

**MINUTES OF THE  
CONSERVATION COMMISSION  
February 26, 2014**



**Present:** Steve DeGabriele, Chairman  
Tom Tanner, Vice Chairman  
George Loring, Commissioner  
Scott Dowd, Commissioner

**Absent:** Anthony Merlino, Commissioner

**Also Present:** Mary Ellen Schloss, Administrator  
Lee Hultin, Recording Secretary

Commissioner DeGabriele called the February 26, 2014 meeting to order at 7:00 pm at the Town Hall, Council Chambers, 75 Middle Street, Weymouth, Ma.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES - None**

**Legion Memorial Field – Notice of Intent  
880 Commercial Street  
Town of Weymouth  
Map 18, Block 239, Lot 1  
DEP File #81-1140**

This is a Notice of Intent for renovations to Legion Memorial Field located at 880 Commercial Street. Proposed work includes work within the 25-foot wetland setback, 4,442 sq. ft of impact to Bordering Vegetated Wetlands and a 9,225 sq. ft. wetland replication area.

Cmmr. Loring made a motion to open the public hearing on 880 Commercial Street DEP File #81-1140 and was seconded by Scott Dowd.  
VOTED UNANIMOUSLY

Appearing before the Commission were Jim Clarke, Director of Planning & Community Development, Megan Buczynski, PE - activitas, Andy Truman-civil engineering consultant and Mary Rimmer, wetlands scientist.

Abutter notification cards were handed in to Mary Ellen Schloss.

Mr. Clarke gave a brief history of events, there was a site visit and the town hired activitas to prepare plans for Legion and Lovell Fields and they are almost at 75% completion. Next Wednesday, March 5<sup>th</sup> there will be a public hearing at Abigail Adams Auditorium for the general public.

Meg Buczynski reviewed the existing and proposed conditions at Legion Field. Proposed work includes a new parking area, new tennis courts and a synthetic turf field, walkways and playground areas.

The wetland area in the corner of Legion Field is larger than 10,000 sq ft and is considered a pond.

They performed 4 test hole pits at the 4 corners of the field and the middle and went down 10 feet. They did a TSS analysis for the parking lot area.

The wetland area between the tennis courts and Commercial Street will be filled in, and they will replicate it 2:1. The top soil throughout the site is poor. They will import top soil for the replication areas with 20% organic compost in it.

Ms. Schloss stated that DEP comments were received regarding compliance with the wetland replication guidance and stream crossing standards.

Mary Ellen Schloss reviewed her comments:

1. Ms. Schloss wants additional information on the stormwater treatment train.
2. Pond access for skating
3. Cattail open water management & invasive species management
4. Wetland crossings
5. Improvements to be made to the swale

Cmmr. DeGabriele asked what the storm water system is for the parking lot area. The response was that there are 4 catch basins in the parking lot. There is a mechanical water quality unit and a piped discharge to the swale. The TSS removal will be at 85% but an analysis will be provided.

The access to the pond for skating purposes will be through the corner of the parking lot. The area will have benches and signage. One way to control the cattails is to cut them just below the water.

Scott Dowd stated that the Commission has always stayed consistent with filling in areas within the no-disturb zones and this is very encroaching.

Ms. Schloss reviewed Chip Fontaine's comments with the group. DPW has the 25% design, they have not yet reviewed the hydrology calculations or the NOI plans. They will require compliance with DPW Stormwater Standards.

Ms. Schloss stated she received one call from a resident on Gary Street who was concerned about water and wetness in the area.

The public was given the opportunity to speak:

Joe Doyle, Candia Street used to bring his kids down there to play on the playground and wants to know if they are planning on installing another one. Meg answered yes, there will be two of them , one for 2-5 year olds and another for 5-12 year olds. He also asked what are we going to do about the Canadian Geese and Meg said they would look into that. He also stated that he is concerned about mosquitos in the summer.

Scott Dowd stated that if there were any fish in the pond that would take care of the mosquitoes. The pond is about 6 feet deep.

A resident who has a home on Middle Street but abuts the property wants to know if the fence along the southern property line will stay and it was stated yes and it will be maintained.

Time frame is to begin mid-June and it will take about 5 months. The replication area will be planted in September/October.

Activitas will go through all the comments received and incorporate any public comments from the March 5<sup>th</sup> meeting to be ready for the next Conservation Commission meeting on March 26, 2014.

Cmmr. Tanner said the project is more challenging than anticipated. He commends the town staff and the firm for their efforts. He is comfortable with the project going forward.

Cmmr. DeGabriele would like additional information on the placement of benches, stormwater, replication areas, access to the skating pond, berms and wetland crossing.

The wetland crossing will have a bridge and the other access has an existing culvert.

Cmmr. Loring made a motion to continue this public hearing to March 26, 2014 at 7:00 pm. And was seconded by Cmmr. Dowd.

VOTED UNANIMOUSLY

**Lovell Playground – Notice of Intent  
1250 Commercial Street  
Town of Weymouth  
Map 23, Block 253, Lot 26  
DEP File #81-1141**

This is a Notice of Intent for Lovell Playground located at 1250 Commercial Street. The proposed work includes 231,557 sq. ft. of alterations within the Riverfront Area of Herring Brook.

Cmmr. Loring made a motion to open the public hearing on 1250 Commercial Street DEP File #81-1141 and was seconded by Scott Dowd.

VOTED UNANIMOUSLY

Appearing before the Commission was Jim Clarke, Director of Planning & Community Development, Megan Buczynski - activitas, Andy Truman-civil engineering consultant and Mary Rimmer, wetlands scientist.

Abutter notification cards were handed in to Mary Ellen Schloss.

Meg Buczynski gave a presentation on Lovell Field to the Commission. She reviewed the existing conditions of the park. Storm water management was discussed. The proposal includes 3 turf field, new tennis courts, basketball court, parking lots and a skate park.

Tanner asked when this will be done. Jim Clarke stated not this year; we are still looking at funding options.

Ms. Schloss noted that the application states that the project should qualify as redevelopment under 310 CMR 10.58 (5). Mary Ellen reviewed her comments with the Commission which focused on compliance with Riverfront Regulations.

Ms. Schloss asked them to look at the existing drainage within the parking lot next to the school, maybe they can connect that or make some type of improvement. Mary Ellen reviewed her drainage comments with the Commission.

The public was given the opportunity to speak and there was no public comment.

Cmmr. Loring stated the he would prefer that the skate park is not included in the plans. Ms. Schloss stated that she doesn't have a problem with the use but there is a lot of cement going in next to the river.

Cmmr. Tanner made a motion to continue this public hearing until May 28, 2014 and was seconded by Cmmr. Loring  
VOTED UNANIMOUSLY

## **Old Business**

### **MBTA Enforcement Order Slope failure at East Weymouth Station DEP File #81-881**

MBCR contacted Mary Ellen Schloss and requested an extension of two weeks until July 31, 2014 to do the work due to the transition in MBTA contractors.

Cmmr. Dowd made a motion to issue the Enforcement Order with the language presented and the changes discussed this evening and was seconded by Cmmr. Loring.  
VOTED UNANIMOUSLY

**Update on 40 Mathewson Drive** – Mr. Pompeo contacted Ms. Schloss and his engineer (Joseph Murphy) is reviewing the documents and will have a packet by March 12<sup>th</sup> for the March 26<sup>th</sup> agenda or April.

**Weathervane Enforcement Order – Compliance Statuses**

This will be on the agenda for March 12, 2014 to discuss what they are presenting. The Commission reviewed their proposal and had the following comments. This deals with the off-site mitigation of a walking trail/public walking path along a town sewer easement adjacent to the Old Swamp River and also references the DPW's interest in improved access to the sewer easement for inspections and repairs.

The following items are still outstanding and we are waiting for a response from Bristol Brothers on the following items;

- We need input from DPW
- We need to hear from the School Department's Science Department
- How is it going to be maintained
- What are the impacts to the wetland areas

**New Business**

**Exelon Generation – Petition for relief from certain conditions (de-icing practices, dumpster location)  
DEP File #81-785 and 81-800**

Exelon Generation is requesting relief from certain conditions relative to de-icing practices and dumpster location.

After review of Exelon's letter of request, Cmmr. DeGabriele believes they have not made their case here and they need to tell us what the absolute salt minimum is that they can use. They also want to move the dumpsters but they are not providing enough information for us to make a decision.

Ms. Schloss will get back in touch with Exelon and let them know the Commission is requesting more information from them.

**Resident Complaint:**

The Chair stated that a resident on Randolph Street contacted him to tell him that Mr. Eliffe was running a chainsaw all last week and has a chipper on site. Supposedly he is clearing brush along the stream.

Ms. Schloss said she will contact him and perform a site visit.

**Southfield:**

There was a brief discussion on the Mayor's Comments to provide water to Southfield. The Commission would like to be involved in this decision and have some input. Weymouth is looking to provide water to Southfield and using the MWRA as an emergency situation only.

Ms. Schloss stated that the commission should be involved in the decision as to whether there is enough water to supply to Southfield.

Cmmr. Dowd said dredging the pond will not help as it is the top of the water that is important and not how deep it is when you are considering the fish. It is important ecologically.

**Conservation Report:**

*See Conservation Administrator's Report of February 26, 2014.*

Highlights:

There is a meeting with Delegas' team regarding the landing rehabilitation. The town needs to move forward with 150 feet of Smelt Brook daylighting. It is the town's responsibility and we will be hearing more about that in the future.

Town is interested in replacing the gate at Great Esker Park to prevent illegal dumping which has become very severe. They would move the gate closer to the mall entrance by the doctor's office. The Commission gave Ms. Schloss permission to go ahead and approve the gate relocation.

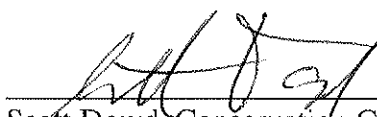
**ADJOURNMENT**

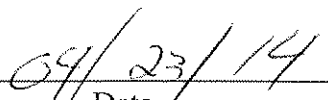
Cmmr. Loring made a motion to adjourn at 10:00 pm and was seconded by Cmmr. Tanner.  
VOTED UNANIMOUSLY

Respectfully submitted by,

Lee Hultin  
Recording Secretary

Approved by:

  
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Scott Dowd, Conservation Clerk

  
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Date