

Lincoln Conservation Commission

Meeting Minutes – May 9, 2018

Start – 7:00 pm

End – 9:00 pm

Commissioners present – Peter von Mertens, Richard Selden, Christine Dugan, Ron Chester, Ari Kurtz, Larry Buell

Staff present – Tom Gumbart, Jennifer Curtin

WETLANDS

7:30 p.m. - Notice of Intent: Benton. 319 South Great Road (186-4-0). For a septic system replacement.

Peter von Mertens opened the meeting. The engineer for the project, Mike DiModica, is presenting the project. Four commissioners were at a site visit at the property this morning. Mr. von Mertens noted that the site is very tight. Mr. Di Modica agreed, stating that the location they chose was the only viable option as moving closer to the resource area is the only other option and that is much higher groundwater. There will be no additional bedrooms and no expansion of housing space. Both cesspools are likely in groundwater so it will be an improvement to the site to repair them. Erosion control will be in place and most of the excavated materials will be trucked out. 4-5 feet of fill will be removed offsite. Finish grade will be 8-10 inches above the current level. Tom Gumbart mentioned that the system is a pump system, not gravity fed. Mr. DiModica says that the system is in failure since its sitting in groundwater; however it is not in hydraulic failure. The Commission **voted 6-0** to accept the plan with requested changes. The Commission **voted 6-0** to approve NOI and issue an Order of Conditions.

8:00 p.m. – Notice of Intent: Town of Lincoln. South Great Road (159-20-0). For construction of a roadside path and repair of existing roadside path to Lee’s Bridge.

Tom Gumbart presented the project. This project is for the construction and repair of a path from the Overflow Parking Lot on South Great Road to Lee’s Bridge. The area closest to bridge will need to be filled to bring it to grade and the existing guard rail will be pulled out and replaced with split rail fencing. There is a single tree that will need to be removed so as to lose less of the agricultural field, with only 15 ft. being lost with this plan. The surface will be a compacted stabilized stone dust and will be approximately 4“ deep. The material will be porous but less likely to erode. There is no plan yet for fence separation of path from agricultural field. The project is outside of wetlands but is in flood plain and buffer zone resource areas. Compensatory flood storage is planned and the fill taken will be reused. The Commission **voted 6-0** to accept the Notice of Intent and issue an Order of Conditions.

CONSERVATION DIRECTOR’S REPORT

Meeting with Sudbury River abutters will occur on May 17th at 7:00 p.m. in the Donaldson Room.

Amanda Smith, who is on the Granby Conservation Commission, was interviewed and hired as the Department’s Seasonal Stormwater Assistant.

Second NPDES annual report has been submitted, town meeting allocated 50k to hiring a consultant to help with compliance with the MS4 Permit.

Wednesday walks have recommenced

Spadefoot Toad vernal pool is underway at Drumlin Farm.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Update on Commissioners Projects

Ron Chester and Tom Gumbart met with the Boits and found that they are in compliance and they have planted more trees in accordance with the existing Order of Conditions.

Larry Buell says that the property is not going to be viable for trail as the homeowner does not want a trail on her property.

Mr. Gumbart has been talking with John Bockoven who says he has finished clearing and plants are coming up. He has trees ready to be planted. Conservation staff will help pull garlic mustard at his property and work with him on planting.

School Building Committee Update

Christine Dugan gave an update on the SBC. On June 9th, 6 designs will be presented to be voted on through paper ballot and top 2 designs will be a standing vote. Final design will be voted on at town meeting in November. FinCom did not recommend over the 97 mil borrowing limit for both the school and community center. 7 million in landscaping work may have to be put off. There has been talk of private funds being raised for the Community Center. Richard asked is there is any way to find out what the people who do not attend meeting think about the plans. Christine says that there has been a lot of outreach and events but it is hard to reach everyone. Vote needs to be 2/3 at town meeting and 50% at polls to pass for other than repair only.

SUB-COMMITTEE & LIAISON REPORTS

Agricultural Subcommittee

Agricultural licenses have been sent out. Still a lot to be decided on with regard to Umbrello and Ricci fields. Fields will be rehabilitated and cover cropped this year. Once the plan is reevaluated for next year then it will be open for use.

Other Reports & Announcements

Douglas Adams has a buyer for his property on Granville Road who says that they want to remove some trees that may threaten the house. Mr. Adams believes that the new owners would be okay with trail easement, but ConCom would like a permanent trail easement on the property before any tree removal and the property sale. A site visit will be planned for the property once agreement is reached and trees are marked.

DeCordova will merge with The Trustees of Reservations. The land is owned by TOL. James Craig will be chairing the merger committee for the Board of Selectman. The Commission will send commissioner representation to ensure wetland issues and reservoir remain protected. One issue is that Lincoln citizens can patronize the museum free of charge through a verbal agreement and the town would like them to agree officially.

ACTION ITEMS

- **Voted 6-0** to adopt the Aquatic Herbicide Policy drafted on April 18th
- **Voted 6-0** to allow this year's treatments of Farrar Pond under the existing Order of Conditions
- Extension of the existing Order of Conditions for pond management activities associated with Todd Pond issued

- Certificate of Compliance issued for 11 Lexington Road
- Meeting minutes from April 18th approved
- Bills paid & payroll signed

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Curtin
Conservation Assistant