

**HANSON CONSERVATION COMMISSION
MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC MEETING OF MAY 19, 2021
HANSON MIDDLE SCHOOL, 111 LIBERTY STREET, HANSON, MA 02341**

Called to Order at 7:00 pm under M.G.L. c131, §40 and the Hanson By-Law 3-13, §5 and Rules and Regulations by Phil Clemons, Chairman, Hanson Middle School Auditorium, Hanson, MA

Present: Phil Clemons, Chairman
Sharon LePorte, Vice Chairman
David Mansfield, Clerk
Thomas Roffey, Jr., Member
Frank Schellenger, Agent
Lan Woodward, Administrative Assistant

Also Present: Mr. and Mrs. Christopher Stirling, Holmes Street
Joshua Crabb, Project Engineer, Environmental Partners Group, Inc.

Minutes

May 5, 2021

Motion to approve the minutes of May 5, 2021 by: David Mansfield

Second: Thomas Roffey, Jr.

Vote: 3-0-1

Public Hearings

7:00 PM Notice of Intent to construct a home addition within 100' of bordering vegetated wetlands at 311 Holmes Street, Map 57, Lot 7, for Christopher Stirling. (**New Hearing**) (DEP# SE175-)

Mr. Mansfield read the Public Hearing Notice and the abutters were verified.

Mr. Stirling is requesting to construct an addition within 100' of bordering vegetated wetlands. The silt sock material for erosion control would be based on Commission's recommendation. Ivaas Environmental flagged the wetlands, and a land surveyor created a plot plan. The addition would be outside the 50' buffer zone. The home is currently 2-bedroom. There is currently no other site work other than the addition.

Agent Schellenger visited the site and notified the Commission that behind the area of 50' buffer zone is lawn, mostly clear; the addition is outside the 50' buffer zone, but construction will tear a little bit of it. Once completed, it will be out of the 50' buffer zone. Agent Schellenger recommends conditional approval pending MA DEP#.

Chair Clemons asked if there were any questions or comments from the Commission or abutters.

Mr. Stirling asked the Commission to add onto the septic system for a 5-bedroom house?

Agent Schellenger stated that if it comes later, it would probably be a blanket permit, if sooner, it would be an Amendment to the Order of Conditions.

Motion to issue variance for work within 50' buffer zone by: David Mansfield

Second: Thomas Roffey, Jr.

Vote: 4-0-0

Motion to close hearing and approve an Order of Conditions subject to Standard Conditions and pending MA DEP# by: Sharon LePorte

Second: David Mansfield

Vote: 4-0-0

7:15 PM Request for Determination of Applicability for construction of high-visibility crosswalk and RRFB installation at Liberty Street west of Winter Street and within the existing impervious area (roadway and sidewalk) on Liberty Street adjacent to 542 Liberty Street and within 100' of bordering vegetated wetlands, filed by Deborah Pettey, Hanson Planner, represented by Environmental Partners Group, Inc., 1900 Crown Colony Drive, Unit 402, Quincy, MA 02169. **(New Hearing)**

Mr. Mansfield read the Public Hearing Notice and the abutters were verified.

Joshua Crabb, Project Engineer, Environmental Partners Group, Inc., presented the project to the Commission. He stated they would need to reduce the impervious area by about 20' and work within the 100' buffer zone. There are 3 work locations, but only one subject to Conservation jurisdiction. The plan shows sedimentation control and barriers. It would possibly be 3-4 days of work that would be spread out depending on contractors scheduling/availability. The batteries for the flashing lights are contained.

Agent Schellenger recommends a Negative 3 Determination.

Motion to close hearing and approve a Negative 3 Determination by: David Mansfield

Second: Sharon LePorte

Vote: 4-0-0

7:30 PM Continued Notice of Intent to demolish existing house and commercial building and construct two 3-story mixed residential/commercial buildings; building one with 3 commercial units, 14 one-bedroom, 12 two-bedroom units, building two with 3 commercial units, 10 one-bedroom, 3 one+ bedroom, 10 two-bedroom units with associated site improvements and signage at 965&999 Main Street, Map 42, Lot 9&10 for Stephen Egan, Egan Development LLC, represented by Crowell Engineering. (DEP# SE175-0731)

Motion to continue hearing to June 2, 2021, 7:30 PM pending continuance request notification from the Engineer by: David Mansfield

Second: Thomas Roffey, Jr.

Vote: 4-0-0

Appointments-(None)

Discussions

Mass DEP NRD Grant Opportunity Update

485 Winter Street Lot is back on the market. Chair Clemons stated that it is worthwhile to commence the application process for the grant to purchase it. He would try to establish communication with the Board of Selectmen and Town Administrator.

Motion to authorize Commission Chair to work with Office Staff and Other Parties regarding 485 Winter Street to see if it is a feasible NRD Grant Opportunity by: David Mansfield

Second: Thomas Roffey, Jr.

Vote: 4-0-0

Eel Ramp discussion; Mr. Mansfield is willing to work on this. To discuss at a future meeting.

USDA Draft Update

Chair Clemons and Agent Schellenger proposed changes to water control structures re: Helen Castles of USDA email dated 03.22.2021. The USDA agreed that restoring continuity of Indian Head Brook is a good thing. A summarized table was composed which includes; structure, function, material, observation, and comments. Chair Clemons, with help of Office Staff, will reach out to Helen Castles, USDA with proposed changes, if acceptable to the Commission.

Motion to approve submission to Helen Castles, USDA, responses to proposal from email dated

03.22.2021 by: Thomas Roffey, Jr.

Second: Sharon LePorte

Vote: 4-0-0

Eagle Scout Project Update(s)

No new updates.

Property Management Update

Poor Meadow; Mr. Mansfield spoke with the tree warden and was informed that the two large pines that are hung up do not pose a danger. Conservation could have them removed, if funds are available, (estimated \$2,000.00-\$3,000.00), he could schedule for Commission.

Smitty's Bog; Mr. Mansfield notified the Commission the public boat ramp is in unusable condition at this time, as the concrete lip on the landslide is displaced. The "unofficial" ramp located further up the road has begun to be degraded due to use. In addition, there are two trash barrels that are overflowing with trash along with a significant amount of trash at both locations.

The kiosk now has the Smitty's Bog sign attached as well as the small Conservation Commission sign from a nearby tree.

Rocky Run; Mr. Mansfield found there was a large campsite setup May 14, 2021 on the bluff at Hemlock Grove. Three tents, grill, cook stove, and cooler setup, and open fire. No one was about at the early hour, but the site appeared to be occupied. The Chairman was notified. A large, empty trash barrel was found at the trailhead and dropped off at the transfer station.

Webster-Billings; Mr. Mansfield discovered that trails have been marked with pink arrows painted on numerous trees and rocks along the trail and intervals are also painted pink

Town Forest; Trash long Indian Head Street is an ongoing issue for this area. Adjacent to the trailhead in the parking area is construction materials and debris. The Conservation Commission is still in discussion regarding possible bog bridges at the Town Forest.

Smith-Nawazaelski; Commissioner Mansfield walked this area and found it was trash and litter free with the exception of the area behind a subdivision that is being used as a party area; a lot of trash, old furniture, and car parts.

At the far end of Bay Circuit Trail, there is degradation from ATV use. There are no trail markers or signage in the area.

There are several trails and loops in the area which are surrounded by subdivisions. There are no trail markers or signage.

Discussion regarding drafting policies, posting signs, kiosks. The Commission will continue to work on marking trails and policies.

Recorded Meetings

Agent Schellenger discussed a mandate from the Board of Selectmen regarding meetings being video recorded. Chair Clemons requested Agent Schellenger to draft a memo regarding recording meetings mandate that notifies we are not equipped.

Public Hearing Notice Rate Increase; Whitman Hanson Express Public Hearing Notice will be \$45.00 effective June 1, 2021.

Old Business/New Business

Invoice for Public Hearing Notice (Hanson Express) for 311 Holmes Street, Notice of Intent - **Reviewed**

Invoice for Public Hearing Notice (Hanson Express) for 542 Liberty Street, Request for Determination of Applicability - **Reviewed**

Invoice for Pond Treatment (Town of Pembroke) for Oldham Pond, One Fifth Contribution - **Reviewed**

Invoice approval by Conservation Commission to resume after the Covid-19 State of Emergency is lifted June 15, 2021.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn at 8:22 PM by: Sharon LePorte

Second: Thomas Roffey, Jr.

Vote: 4-0-0