

BEDFORD CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Minutes of Meeting
September 11, 2019
Selectmen's Conference Room
Town Hall, Bedford, MA

PRESENT: Allan Wirth, Chair; Steven Hagan, Vice-Chair; Joseph Guardino, Clerk;
John Britton; Neil McKenna; Art Smith
Elizabeth Bagdonas, Conservation Administrator
Stephanie Ide, Conservation Department Assistant

ABSENT: Lori Eggert

Mr. Wirth opened the meeting at 7:03 p.m.

Request for Determination of Applicability: 44 Meadowbrook Road

Mr. Joseph Guardino was present before the Commission to discuss the proposed removal of six pine trees within Riverfront Area to Vine Brook, partially within Bordering Land Subject to Flooding and the 100-foot buffer zones to Bordering Land Subject to Flooding and Bordering Vegetated Wetland. Mr. Guardino stated that the trees are located on the right side of the property along the property line. He continued to say that he had discussed the appropriate location to replant native trees or shrubs with Ms. Bagdonas. They decided it would be beneficial to replant within the yard area by the upper bank of the brook instead of along the property line, which will increase the buffer to Vine Brook.

A motion was made by and seconded by to issue a positive Determination for reason five and a negative Determination for reason three with the following conditions:

1. Six native tree/shrub plantings are to be installed following tree removal within the fall or spring planting season.
2. New plantings are to be photographed and reported over a two year period.

The motion passed 5-0-1, with Mr. Guardino abstaining. The Determination was then signed.

Mr. Guardino joined the Commission after his hearing was complete.

Request for Determination of Applicability: 6 Winchester Drive

Mr. Jonas Buege was present before the Commission to discuss the replacement of an existing 16' x 12' deck with a new 41' x 18' deck, including a covered deck section and several pathways to be constructed in the existing yard within the 100-foot buffer zone to Bordering Vegetated Wetland. Mr. Buege stated that all proposed work will take place

outside the 50 foot buffer. The impervious surface calculations have been submitted but may change to a lower percentage if the materials used for the pathway change.

A motion was made by Mr. Britton and seconded by Mr. Hagan to issue a positive Determination for reason five and a negative Determination for reason three with the following condition:

1. No yard waste disposal within 50-feet of the wetland.

The motion passed 6-0-0, after which the Determination was signed.

Public Hearing – Notice of Intent: 35 Washington Street

Ms. Mary Trudeau and Mr. Ajit Kumar Das were present before the Commission to discuss the proposed construction of a carport, driveway expansion and a small portico within the Riverfront Area to Elm Brook and within the 100-foot buffer zones to Bank, Land under Waterway, Bordering Vegetated Wetland and Bordering Land Subject to Flooding. Ms. Trudeau suggested that the owner plant a Red Maple, silky dogwoods and highbush blueberry to enhance the buffer to Elm Brook to compensate for the proposed work within the Riverfront Area. Impervious surface calculations will be at 17.3% for the property once construction is completed. Ms. Bagdonas requested revised Riverfront calculations.

A motion was made by Mr. Hagan and seconded by Mr. Smith to close the public hearing contingent upon receipt of revised Riverfront calculations. The motion passed 6-0-0. The Order of Conditions will be discussed at the meeting of September 25, 2019.

Public Hearing – Notice of Intent: Route 62 & Old Billerica Road Intersection

Ms. Adrienne St. John and Ms. Kristin Dowdy of the Town of Bedford Department of Public Works were present before the Commission to discuss the proposed road work with five foot wide shoulders, traffic islands and sidewalks within the 100-foot buffer zones to Bank, Land Under Waterway and Bordering Vegetated Wetland. Ms. St. John stated that intersection improvements will be done where Burlington Road meets Old Billerica Road. A pedestrian crossing signal will be installed. The sidewalks will be porous pavement which will improve current conditions. The project is a redevelopment project under the Riverfront Area regulations.

A motion was made by Mr. Hagan and seconded by Mr. Smith to close the public hearing. The motion passed 6-0-0. The Order of Conditions will be discussed at the meeting of September 25, 2019.

Job Lane School/ADA Path & Outdoor Classroom:

Ms. Kristin Dowdy and Ms. Jacinda Barbehenn were present before the Commission to discuss a project change to a previously approved and issued Determination. Ms. Barbehenn is proposing to move the stone dust ADA path entrance so as not to interfere with newly installed underground Ethernet wiring. Also proposed, is a wider entrance area for a future bench and signage. Ms. Bagdonas would like an updated plan showing details on the cleared area which should include grading, erosion line and location of bench and kiosk. No herbicides should be used. Ms. Dowdy will be submitting a new plan.

A motion was made by Mr. Britton and seconded by Mr. McKenna to approve the proposed changes under the existing Determination contingent upon receiving a revised plan. The motion passed 6-0-0.

Boardwalk under Bridge OOC: Lantern Lane

Ms. Adrienne St. John of the Department of Public Works was present before the Commission to request the Commissions direction regarding a proposed change in plan regarding the Lantern Lane Bridge. Ms. St. John asked the Commission if they would need an Amendment for the plan change or if the proposed change could be considered a minor project change. The current plan has stairs being installed at the bottom of the bridge. The proposed change would be to install a floating boardwalk at the bottom of the bridge which would function better and be less impact to the area. Work is set to begin in November. Ms. St. John stated that she will be submitting a revised plan.

A motion was made by Mr. Britton and seconded by McKenna to require a Request for an Amendment to the Order of Conditions. The motion passed 4-2-0, with Mr. Hagan and Mr. Smith voting against.

Clark & Little Meadow CA:

Ms. Adrienne St. John of the Department of Public Works was present before the Commission to discuss the mowing of the Clark and Little Meadow CA. The Department of Public Works is offering to mow at Clark and Little Meadow with the help of a private contractor. Ms. Bagdonas stated that despite contacting several contractors, we have been unsuccessful in finding someone to mow our fields and suggested that the Commission pay the bill for the private contractor the DPW uses.

A motion was made by Mr. Britton and seconded by Mr. Hagan to allow the mowing of Clark and Little Meadow and to have the contractor portion be paid for by the Commission. The motion passed 6-0-0.

40 Buehler Road:

Ms. Mary Trudeau was present before the Commission to discuss the issues that are occurring at 40 Buehler Road. Ms. Trudeau stated that there is a new developer Mr. Kristos. Mr. Kristos purchased the property from Mr. David Bernstein, whom the Order was issued to. There have been significant drainage issues on the property to include washing the cement chute and draining the runoff into the catch basin. Ms. Trudeau will submit a report to the Commission explaining what the issues are on the site, what has been corrected and what needs to be completed. Issuance of an Enforcement Order was discussed. Ms. Bagdonas stated that she is willing to wait for Ms. Trudeau's report before acting on Enforcement.

Minutes:

A motion was made by Mr. Britton and seconded by Mr. Guardino to approve the minutes of August 28, 2019 as written. The motion passed 5-0-1, with Mr. Guardino abstaining.

100 Albion Road:

A motion was made by Mr. Britton and seconded by Mr. Hagan to approve Mr. Taylor Dowdy of the BSC Group as the Environmental Site Supervisor for the Village at Bedford Woods project. The motion passed 5-0-0.

A motion was made by Mr. Britton and seconded by Mr. Guardino to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed 5-0-0.

Meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Stephanie Ide.

Minutes approved at meeting of September 25, 2019.