

SOUTHBOROUGH CONSERVATION COMMISSION
THURSDAY, MARCH 12 2009
TOWN HOUSE MEETING ROOM, 2nd fl.
MEETING MINUTES

The Conservation Commission of the Town of Southborough held a meeting on Thursday, March 12, 2009 at 7:30 p.m. at the Southborough Town House, 2nd floor meeting room.

Members Present: John Leeds, Mark Possemato, A.J. Purcell, Dick Upjohn, Russ Gregory, Rhonda Russian and Phil Bevins.

The meeting commenced at 7:30 p.m. with Mr. Leeds as chairperson.

NOTICE OF INTENT, PETER MALONEY, 101 MAIN ST., ASSESSORS MAP 52, LOT 17:

Mr. Leeds opened the public hearing at 7:30 p.m. The permit application was filed for the construction of a 694 square foot addition and a 622 square foot stone patio within the buffer zone to bordering vegetated wetland. Present for the hearing was Mike Sullivan of Connorstone Engineering and property owner Peter Maloney.

Mr. Sullivan described the site and the project. Mr. Sullivan said the applicant wishes to expand the kitchen area and replace the patio, the roof drainage will be directed into infiltration pits, and haybales will be used for erosion controls. The Commission asked about the amount of filling proposed, whether the erosion controls were adequate, and discussed whether the haybales should be extended up the hill. Seeing no further comments, Mr. Leeds closed the hearing.

NOTICE OF INTENT, DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS, RURAL CEMETERY BUILDING, 11 CORDAVILLE ROAD, ASSESSORS MAP 44, LOT T:

Mr. Leeds opened the public hearing at 7:45 p.m. Present for the hearing on behalf of DPW was Town Engineer John Woodsmall. Mr. Woodsmall stated that Connorstone Engineering had designed the plans and flagged the wetlands. Mr. Woodsmall gave an overview of the proposal to install a Title V compliant system to replace the existing cesspool, adding that the Board of Health has approved the septic permit. Mr. Woodsmall said the construction will all be outside the 20' No Disturb Area, with the closest point of work being between 30'-40' away from BVW and haybales will be installed at the back edge of the pavement. The Commission confirmed the area is very flat and asked if the existing pavement would need to be removed for the installation. Mr. Woodsmall replied it will need to be removed but will be replaced. Seeing no further questions or comments, Mr. Leeds closed the hearing.

CONTINUED NOTICE OF INTENT, EMC CORPORATION, CRYSTAL POND ROAD AND COSLIN DRIVE, ASSESSORS MAPS 6, 11, 11, 11, 11, 24, 24, 25, 26, LOTS 3, 1, 2, 3, 4, 1, 2, 4A, 9 RESPECTIVELY:

Mr. Leeds opened the public hearing at 8 p.m. Present for the hearing was Dan Feeney of Beals and Thomas, Lisa Ferdenzi of EMC Corporation and Leigh Gilligan of McCarter & English. Also present was Mike Gagnon of Fuss & O'Neill, who performed the engineering peer review of the proposal on behalf of the Westborough and Southborough Conservation Commissions.

Mr. Gagnon presented his findings and explained the specific areas the peer review consisted of. The Commission inquired if Mr. Gagnon's findings and review was consistent with the review performed for the Westborough Conservation Commission. Mr. Gagnon affirmed this. Mr. Feeney responded to Fuss & O'Neill's findings in detail. Mr. Gagnon stated he feels that Beals & Thomas has generally addressed his comments and is satisfied with their responses, and added he will be providing his

comments to Beals & Thomas' in writing to the Commission. Mr. Gagnon also said that the fire pond is still somewhat of a question. The Commission acknowledged there are ongoing water pressure and quantity issues in the town, and asked about the Conservation Restrictions being proposed. Mr. Feeney replied the proposed CR's between the 2 towns total approximately 80 acres, and, specific to Southborough, there is a Planning Board approval condition that states the Conservation Commission must review the CR within 3 months after the Order of Conditions is issued. Mr. Feeney stated that a separate Notice of Intent will be filed for the Shell Oil culverts replacement and referenced a letter from the Westborough Town Engineer.

Mr. Leeds continued the hearing to April 2, 2009 at 7:45 p.m.

CONTINUED STORMWATER MANAGEMENT PERMIT AND NOTICE OF INTENT, ST. MARK'S SCHOOL, 30 MARLBORO ROAD, ASSESSORS MAPS 74 & 53, LOTS 6 & 9:

Mr. Leeds opened the hearing(s) simultaneously at 8:35 p.m. Present for the hearing(s) were Jack Cullinen of St. Marks' School, Lee Sollenberger of Design Technologies, and Rebecca Bachand and Megan Buczynski of Stantec.

Ms. Buczynski presented an overview of the site and the proposed project. Ms. Buczynski said Stantec had responded to the comments that were received from Fuss & O'Neill (for the Planning Board), Town Engineer John Woodsmall, and the Sudbury River Watershed Organization. Ms. Buczynski went over the Stantec replies to the Fuss & O'Neill issues related to conservation, and said the water is not being treated since Stantec does not feel any Total Suspended Solids (TSS) will reach the wetlands, and Stantec does not want to treat things that are not present. Ms. Buczynski said studies confirm that lead and metals leaching out are not a safety concern. The Commission asked if the turf acts as a sieve and that is why there is no need for TSS removal. Ms. Buczynski confirmed this. The Commission asked if there are any maintenance concerns during the duration of time the turf will be in place. Ms. Buczynski replied that St. Mark's School has not chosen a type of turf or a vendor at this point, most turf manufacturers warranties are for 8 years, the level of use determines the length of field viability, the regular maintenance of the field is simple brushing with a rotary brush at the end of a tractor and the fields will never be plowed.

The Commission asked about the replacement of the fields and when it becomes necessary, how it will be done and how the integrity of the underground system will be maintained. Ms. Buczynski described the vacuum removal process. The Commission asked for a construction sequence for the replacement of the fields, and inquired if repairs are needed, can they be done in sections, or would a total replacement be needed. Ms. Buczynski replied that small sectional repairs can be done. The Commission asked if the turf material gets recycled. Ms. Buczynski replied it is sent to a landfill. The Commission asked whether the sub materials allow drainage or does it all get collected into a pipe. Ms. Buczynski said the soils on the site do not drain well and the infiltration system will handle all the drainage. The Commission asked about the height of the retaining wall, and the closest point of work to wetlands. Ms. Buczynski replied the highest point of the wall is 5 feet, and the closest point of work is about 40 feet near the footpath. Ms. Buczynski said the anticipated start date for the project, which is dependant on funding, would be this summer.

Frederica Gillespie of 78 Southville Road and the Executive Director of the Sudbury River Watershed Organization stated she will be responding to St. Mark's in writing and handed out a list of towns that have said no to artificial turf. Ms. Gillespie said she was concerned about a number of environmental issues that the St. Mark's proposal raises; possible degradation of the Outstanding Resource Water tributary, a potential vernal pool exists on the site and a second potential one off site that the fields will drain to, the wetland is not isolated as indicated but is channelized and drains to the Sudbury

Reservoir, studies have shown that heavy metals are found in wetlands near artificial turf fields, many of the scientific studies showing turf safety are funded by industrial companies trying to find additional uses for their products, and a few countries have banned artificial turf, including Italy and Sweden. The Commission asked if any federal studies have been completed. Ms. Gillespie replied it is an emerging area. Ms. Buczynski responded to the comments made by Ms. Gillespie and submitted an additional report for the record. The Commission asked the applicant to provide Material Safety Data Sheets or specification sheet for the products to be used, and asked Ms. Gillespie to provide the scientific data behind her assertions. Ms. Buczynski said a vendor had not been chosen yet. The Commission asked if St. Mark's anticipated receiving conservation approval prior to choosing a vendor. Ms. Buczynski replied in the affirmative, and added that St. Mark's will need to specify the type of turf to be used before choosing a vendor.

At 9:25 p.m. Mr. Leeds said both sides need to submit additional materials for the next meeting, and continued the hearing(s) to April 2, 2009 at 8:15 p.m.

AMEND SOUTHBOROUGH WETLANDS REGULATIONS, CREATE LOCAL FILING FEE SCHEDULE:

Mr. Leeds opened the public hearing at 9:25 p.m. The Commission agreed to continue the public hearing to April 2, 2009 in order to gather more information from other towns.

OTHER BUSINESS:

1. **Meeting Minutes:** Upon motion by Mr. Upjohn, seconded by Mr. Bevins, the Commission voted (7-0) to approve the minutes of 1/29/09 and 2/19/09 as written.
2. **Conservation Scientist:** Ballots were distributed to the Commission members to record their choice to fill the position. By majority vote, Ellen Chagnon was chosen for the position. The Commission agreed to discuss the contract details at the next meeting.
3. **Community Garden Coordinator:** Upon motion by Ms. Russian, seconded by Mr. Upjohn, the Commission voted (7-0) to recommend that current coordinator Joyce Greenleaf is reappointed to the position for another year by the Board of Selectmen.
4. **Certificate of Compliance – 60 Oregon Road:** The Commission signed the Certificate for DEP File # 290-322 that corrected a previous administrative error.

Upon motion by Ms. Russian, seconded by Mr. Gregory, the Commission voted (7-0) to adjourn the meeting at 10:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Beth Rosenblum
Conservation Administrator