



Wellesley

MASSACHUSETTS

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Wetlands Protection Committee Minutes 6/30/2016

Town of Wellesley
Wetlands Protection Committee

Approved 10/13/2016

Meeting Location: NRC Office, Lower Level, Town Hall
525 Washington Street
Wellesley, MA 02482

Present: Members Carl Sciple, J.S Waugh, Peter Jones, Linda Hansen
(Wetlands Administrator), and Sarah Clarren (Board Administrative Support)
Guests: Ethan Jacoby (43 Colburn), Brian Nelson (MW Engineering), Joe Indresano (35 Wingate),
Peter Stephens, Dan Gordon, and Peter Gammie (45 Ravine)

6:42 pm Public Voice: No one present.

Administrative Business

1. The Committee asked L. Hansen if Whole Foods' permit is still open, as the DEP sign has been removed. L. Hansen said she would look into it.
2. The Committee discussed planting a memorial tree in remembrance of Jay Hammerness. L. Hansen said she would discuss this with Brandon Schmidt.
3. COC Request (complete): 43 Colburn Road, MassDEP# 324-0727: The Committee stated that there would be ongoing special conditions in the Order of Conditions, which must be followed. **C. Sciple made and P. Jones seconded a motion to issue a full Certificate of Compliance; the Wetlands Protection Committee (WPC) voted 3-0 to accept the motion.**
4. 67 Lowell Street: L. Hansen stated that the owners have complied with the restoration activities requested. She stated that the seed mix is doing well, the stump has been ground down, but because there has not been a heavy rain, she is unable to determine if the pooling has stopped. Additionally, yard waste and invasive species have been removed, the fence has been curled up in three locations to allow for a wildlife corridor and all plantings have been done. L. Hansen will provide administrative approval to rescind the Enforcement Order. The new owners will receive a letter regarding the restrictions on their property. The Committee then discussed drafting a letter to homeowners who purchase homes on/near wetlands and suggested having a meeting with local real estate agents to inform them about wetlands.
5. Unpermitted docks on College Road (Morses Pond): L. Hansen said that an abutter to Morses Pond wants to install a dock, but they do not own the land under water. The neighboring property installed a dock and it appears that they do not own the land under water. There are numerous unpermitted docks in the pond. The Committee stated that the docks may have negative impacts on pond life and that it is technically an encroachment. Going forward, the

Committee said that deeds should be examined in order to determine who owns what and that a letter should be sent to all abutters of the pond informing them that docks must be permitted.

Public Hearings – New and Continued

Keolis Commuter Services— continued RDA

- Review limited spray areas in the vicinity of resource areas.

L. Hansen stated that she walked the limited spray areas with Nick Ray from Fair Dermody Consulting Engineers. Spray zones were marked along the track and include the length of the ponds by Wellesley Farms Station and Morses Pond, and other resource areas and for 25' on either side of culverts. Limited spraying of herbicides will be done at one or two year intervals. The Committee agreed on the limited spray areas based on the map provided, but requested an updated map based on the site walk. **S. Waugh made and P. Jones seconded a motion to issue a Negative Determination of Applicability #5; the Wetlands Protection Committee (WPC) voted 3-0 to accept the motion.**

Wellesley College—continued NOI, Mass DEP # 324-0830

- Installation of a water re-circulation pump system in a man-made pond

The hearing was continued until the next meeting.

35 Wingate Road— new NOI, Mass DEP # 324-0828

- Installation of a retaining wall and patio; removal of two trees

B. Nelson and J. Indresano were present for the hearing.

B. Nelson stated that the existing home is fairly new and is centered in the middle of the lot. Currently, the water sheds radially outwards. There is an intermittent channel roughly 10' or 15' off of the property and associated wetlands. The majority of the home is within the 100' buffer zone. The homeowners propose grading a section of the property which would involve installing a retaining wall at the edge of the deck. The retaining wall would break the existing grade and create a small, roughly 10', yard. Some fill would be removed. Although a lawn is desired, there is a lack of sunlight in the rear of the home. A 100 sq ft Bluestone patio was also proposed. The base material would be crushed rock. The proposed patio not fully permeable so runoff would likely flow off of it, and be infiltrated into the yard.

An erosion control barrier would extend from the side of the home to the rear and would go along the rear property boundary. Two 10" diameter trees are planned for removal—one is leaning at an angle that can be hazardous. The Committee noted that no arborist's report was provided. Four trees and six shrubs are proposed as mitigation plantings. The Committee noted the lack of sunlight and proposed additional shrubs instead of the proposed trees. As part of the original OOC, no work is permitted in the 25' no disturb zone, so any seed mix used in that area must be approved. B. Nelson stated that the only work that would be done in the 25' no disturb zone area would be the plantings. J. Indresano asked how much pruning can occur for the upper canopy. L. Hansen stated that pruning less than 10% is exempt by the Town's bylaw and it could be conditioned in the OOC.

Both representatives agreed that for the next hearing, they would revise the plan to show the removal of trees, more shrubs, and stating what work will be done where in the 25' no disturb zone. An arborist's report would also be submitted with information regarding the health of the two trees that are

proposed to be removed. Information regarding the retaining wall will also be submitted. The previous OOC (MassDEP # 324-0705) will need to be closed before this OOC can be issued. **The hearing was continued until the next meeting.**

45 Ravine Road—continued NOI, Mass DEP # 324-0829

- Installation of a pool, pool house, stone terrace, stairs, retaining wall and landscape improvements within 100 feet of bordering vegetated wetland.

P. Stephens and D. Gordon were present for the hearing.

D. Gordon began by stating that soil tests have been completed and they demonstrate that infiltration of additional runoff can be handled onsite. The proposed plan has been reviewed by the peer reviewer, who has since submitted questions to the applicants. D. Gordon introduced a letter responding to each of the peer reviewer's comments. He then read each of the 19 peer reviewer's comments and addressed each one.

D. Gordon stated that although there are a few different wetlands in the surrounding area, hydrologically, it is all one system. All runoff created onsite will be collected into a crushed stone drywell by various pipes and trenches. The drywell will be able to handle 100 year storms in excess. L. Hansen said that the drains must be regularly cleaned out. D. Gordon stated that this is stated in the maintenance plan which has been submitted. Although a total of 118" caliper of trees will be removed, plantings will be done in excess.

A new plan showing an improved access road was submitted. This road is designed to function rain or shine. As indicated on the plan, there are measures in place to prevent tracking of mud to both the wetlands and the street.

L. Hansen suggested changing the location of the retaining wall, as it will impact wildlife movement and needs to provide water flow to wetland. D. Gordon said that the wall is there to satisfy pool enclosure rules, but will try to connect it to the abutting neighbors' fence by moving it back a few feet.

The Committee agreed that with all the new information submitted, the peer reviewer should examine everything. L. Hansen will begin drafting the OOC for the next hearing. **The hearing was continued until the next meeting.**

10 Old Farm Road— continued NOI, Mass DEP #324-0814

The requested stormwater management report has not yet been submitted. **The hearing was continued until the next meeting.**

116 Manor Avenue— new NOI, Mass DEP # 324-0827

- Landscaping improvements to the rear yard

L. Hansen provided a brief reintroduction to the project which ultimately was turning a wetland into a lawn, so an enforcement order was issued. The owners have since submitted a Notice of Intent. L. Hansen showed the Committee pictures of the violation/s. The Committee stated that the site was visited the previous day and a lawn has been installed and additional trees have been cut down. The Committee then determined that a vegetated buffer should be re-established, the grass should be removed, and shrubs should be installed. The Committee suggested using wetlands markers so the owners do not encroach on the wetlands again. The Committee then asked L. Hansen to visit the site,

take more pictures, and examine the left side of the house, which is fairly wet. **The hearing was continued until the next meeting.**

Adjournment

P. Jones made and J. Waugh seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting; the WPC voted 3-0 to adjourn at 9:15pm.