



**TOWN OF NORTHBRIDGE
CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

**7 MAIN STREET
WHITINSVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS 01588
Telephone: (508) 234-0817
FAX: (508) 234-0814**

RECEIVED
22 SEP 26 PM 6:22

NORTHBRIDGE TOWN CLERK
LINDA B. ZYWIEN

**Meeting Minutes
March 16, 2022**

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

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

Attendees: Robert Lussier, CMG Environmental & Engineering; Mike LaTour; James Berkowitz; and Deb Castell.

Citizen's Forum
None

(01-RDA-2022) 2116 Providence Road (Map 22, Parcel 8)

Request for a Determination of Applicability (RDA) for the construction of a garage.
Applicant is Michael LaTour.

Mike LaTour explained that he wants to build a garage on the concrete slab that is there now where the cars are being parked. He leaves for work at 4:00AM so a garage in the winter would be much easier for him. D. Pickart issued his report. The property is in the riverfront with a pre-existing dwelling and is at least 50 feet away from the brook. D. Pickart recommends issuing a negative determination that the project meets the exemption in the regulations and is exempt from the town bylaw.

Motion made by S. Gniadek and seconded by J. Arbuckle. The NCC voted 5-0 by roll call vote of J. Carroll – Yes; R. Chiras – Yes; S. Gniadek – Yes; C. Cummiskey – Yes; and J. Arbuckle – Yes to issue the negative determination #5 and #6.

(248-679) 0 Douglas Road (Map 3, Parcel 118)

Request to Amend the Order of Conditions (OOC) for a storage yard at 0 Douglas Rd to include reconstruction of a retaining wall and installation of two culverts. Applicant is TJJ Development Corporation.

The legal requirements have been satisfied including publication of the legal ad. Rob Lussier discussed the reconstruction of the retaining wall and the two (2) culverts. The design they will use is modular gravity blocks to reduce the impacts to the wetland and keep Berkowitz Trucking open during the construction. This new retaining wall will be placed next to the existing retaining wall and will remedy the existing failing retaining wall that is looking like it is starting to lean. There will be two (2) culverts for hydrologic connection. The culverts are needed and will have plenty of replication to offset their

impacts. Some grading will be added also to access the adjacent property. This has changed from previous plans as it is not feasible to do a building into a 10 foot slope. The retaining wall in the back will be removed and the area graded. There will be a small disturbance at the retaining wall. The slope will be graded and vegetated with a seed mix and bonding material matrix. This will be better than just seeding. D. Pickart likes that the retaining wall will be removed at the back of the property. R. Lussier stated that a professional wetland scientist will be onsite during construction. D. Pickart explained that the existing erosion controls where the existing wall is located are falling over and the NCC wants them repaired ASAP. The developer should also review all the erosion controls for any repairs that are needed.

Motion made by S. Gniadek and seconded by R. Chiras. The NCC voted 5-0 by roll call vote of J. Arbuckle – Yes; C. Cummiskey – Yes; S. Gniadek – Yes; R. Chiras – Yes; and J. Carroll – Yes to close the Public Hearing.

Motion made by S. Gniadek and seconded by R. Chiras. The NCC voted 5-0 by roll call vote of J. Arbuckle – Yes; C. Cummiskey – Yes; S. Gniadek – Yes; R. Chiras – Yes; and J. Carroll – Yes to issue an Amended OOC with the original special conditions and a new retaining wall to be installed next to the existing retaining wall. Graded slope to be vegetated with a seed mix with a bonding material matrix.

Old/New Business

(248-687) Winston Woods – Discuss/vote on OOC

J. Carroll abstained from voting on this project. S. Gniadek (Vice Chair) asked for any comments/concerns from the other NCC members and there were none.

Motion made by R. Chiras and seconded by C. Cummiskey. The NCC voted 4-0-1 by roll call vote of J. Arbuckle – Yes; C. Cummiskey – Yes; S. Gniadek – Yes; R. Chiras – Yes; and J. Carroll – Abstain to approve the OOC.

Other

Shining Rock Signs – D. Pickart with the Department of Public Works (DPW) will be installing the signs at Shining Rock tomorrow. The trash receptacles will be put out on April 01, 2022 and emptied weekly. The NCC discussed having a formal reopening of the parking lot as a way to attract residents possibly around earth day.

The Home and Community Expo went well. There were lots of attendees. 50 or so open space surveys were completed or residents took the information to fill out a survey online.

B. McNamee and S. Gniadek have had discussions on Asian longhorn beetles. S. Gniadek is compiling information on the spotted lanternfly.

Earth Day will be on April 22, 2022 this year.

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

Adjournment

Motion made and seconded. The NCC voted 5-0 to adjourn the meeting about 7:46PM.

Conservation Commission
Respectfully submitted,

3 of 3

March 16, 2022

DATE APPROVED:


Barbara A. Kinney
Conservation Administrative Assistant

09/21/2022