon. The committee is looking for input from departments, boards, etc. The NCC was asked to review the open space goals portion of the plan available on the CPC website for any input.

A separate fund for the NCC that should be set up for extras, etc. that may be tied to the Community Preservation Act but will not require Town Meeting vote for expenditure will be researched.

Facebook – The NCC has been asked to think of ideas, provide photographs, etc. that can be posted on our Facebook page. These will be discussed at the next NCC meeting. D. Pickart likes the welcome to Northbridge sign but is not thrilled with the background of the picture. Information regarding the current NCC vacancy will be added to the Facebook page.

Christmas Tree Recycling – B. Kinney will check with the Town Manager's Office regarding protocols needed for the Christmas Tree Recycling Event or if the event needs to be cancelled due to COVID - 19.

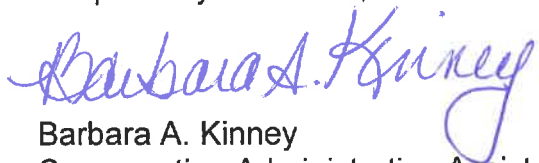
The NCC members present performed administrative tasks (signed Orders, etc.) that were needed.

Adjournment

Motion made by J. Arbuckle and seconded by J. Carroll. The NCC voted 5-0 to adjourn the meeting about 7:58PM by roll call vote of J. Carroll – Yes; R. Chiras – Yes; C. Campbell – Yes; J. Arbuckle – Yes; and B. McNamee – Yes.

Respectfully submitted,

DATE APPROVED:



Barbara A. Kinney
Conservation Administrative Assistant



December 16, 2020

CONSERVATION MAIL LIST

FROM	DATE	SUBJECT
Planning Board	12/01/2020	Certificate of Approval 342-350 Providence Road
National Grid	12/01/2020	Mass Electric Pole Replacement on Hill Street
Planning Board	11/16/2020	Leonardo Estates – Performance Surety & Extension of Complet.
Planning Board	11/16/2020	Leonardo Estates – Construction Change(s)
Conservation Agent	12/16/2020	Agent Report
Conservation Agent	12/16/2020	Agent Review 261 North Main Street
Tighe & Bond	12/14/2020	Email – Quaker St Maintenance Notification (National Grid)

WEEKLY REPORTS

- November 15 to November 21, 2020
- November 22, 2020 to December 05, 2020
- December 06, 2020 to December 12, 2020

ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTS SUBMITTED AT MEETING