

Conservation Commission – January 20, 2022 in Zoom/Conference Call Meeting

Members present were Dr. John Schreiber, Co-Chair Chair, Mr. Freddy Friedman, Co-Chair, Mrs. Nanci Worthington, and Mr. Doug Hyde. Others present were Mr. Jackson Alberti, Mr. David Madow, Ms. Elizabeth Goodman, Mr. Scott Mackenzie, Ms. Martha Bryan, Mr. Allen Isaacson, and Mr. & Mrs. Rennert.

Meeting was called to order at 5:01 PM.

Meeting minutes of December 16th, 2021 were accepted as amended.

Madow Hearing: Present for this hearing was property owner, Mr. David Madow. Applicant submitted a RDA for the purpose of improvements to existing driveway, septic system, drill new well, construction of single family house, and installation of four utility poles. Mr. Madow mentioned that the proposed driveway improvements would make the driveway wider and will use a gravel base, and will install hay bales/silt fence during all construction, and remove a dying Ash tree. After discussion a motion was made, seconded and so voted to continue this hearing until the February meeting.

Goodman Hearing: Present for this hearing was property owner, Ms. Elizabeth Goodman and contractor, Mr. Scott Mackenzie. Applicant submitted a RDA for the purpose of installing a new driveway. Ms. Goodman mentioned that at some time in the future they will be dividing the property for a potential sale. The proposed new driveway is across the street from bordering vegetated wetlands but there also appears to be a stream embedded in the wetlands. The Commission stated that they need to know if the area of proposed driveway is 200 foot from the river front area which may require a NOI. After discussion a motion was made, seconded and so voted to continue this hearing until February meeting and the Commission members will complete a site visit.

Koener Hearing: Present for this hearing was Mr. Jackson Alberti, Foresight Land Services. Applicant submitted a NOI for the purpose of proposed riverbank stabilization. Property location is 2128 Canaan Southfield Rd. Mr. Alberti mentioned that there is been significant erosion and undercut occurring to the riverbank, and that the proposed stabilization will consist of heavy duty coir log and coir matting. Mr. Alberti also mentioned that native vegetation planting will be used along with silt fence and jersey barriers. Mr. Alberti review DEP comments with the Commission. Dr. Schreiber inquired if the property owners are planning to do any additional work on the other side of the bank/bridge since the major cause of the erosion appears to be the narrowing of the river where the bridge was placed years ago. Dr. Hyde inquired if the large stump will be removed. Mr. Alberti mentioned that they have to be in touch with the contractor for their opinion, but plan to use a crane, no equipment with be used in the water. Mrs. Worthington inquired what type of materials the coir logs consist of and if there is a list of native plants to be used for mitigation. Mr. Alberti stated that the coir logs are degradable and he send a list of native plants. Mrs. Worthington wondering if there's a plan in place to for project work to occur if the water level is high and a backup plan. Mr.

Alberti mentioned that they probably would not do any work. He also noted that they only would have a backup plan if it's required. Per one of DEP comments they suggest that the Commission couldn't issue an order of conditions until National Heritage & Endangered Species Program (NHESP) has comment on this project. A motion was made, seconded and so voted to continue this hearing until NHESP comments are received.

Golub/Benton Hill LLC Hearing: Present for this continued hearing was Mr. Jackson Alberti, Foresight Land Services. The Commission received an email request from Attorney, Ms. Goodman to continue this hearing till March 17th meeting. Dr. Schreiber inquired on why the two months request. Mr. Alberti mentioned that they are working on the amending the NOI that will include alternative analysis. After discussion a motion was made, seconded and so voted to continue this hearing till March 17th meeting per the request.

New Marlborough Southfield Rd: Mr. Eliot and Jane Rennert were present to discuss the enforcement letter they received. Dr. Schreiber stated that a violation has occurred per wetlands protection act regulations 310 CMR 10.00, unpermitted clearing of vegetation, stump removal, dirt disturbance and sod removal within 200 feet of the riverfront and that the area needs to be delineated with NOI plans submitted. Mrs. Rennert mentioned that they have been in contact with White Engineering and they will meet with the consultant at the site. Dr. Schreiber suggest that the consultant be made aware that there is no silt fence/barrier in place , lots of sod was removed, and that there's debris behind house that needs to be removed.

The Commission reviewed the mail:

- Forest Cutting Plan – Ormsbee – Sisson Hill Road – 104 acres.
- Letter from property owner at 422 Clayton Mill River Rd which was sent to the NM Land Trust and cc to the Commission and Board of Selectmen regarding the walking trail and leaving the property owner no privacy. The Commission reviewed the letter and felt that the issues in the letter were not in their jurisdiction.

The Co-chairs received FY23 budget requests and will work on completed the budgets, to include enough funds for education.

Next meeting is scheduled for February 17th at 5PM.

A motion was made, seconded and so voted to adjourn at 6:35 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Chretien
Secretary