



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Town of Acushnet
Conservation Commission
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Robert Rocha, Chairman
Ted Cioper, Vice-Chair
Marc Brodeur
Everett Philla
Heidi Pelletier
Evelyn Bouley

Merilee Kelly, Conservation Agent
Christine Lagasse, Senior Clerk

MINUTES OF October 24, 2017 CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEETING

Present:	Robert Rocha Heidi Pelletier Everett Philla Evelyn Bouley	Absent: Ted Cioper Marc Brodeur
	Merilee Kelly, Agent Christine Lagasse, Senior Clerk	

I. Meeting called to Order at 6:04 P.M.

II. Minutes for approval:

September 26, 2017 - A motion was made by Heidi Pelletier to approve the minutes of September 26. The motion was seconded by Evelyn Bouley. Motion passed 3-0.

October 10, 2017 – After the Commission's review of minutes a slight change was made to the minutes. A motion was made by Everett Philla to approve the minutes of October 10. The motion was seconded by Heidi Pelletier. Motion passed 4-0.

III. Meeting Mail: (none)

IV. Appointments: (none)

V. Old Business:

There is still an opening on the Commission for a new member; anyone interested should send a letter of interest to either the Board of Selectmen or Conservation Agent Merilee Kelly.

NOI – Koska / Park Dr/Deep Brook Dr (SE001-0523) – A Notice of Intent was filed by John Koska for property located at Park Drive & Deep Brook Drive, Map 17 Lot 66-84 & Map 18 Lot 12R-U, 18, 18F-G. The applicant proposes to construct two (2) subdivision roadways for the development of a fifteen (15) lot single family residential subdivision within the 100 foot buffer zone to a bordering vegetated wetland. The applicant is represented by G.A.F. Engineering. Revised plan name “Deep Brook Estates a Definitive Subdivision Plan off Park Drive Acushnet, Massachusetts”. Plan dated 10/24/17.

Bob Rogers of G.A.F. Engineering handed out the Commission revised plans dated October 24, 2017. He stated after the last public hearing there were three (3) issues that still needed to be discussed. They are the stream crossing standards, the replication area and a request from the Board of Health to put a pitch on the bottom of the detention basins. Mr. Rogers directed the Commission to the newly added replication areas on the plan; he explained the different types of plantings to be done.

Mr. Rogers went over the stream crossing standards and said in the previous meeting he had discussed the twelve (12) inch culvert and replacing it with an eighteen (18) inch pipe and leaving the forty-eight (48) inch pipe alone. He proposed to put in head walls on either ends of both pipes. Mr. Rogers explained that the DEP file number came in with comments saying the stream crossing should follow the stream crossing handbook. DEP also commented upon the replication area standards.

Mr. Rogers said he was reaching out to the DEP to get interpretation of the file number comments. Mr. Rogers says he had a couple discussions with Mark Bartow from the DEP. Mr. Rogers provided the Commission with an e-mail dated October 20, 2017 explaining the comments by DEP on the filing. Mr. Rogers stated the DEP did not realize, that both crossings had received Water Quality Certificates. Mr. Rogers said he has a copy of them. He says the DEP says if the culverts are left alone you do not have to meet the stream crossing standards. Pertaining to the replacement culvert, if you are taking out the twelve (12) inch and replacing it with the eighteen (18) inch you will need to meet the standards. If the site constraints make it impossible to meet the standards then a replacement culvert is needed. Mr. Rogers said it is not impossible to meet the standards. He does not want to deal with all the implications, like increasing flooding downstream and believes it would change the roadway design and have a lot of implications. He continued to say the new plans handed to the Commission show that the twelve (12) inch culvert remains, and headwalls will be added, for that would be the cleanest way to deal with the issue.

Mr. Rogers said the third issue was the detention basins and the slopes on the bottom. He directed the Commission to page eleven (11) on the plans showing basin one (1) and basin two (2). He mentioned that in order to address the Board of Health's concern of minimizing the puddling in the pond he would pick up the Northern end of the basins by six (6) inches. He also addressed basin three (3) which is similar and explained the change would be the same as basin one (1) and basin two (2) on the plan.

Mr. Rocha questioned if on basin two (2) and basin three (3) if the change would eliminate the standing water issue in the basins. Mr. Rogers said there will always be some areas with shallow puddles. He said the Board of Health is asking them to do the best they can to eliminate standing water. Mr. Rocha asked if these changes to the basins will match the water table. Mr. Rogers said you will always intercept seasonal ground water with the piping system.

Mr. Rogers directed the Commission to the replication area which shows the addition of slopes to the basin bottoms, and leaving the twelve (12) inch culvert alone. Mr. Rocha questioned if by leaving the twelve (12) inch pipe alone and adding a headwall if it would change the size of the replication area. Mr. Rogers said a bigger headwall is needed but will not minimize the replication area. As far as the replication area plan, Agent Kelly commented that twelve (12) to fifteen (15) feet between trees is fine.

Agent Kelly questioned the post-construction operation of maintenance plan for the detention basins. The plan noted maintenance by owner, and Agent Kelly asked if it meant the Town. Mr. Rogers said there is no guarantee the Town will accept the roads, but he wanted the Planning Board and Conservation to be happy with the road. Mr. Rogers said at some point the owner will apply for street acceptance. He said the Developer/Owner will be responsible during construction. The Town would only be responsible once they have accepted the roads.

Agent Kelly asked Mr. Rogers who will be writing the Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPP). Mr. Rogers said a SWPP needs to be submitted to the EPA prior to the start of construction, and it would also be submitted to Conservation for review. He also said the contractor may hire someone to write it or someone who the contractor knows. Agent Kelly wanted to know if she could expect whomever will be building in the development that they would meet with her. Agent Kelly asked Mr. Rogers to explain a level spreader. Mr. Rogers gave the explanation to the Commission members saying it was an elongated swale.

Evelyn Bouley had several concerns about the development and road construction and voiced them to Mr. Rogers. There was a lively dialog between them. Ms. Bouley requested another site visit be made to the property on November 11 before any votes are taken.

Mr. Rogers stated he was looking for an Order of Conditions tonight if the Commission is satisfied with the new plans. Mr. Rogers said if this meeting needed to continue till November 14 he would gladly do that for he will be meeting with the Planning Board on November 16th.

Mr. Rocha questioned the replication plan and the soils where the B layer get removed then nothing gets replaced that fills that function. Mr. Rogers stated one of the things that changed on the plan it now will be six (6) to twelve (12) inches below grade, with clean soils, free from invasive species.

Manny Almeida from Wildrose Lane feels that behind his street there will be water all year round except in the month of August. He mentioned the little stream behind his house has water all year round and is approximately five (5) feet deep. He feels the project will add more water behind his street. Mr. Rogers commented that Mr. Almeida is long the powerlines, and water will find itself to the culverts.

A motion was made by Everett Philla to continue till next meeting for the following: A revised plan saying replication area to be monitored by a wetlands scientist when installed and followed for two (2) years, no work starts will all flags are up, Agent Kelly to meet with contractor prior to construction, and a site visit on 11-11-17. The motion was seconded by Evelyn Bouley. Motion passes 4-0.

VI. New Business: (none)

Agent Updates:

Agent Kelly to write a letter to Representative Koczera endorsing both a House and Senate bill on pollinators.

VII. Future Business:

- The next meeting of the Conservation Commission will be on Tuesday, November 14, 2017

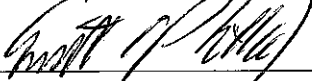
VIII. Meeting adjourned at 6:50 P.M.


A motion to adjourn was made by Everett Philla. The motion was seconded by Heidi Pelletier. Motion passed 4-0.

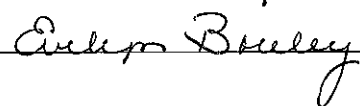
Respectfully submitted:

Christine Lagasse, Senior Clerk
Acushnet Conservation Commission

Minutes Approved:







Date: 11-14-17