



TOWN OF NORTHBRIDGE CONSERVATION COMMISSION

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

RECEIVED
22 NOV 17 PM 2:20

NORTHBRIDGE TOWN CLERK
LINDA D. ZYWIEN

Meeting Minutes November 02, 2022

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

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

Citizen's Forum

None

(248-XXX) 172 Linwood Avenue (Map 5, Parcels 58 & 59)

Proposed construction of a garage & driveway with associated grading and site work. The applicants are Timothy & Jane Labrie represented by H S & T Group, Inc., 75 Hammond Street, Worcester, MA 01610.

The applicant has requested a continuance. The Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) file number has not been issued yet.

Motion made by B. McNamee and seconded by C. Mawn. The NCC voted 5-0 to continue the Public Hearing to November 16, 2022.

(248-XXX) Mumford Riverwalk, Linwood Avenue, (Map 5, Parcels 52, 53 and 54)

Proposed improvements to the Mumford Riverwalk including construction of a +/-365-foot-long boardwalk, reconstruction of a bird blind structure, construction of a 30-foot-long pier and mowing of invasive weeds/vines along the edge of Linwood Avenue. Work is proposed on three (3) town-owned properties. The applicant is Town of Northbridge Department of Public Works (DPW), Fletcher Street, Whitinsville, MA 01588.

The DEP file number was received today (#248-696). D. Pickart explained that he has spoken to the DEP analyst, and they think this is a great project. DEP has some comments regarding the Bordering Land Subject to Flooding (BLSF) that will take place at either end of the boardwalk, the pier, and the mowing of vegetation. The clearing under the pier and boardwalk will be 186 square feet to install the four (4) or five (5) footings that will be needed. There will be 6.5 cubic feet of flood storage impacted and the replication area will be 1.4 times that to compensate for the impact. This is considered a limited project. D. Pickart reviewed the performance standards with the NCC. The boardwalk will be elevated, and work will not impair the capacity of the BLSF during a flood. The wildlife function will not be impacted, and this is important. D. Pickart did an assessment there and

there will be <5,000 square feet of work or <10% BLSF disturbed on the property. The requirement appears to be met to not impair as the actual amount is 0.2%.

Motion made by R. Chiras and seconded by B. McNamee. The NCC voted 5-0 to close the Public Hearing.

The Order of Conditions (OOC) will be prepared for review at the next meeting.

(248-XXX) 1132 Hill Street (Map 17, Parcel 96)

Proposed construction of a single-family dwelling and appurtenances. Some of the proposed construction activities are within the 100-foot buffer zone of Bordering Vegetated Wetlands (BVW). The applicant is Aris Group, LLC represented by Civil Site Engineering, 10 River Road, Suite 206, Uxbridge, MA 01569.

The applicant has requested that this Public Hearing be continued as the DEP file number has not been received.

Motion made by R. Chiras and seconded by C. Cummiskey. The NCC voted 5-0 to table the opening of this Public Hearing to the November 16, 2022 meeting.

(248-XXX) Lot 5 Eben Chamberlain Road (Map 7, Parcel 455)

Proposed construction of a single-family dwelling serviced by public water and public sewer with associated earthwork, driveway, landscaping, and utilities within the buffer zone. The applicant is Cora Lane Group, LLC represented by DiPrete Engineering, Inc., 2 Stafford Court, Cranston, RI 02920.

The legal requirements have been satisfied, including the publication of the legal ad. The DEP file number is needed. Jason Clough, DiPrete Engineering, explained that the buffer zone line has been straightened out and markers have been added per the request of the Conservation Agent. A draft of the OOC will be prepared once the file number has been received.

Motion made by B. McNamee and seconded by R. Chiras. The NCC voted 5-0 to continue the Public Hearing to November 16, 2022.

Old/New Business

Transfer of Funds – Discussion

Castle Hill Farms and other town properties need funds to make them accessible, amenable, etc. A budget increase will be requested for the next fiscal year to address these improvements.

The Elsa Mason property will be looked at next. There is lots of history there, but it is in pretty bad shape. There are two (2) trails that need maintenance and one (1) needs a plank boardwalk. It will cost +/- \$1,150 for the boardwalk lumber. A volunteer would need to be secured to walk the site and document any unusual tree species or other unusual things so they can be identified by plaques. Per D. Pickart the NCC should expand the wish list to include marking the trails and producing maps. The entrance on Lake Street/Conservation Drive needs a kiosk. Options will be investigated on who can build the kiosk (maybe the shop class at the high school). D. Pickart looked at a company in Vermont who builds kiosks, and they are about \$3,000 to purchase. If it is ordered from

them, then someone with a truck would need to drive to Vermont and pick up the kiosk. Nesting boxes should also be added along the trail. The elementary school is nearby too and would benefit from this property. The discussion then turned to the community gardens and C. Mawn is interested in managing the community gardens such as tracking costs, payment of fees, etc. if the current manager is no longer interested in the management of the gardens.

The exact materials needed for Elsa Mason will be discussed/finalized more at the next meeting. Once the list is finalized and has the NCC approval, then it must go before the BOS for their approval so funds can be expended from the Elsa Mason account. In the meantime, D. Pickart is looking for NCC approval to order 100 trail markers with the materials to affix them. Payment for these markers would come from either FY23 Supplies and/or Professional Development.

Motion made by R. Chiras and seconded by B. McNamee. The NCC voted 5-0 to approve the ordering of trail markers and materials to affix them with the cost being paid from the FY23 NCC budget.

Goals/Action Items for Open Space and Recreation Plan – Discussion

The NCC needs to review the goals/action plans for their section in the Open Space and Recreation Plan. B. McNamee will send it to the NCC.

The Castle Hill Farms purchase by the Community Preservation Committee was approved at the Fall Annual Town Meeting (FATM). The NCC will have more involvement at Castle Hill Farms. D. Pickart will do the baseline inventory report. The NCC will need to discuss and spell out the uses allowed and prohibited in the Conservation Restriction (CR). Metacomet Land Trust is interested in holding the CR. They need to come to a NCC meeting to discuss. Individuals in town have concerns so this will need to be put on the agenda as a listed item so interested parties may attend and voice those concerns. B. McNamee and S. Gniadek will need to abstain from the discussion and vote as they are involved with the Metacomet Land Trust and the NCC. We will need to make sure we have a quorum without them once the NCC is ready to vote on the CR. B. McNamee will check and see who is available from Metacomet to come in and which meeting they can attend.

Other

377 Rebecca Road – *Motion made by B. McNamee and seconded by C. Cummiskey. The NCC voted 5-0 to allow the Conservation Agent to issue a \$300 fine to the developer if the stumps in the resource area at this address have not been removed.*

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

A high school student (referred by C. Cummiskey) is interested in environmental science and will be meeting with D. Pickart next week regarding some unpaid internship type mentoring.

Adjournment

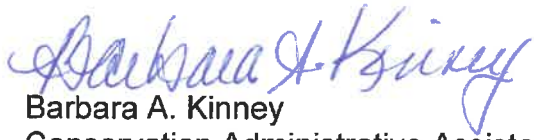
Motion made by C. Mawn and seconded by C. Cummiskey. The NCC voted 5-0 to adjourn the meeting about 7:56PM.

Conservation Commission
Respectfully submitted,

4 of 4

November 02, 2022

DATE APPROVED:



Barbara A. Kinney
Conservation Administrative Assistant



CONSERVATION MAIL LIST

WEEKLY REPORTS

ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTS SUBMITTED AT MEETING