

BEDFORD CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Minutes of Meeting
January 11, 2023
Zoom Remote
Hearing Bedford, MA

Present: Steven Hagan, Chair; Lori Eggert; Stephanie Kane; Stacey Katz, Deb Edinger; David Santos; Jeffrey Summers, Conservation Administrator

Absent: Frank Richichi, Clerk; Stephanie Ide; Conservation Administrative Assistant

Mr. Hagan opened the meeting at 6:05 p.m.

Request for Determination of Applicability: 34 Wildwood Drive

Mr. Nandakishore Venkatesan was present before the Commission to discuss the proposed installation of a fence within the 100-foot buffer zone to Bordering Vegetated Wetland.

A motion was made by Ms. Katz and seconded by Ms. Eggert to issue a positive Determination for reason 2B and a negative Determination for reason 3. The motion passed 6-0-0.

Public Hearing – Notice of Intent: 125 & 131 Middlesex Turnpike

Ms. Kristin Dowdy and Mr. Mike Sprague of the Department of Public Works were present before the Commission to discuss the proposed upgrades to one of the towns sewer pump stations. The existing pump station and driveway leading into the pump station will be expanded. The installation of an external wet well and valve vault will be partially within the 25-foot buffer to Bordering Vegetated Wetland and is unavoidable Ms. Dowdy stated. The area is to be repaved with a crushed stone area installed, the existing gas line is to be relocated, a generator, hydrant and a retaining wall will also be installed. Upgrades must take place due to the increase in waste water and sewage produced in the area that this pump station serves. Mr. Hagan stated that due to the project's location in relation to resource areas that it will require a variance.

A motion was made by Ms. Katz and seconded by Ms. Edinger to issue a variance for the work to take place citing an overriding public interest. The motion passed 6-0-0. A motion was made by Ms. Katz and seconded by Ms. Eggert to issue the Order of Conditions as discussed. The motion passed 6-0-0.

Public Hearing – Notice of Intent: 39 Concord Road

Mr. Hagan stated that he is an abutter to the proposed project and recused himself. Mr. Richard Harrington of Harrington Associates was present before the Commission on behalf of Andrey Brito Vierira to discuss the proposed demolition of an existing house and the construction of a new house outside of the 50-foot buffer to Bordering Vegetated Wetland. The

Commission discussed requiring permanent bounds to be installed at the 25-foot buffer boundary and requiring the 25-foot buffer to return to a naturally vegetated state. The Commission discussed the high groundwater table on the property and whether the proposed infiltration chambers could actually work. Mr. Harrington stated that the plan will probably have to be revised once they determine a solution. The Commission felt that due to a lack of a stormwater plan that it would be best if Mr. Harrington continues the public hearing to the meeting of February 8, 2023; Mr. Harrington agreed to the continuation.

A motion was made by Ms. Katz and seconded by Ms. Edinger to continue the public hearing. The motion passed 5-0-0.

Massport Forest Management Plan Discussion:

Mr. Dan Cathcart, Consulting Arborist for the Town of Bedford, Mr. Gregg Cohen of Stantec, consultant for Massport, and Mr. Brad Washburn and Ms. Sarah Dennett Chuck of Massport were present before the Commission to discuss the restoration planting plan for Jordan Conservation Area as was conditioned in the Vegetation Management Plan. Mr. Cathcart developed the planting plan. Mr. Washburn requested that the discussion be continued to the meeting of March 8, 2023 stating that Massport and Stantec would like time to review and comment on the plan. Mr. Cathcart and Mr. Cohen agreed to work together to get a finalized planting plan together.

A motion was made by Ms. Eggert and seconded by Ms. Katz to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 p.m. The motion passed 6-0-0.

Minutes prepared by Stephanie Ide from recording.

Minutes approved at the meeting of October 11, 2023.