



## **TOWN OF NORTHBRIDGE CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

**7 MAIN STREET  
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NORTHBRIDGE TOWN CLERK  
LINDA S. ZYWIEN

### **Meeting Minutes November 17, 2021**

Justine Carroll, Rich Chiras, Steve Gniadek, Chloe Mawn, Barbara McNamee, and Justin Arbuckle were present. Cindee Cummiskey was absent. Barbara Kinney, Conservation Commission (NCC) Administrative Assistant and David Pickart, NCC Agent, were present.

J. Carroll opened the meeting at 7:00PM.

Attendees: Deb Castell; Nick Skoly, Vanasse, Hangen, Brustlin (VHB); Taylor Donovan, VHB; Jamie Luchini, Department of Public Works (DPW); Robert Duff, Guerriere & Halnon, Inc. (G & H); and Ed Ryan.

#### **Citizen's Forum**

None

#### **(248-687) Winston Woods (Off Spring Street) (Map 15A, Parcels 224-232)**

Proposed construction of a nine (9)-lot residential subdivision with associated infrastructure. The applicant for this project is Brian Fitzgerald represented by G & H, 1029 Providence Road, Whitinsville, MA 01588.

J. Carroll abstained from this Public Hearing. R. Duff explained that this is a proposed 9-lot residential subdivision that will extend Spring Street and have an additional road "Road A". G & H is reviewing the stormwater basin(s) as the Planning Board (PB) will not approve the one that is currently proposed behind the existing residences on Spring Street due to the potential for flooding of those neighboring homes. The NCC had site walk on November 13, 2021 and the wetlands were flagged. They are asking for a variance from the 35-foot no-disturb zone for the roadway to access the lot. D. Pickart stated that the waiver is not needed as there is no other place for the roadway to access the site. A video was shown that a resident submitted that shows the stormwater problem that exists when it rains. It shows a river flowing down Spring Street. J. Luchini believes that the video is from the September storm in which we received four (4) inches of rain in an hour. The runoff problem is usually not that bad. There are definitely problems there. On whose property the wall is located needs to be determined. It should also be checked for any blockage that will need to be removed. The applicant will need to do an analysis of the dam structure for safety reasons and any deficiencies should be addressed now. If there is a dam failure, there will be major water problems down Spring Street. The two (2) large pipes were cleaned out and they may need to be cleaned out again per R. Duff. This should be coordinated with the DPW Director to go look at and find some solution(s) that are acceptable regarding the concerns. This will be looked at soon and they will figure out what to do. The next Planning Board meeting is December 14, 2021. R. Duff wanted to know how close to the wetland could the drainage basin be and would it require a waiver.

D. Pickart explained that it could be done but some sort of mitigation is usually done in its place. B. McNamee said the NCC could consider it, however, a formal request will need to be presented and the NCC will then consider it.

*Motion made by S. Gniadek and seconded by R. Chiras. The NCC voted 5-0-1 by roll call vote of B. McNamee – Yes; S. Gniadek – Yes; R. Chiras – Yes; J. Carroll – abstain; J. Arbuckle – Yes; and C. Mawn – Yes to continue the Public Hearing to December 15, 2021 at 7:05PM.*

**(06-RDA-2021) East St & Leland Rd (Map 14, Parcel 15)**

Proposed removal of obstructions (rocks & logs) & to slightly widen +/-30 linear feet of a stream channel to alleviate flooding of upslope neighborhood. Approximately six (6) trees within the buffer zone will be cut to facilitate the process. The applicant for this project is Jamie Luchini (DPW-Highway), 11 Fletcher St, Whitinsville, MA 01588. The owner of the property is Whitinsville Redevelopment Trust.

The legal requirements have been satisfied including publication of the legal ad. J. Luchini, DPW Highway Superintendent, explained that this is a continuing effort to address the flooding concerns along Leland Road. Graves Engineering has reviewed the area and their first thought is to remove any obstructions and debris to help alleviate the problems. It may not solve all the problems. A backhoe is needed to reach some of the obstructions in the stream at East Street and Leland Rd. Some small trees (approximately six (6)) will need to be cut to get in that area and none are more than three (3) inches diameter breast height (DBH). There will be minimal impact to the stream. D. Pickart suggests the NCC issue a negative determination #2 and the DPW will need to secure permission from the property owner before the removal of obstructions and debris is done.

*Motion made by S. Gniadek and seconded by B. McNamee. The NCC voted 6-0 by roll call vote of B. McNamee – Yes; S. Gniadek – Yes; R. Chiras – Yes; J. Carroll – Yes; J. Arbuckle – Yes; and C. Mawn – Yes to issue a negative #2 determination for the stream and buffer.*

**(248-688) Shining Rock Golf (421 Upton Street) (Map 25, Parcels 151 & 162)**

Proposed construction of a par 3 golf course (9 holes), small clubhouse building, parking spaces and utility improvements. The applicant for this project is SR Golf Club, LLC represented by VHB, Inc., 101 Walnut Street, PO Box 9151, Watertown, MA 02471.

Nick Skoly, VHB, stated that he has conversed with the DPW and they are satisfied with the drainage swale and basin that are both existing and the proposed changes. A new pipe will be installed in a straight line connecting the two so the existing bends in the pipe will be removed. The wetlands have been flagged and they will deepen the existing basin to hold more water. Some basins proposed will also be increased to lessen the peak rates of runoff. A site walk was done. The engineer is now waiting for peer review and comments. D. Pickart stated that a plan with much more detail has been received along with updated drainage calculations. The limit of clearing is shown for the entire site but they are hoping to save some trees and are not sure which ones (clusters) will be saved at this point in time. D. Pickart could not figure out where the changes to the drainage reductions are so N. Skoly explained that there are five (5) different design points: 1) the western portion behind the houses will flow to the intermittent stream; 2) the wetland just north of that section will flow to the intermittent stream; 3) the opposite end of the property at the town

line; 4) the wetland in the middle of the property that surrounds the vernal pool; 5) the existing gravel parking lot that will not change. Ed Ryan is concerned with the drain that is coming down Upton Street. There is a large rock where the drain line is proposed. It was explained that a machine will move the rock to fit the pipe in. D. Pickart stated that items 1 and 2 will not change the course of the flow, but will reduce the peak rates.

*Motion made by J. Arbuckle and seconded by S. Gniadek. The NCC voted 5-0 by roll call vote of B. McNamee – Yes; S. Gniadek – Yes; R. Chiras – Yes; J. Carroll – Yes; and J. Arbuckle – Yes to continue the Public Hearing to December 01, 2021 at 7:15PM. C. Mawn dropped off ZOOM.*

### **Old / New Business**

(248-238) 355 Main Street – Request for Certificate of Compliance

This item was tabled to the next meeting to allow for Agent review.

(248-430) 355 Main Street – Request for Certificate of Compliance

This item was tabled to the next meeting to allow for Agent review.

(248-565) 355 Main Street – Request for Certificate of Compliance

This item was tabled to the next meeting to allow for Agent review.

(248-647) 355 Main Street – Request for Certificate of Compliance

This item was tabled to the next meeting to allow for Agent review.

### **Other**

Syncarpha Solar/Stone Hill Condos – D. Pickart provided information to everyone. The water appears cleaner but should not have flooding from the 1.5 inches of rain. The upper basin is full of water as observed by D. Pickart after the recent storm. However, there is still water cascading out of the bottom of the rip rap and there is another breakout. The COC's have not been issued yet. Graves Engineering is reviewing the issues too. The town departments should look through their files for anything on the drainage system in the past. They are coming at these issues from many angles and will continue to address them. Syncarpha Solar is waiting for the underground conduit to be installed before they address any concerns of theirs. The conduit was installed earlier this week and they are now waiting for National Grid to sign off. Once that happens, then the compaction, etc. can be done. There is some runoff coming right down Leland Road roadway and ponding. The DPW will beef up the rip rap to the wetland behind the garage.

Conservation Fund – B. McNamee wants the NCC to think about ways to get people interested in donating. B. McNamee let Cindy Campbell know as she is interested. S. Gniadek will put something on our Facebook page. D. Pickart and B. Kinney will work with the Town Manager's Office/Accounting to find out the process. The BOS needs to accept any donations but NCC will need to confirm if it is all of them or is it just over a certain amount. D. Pickart mentioned that at town sponsored events, the NCC can have a booth and donations could be accepted there.

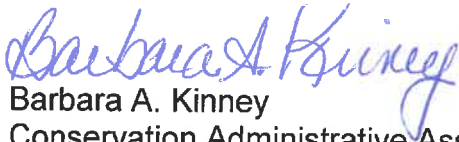
The NCC members present performed administrative tasks (signed Orders, etc.) that were needed.

**Adjournment**

*Motion made by J. Arbuckle and seconded by B. McNamee. The NCC voted 5-0 to adjourn the meeting about 8:10PM.*

Respectfully submitted,

DATE APPROVED:

  
Barbara A. Kinney

Conservation Administrative Assistant

*December 15, 2021*

November 17, 2021

## CONSERVATION MAIL LIST

FROM	DATE	SUBJECT
DPW Highway	11/03/2021	RDA – East Street and Leland Road
VHB	11/12/2021	Email – Shining Rock Responses
VHB	11/11/2021	Shining Rock Responses to Staff Review
National Grid	11/09/2021	Yearly Operational Plan
Planning Board	Rec'd 11/16/21	Notice of Public Meeting for Fire Station
Conservation Agent	11/17/2021	Leland Rd/East St Drainage Review Summary
DPW	Rec'd 11/03/21	RDA – East Street and Leland Road Drainage

### WEEKLY REPORTS

- October 31, 2021 to November 06, 2021
- November 07, 2021 to November 13, 2021

### ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTS SUBMITTED AT MEETING