



City of Watertown
Conservation Commission
Administration Building
149 Main St.
Watertown, MA 02472

Maria P. Rose, Chair
Leo Martin, Member
Jamie O'Connell, Member
Darya Mattes, Member
Rachel Danford, Member

MINUTES

Meeting Date: Wednesday, February 7, 2024, 7:00 PM, Remote Meeting on Zoom

Conservation Commission Members Present: Maria Rose, Leo Martin, Darya Mattes, and Jamie O'Connell, Rachel Danford

Absent: N/A

Also Present: Brian Snow, Rick Salvo, Max Hatziliades, Michael Albano, and Richard Nylen

Staff Present: Katie Swan, Conservation Agent, Susan Jenness, Assistant

Rose chaired the meeting.

1. Public Hearing: Notice of Intent (Continued from October 4, 2023) -- located off 0 Arlington Street, between 71 Arlington Street and 15 Arlington Street (MA DEP #: 321-0186) - construction of 41, 289 square feet (sf) of pervious parking area on the north side of Sawins Pond, extending from the existing paved parking lot, within the 100-foot Buffer Zone of Vegetated wetlands and Inland Bank and locally regulated 150-foot Buffer Zone. Polina Safran, Representative from SWCA, Max Hatziliades, Owner.

Richard Nylen was present to review and discuss the updated project site plans which closely resemble the plans submitted under a previous NOI and approved by the Commission in 2011. The updated plans also include the resource areas delineated under ANRAD (DEP #: 321-0168). The updated plans: pervious pavement was reduced from

41,289 sf to 30,307 sf with a remaining 200 sf. in the 50 ft NBZ, the total number of parking spaces was reduced from 122 to 86, and mitigation plantings in the 50 ft NBZ.

Commission Comments

- Snow storage should not be on porous pavement – this would be updated in the O&M plan to indicate where snow storage could occur.
- Requested that a memo be sent to the City Engineer to ensure they would review the stormwater plan.
- To have a Licensed Science Professional (LSP) on-site when the rubber and other debris were being excavated and removed and to have the LSP submit a report to the Conservation Commission.
- No lighting plan was presented or approved. Should future lighting be proposed, the Commission should be apprised, and it must be Dark Sky Compliant.
- To submit a Long Term Operations and Management Plan with updated information.

Public Comments

N/A

Motion: A motion to close the public hearing was made by Martin. Mattes seconded the motion.

Roll call: was taken and Martin, O’Connell, Danford, Mattes, and Rose agreed to close the public hearing.

Motion: A motion was made to approve the updated plans discussed at the meeting by O’Connell. Martin seconded the motion.

Roll Call: was taken and Martin, O’Connell, Danford, Mattes, and Rose agreed with the motion made by O’Connell to approve the plans reviewed at this meeting.

2. Agent Report: The Student Conservation Association (SCA) proposal for the work at Whitney Hill, which was postponed in 2023, will be honored by the SCA this year. The scope of work will be the same with a slight cost increase cost (total is \$13,000). Bryce Spare from SCA will share proposed scheduling dates by the end of February. The public will be notified about the work when closer to the tentative start date and will be brought up at the Annual Whitney Hill meeting in March. Rose said she would look into campground sites for the trail crew to stay during the trail work.

The annual MACC Conference will be in Worcester, MA on March 2.

3. CPC Update: Projects that were selected would be presented at the meeting taking place on February 15th, and members of CPC would be deliberating and voting on funding recommendations to the City Council.
4. Minutes from January 3, 2024, Conservation Commission meeting:

Motion: A motion to accept the minutes from the January 3, 2024, meeting was made by Rose. Mattes seconded the motion.

Roll Call: Members were polled, and all agreed to accept the minutes from the January 3, 2024, meeting.

Motion: Martin made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:30 pm. O'Connell seconded the motion.

All members agreed to adjourn the meeting at 9:30 pm.