

**BEDFORD CONSERVATION COMMISSION**  
**Minutes of Meeting**  
**July 13, 2022**  
**Zoom Remote Hearing**  
**Bedford, MA**

Present: Steve Hagan, Chair; Frank Richichi, Clerk; Deb Edinger;  
Lori Eggert; Stacey Katz  
Jeff Summers, Conservation Administrator

Absent: Stephanie Ide, Conservation Administrative Assistant

Mr. Hagan opened the meeting at 6:00 p.m.

**Request for Determination of Applicability: 96 Sweetwater Avenue**

Clive Grainger and Denise Donohue, of the Sweetwater Condominium Trust, were present before the Commission to discuss the proposed replacement of existing parking lot pavement within the 100-foot buffer zone to the Bank of Sweetwater Pond and the 100-foot buffer zone to peripheral wetland areas associated with the pond. Full reclamation of approximately 5,250 square feet of pavement is proposed within the buffer zone, with the closest distance to the resource area being approximately 75 feet. An additional drainage basin is proposed for installation during the repaving process, however this portion of the project falls outside of the buffer zone.

A motion was made by Ms. Katz and seconded by Mr. Richichi to issue a Positive Determination for reasons 2b and a negative Determination for reason 3 with the following condition:

1. Before work begins, an erosion control (silt sock, silt fence) shall be installed in a north/south orientation between the north end of the hedgerow and the uphill gradient (approx. 60') found west of the parking lot. The erosion control shall be maintained until all work is completed.

The motion passed 5-0-0.

**Request for Determination of Applicability: 8 Winchester Drive**

Tim & Nathalie O'Hara, property owners, were present before the Commission to discuss the proposed replacement of an existing pool fence and the installation of a new privacy fence within the 100-foot buffer zone to Bordering Vegetated Wetland. The pool fence will be replaced in its current location and the privacy fence will run along the west property line with the closest distance to the wetland being approximately 30 feet. Mr. Summers stated that field indications suggest that the wetland area is approximately 20 feet further from the pool than is indicated on the GIS image provided with the RDA.

A motion was made by Ms. Edinger and seconded by Ms. Katz to issue a positive Determination for reasons 2b and a negative Determination for reason 3 without conditions. The motion passed 5-0-0.

### **Notice of Intent: Ponds at Mitchell Grant Way/Shire Lane**

Emily Vulgamore, from Solitude Lake Management, was present before the Commission to discuss vegetation management in and immediately surrounding three ponds located within the Bedfordshire Golf Course. Vegetation management has been taking place within the ponds under previously issued Orders of Conditions since at least 2003. This proposal essentially presents a continuation of the previous maintenance program and the NOI was filed as an Ecological Restoration Project. The purpose of which is to promote water quality, wildlife habitat, and native plant species while deterring invasive plant species and poor habitat value within and surrounding the three ponds.

Ms. Vulgamore stated that the ponds are plagued with algae, leafy pond weed, water lilies, cat tails, phragmites, duckweed, watermeal, as well as other nuisance and invasive species. She explained that as the ponds become choked with overgrowth vegetation and algae that water quality decreases substantially and the water becomes eutrophic which prevents fish, reptiles, and other wildlife from using the ponds as habitat.

The vegetation maintenance is proposed to take place only when needed and the physical removal of vegetation and the use of herbicides is to be employed. AquaPro, Renovate, Reward, and Sonar herbicides are proposed for use as the need arises and copper or copper-sulfate is proposed in the event of significant planktonic or filamentous algal blooms. Any herbicides are to be applied by a state licensed herbicide applicator and only to the extent that the target vegetation is affected.

A motion was made by Ms. Edinger and seconded by Mr. Richichi to issue an Order of Conditions with the same special conditions as found in the previously issued Order of Conditions for vegetation maintenance at this location with the following modifications:

1. Annual Report. A yearly after season report shall be submitted to the Commission by Lake Solitude Management assessing project status and describing what actions have been taken and what outcomes resulted in regards to vegetation management during the previous year.
2. Herbicides. Approved herbicides for this project are: AquaPro (Glyphosate), AquaNeat (Glyphosate), Renovate (Triclopyr), Reward (Diquat), and Sonar (Fluoridone).

The previous Order was issued on August 10, 2016 under DEP File #103-0810. The motion passed 5-0-0.

## **Request for Amended Order of Conditions: 18 Ashby Road**

Taylor Dowdy, of BSC Group, was present before the Commission on behalf of Millipore Sigma to discuss the proposed amendment to the Order of Conditions issued on September 23, 2020 under DEP File #103-0863. The Order was issued to allow for underground water line replacements. The request is to allow further work under this Order consisting of the replacement of an additional 675 feet of underground waterline though Bordering Land Subject to Flooding, Riverfront Area, the 100' buffer zone to Bordering Vegetated Wetlands, and under the Bylaw, the 100' buffer zone to the 100-year Floodplain. All work is contained within existing pavement and disturbances will be temporary as the pavement will be returned to its current condition after the waterline replacement is complete.

A motion was made by Ms. Katz and seconded by Ms. Eggert to issue an Amended Order of Conditions to permit the additional waterline replacement as proposed. Motion Passed 5-0-0.

## **Minutes:**

A motion was made by Ms. Katz and seconded by Ms. Eggert to approve the minutes of April 13, 2022 as written. Motion passed 5-0-0.

A motion was made by Ms. Katz and seconded by Ms. Edinger to approve the minutes of May 11, 2022 as written. Motion passed 5-0-0.

A motion was made by Ms. Eggert and seconded by Ms. Edinger to approve the minutes of June 22, 2022 as written. Motion passed 5-0-0.

A motion was made by Ms. Katz and seconded by Ms. Eggert to approve the minutes of July 23, 2014 as written. Motion passed 5-0-0.

*A motion was made by Mr. Richichi and seconded by Ms. Katz to adjourn the meeting at 7:05 p.m. The motion passed 5-0-0.*

*Minutes prepared by Jeffrey Summers.*

*Minutes approved at the meeting of August 17, 2022.*