

**JOINT MEETING OF THE WEYMOUTH and BRAINTREE  
CONSERVATION COMMISSIONS  
RECORD OF WEYMOUTH MINUTES AND PROCEEDINGS**

**Thursday, June 1, 2017, 7:00 p.m.  
1 JFK Memorial Drive, Braintree, MA**

**Present:** Thomas Tanner, Chairman  
John Reilly, Vice-Chairman  
Scott Dowd, Clerk  
Frank Singleton, Commissioner

**Not Present:** George Loring, Commissioner

**Also Present:** Mary Ellen Schloss, Conservation Administrator, Weymouth

Chairman Tanner called the June 1, 2017 joint Conservation Commission meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in Cahill Auditorium at Braintree Town Hall, 1 JFK Memorial Dr., Braintree, MA.

**Smelt Brook – Notice of Intent for Ecological Restoration Limited Project, Public Meeting  
Town of Weymouth  
#4, #8-24 Commercial Street  
Map 20, Block 202, Lots 19 & 20, Commercial Street right-of-way  
DEP File # 81-1196**

***Daylighting approximately 150 feet of Smelt Brook (now culverted) and improvements to approximately 100 feet of culverted stream channel, including reconstruction of the culvert under Commercial Street. Work proposed is located within Weymouth and Braintree.***

*In attendance, from the Town of Braintree Conservation Commission, were Heather Charles Lis, Chair, Donald (Gus) Murphy, Vice-Chair, Commissioners Diane Francis, Joyce Albrecht, Alan Weinberg, Kevin Bears and Gail Feldman, and Kelly Phelan, Conservation Planner.*

*On a motion made by Cmmr. Dowd, seconded by Cmmr. Reilly, the Commission voted 4-0-0 to open the public hearing.*

Appearing before the Commissions were Weymouth Planning Director Robert Luongo, Jonathan Spicer and Christopher Ianuzzi, EBI Consulting, and Thomas Liddy, Lucas Environmental.

Smelt Brook originates at the Pond Meadow Reservoir dam and then flows to the 96” flood control culvert and fish gate, and into the 72” culvert under Brookside Street.

Smelt Brook, in the work area, flows under 6 parcels (3 different owners). The Town does not own any of the land on which the project will occur.

Jonathan Spicer, EBI, said the culvert under Commercial Street will be replaced, 150 feet of daylighting will be provided between three commercial parcels and 10 feet of substrate improvements, downstream of daylighting, will tie into an existing 72" culvert. Ninety feet of upstream substrate improvements will be provided in the new Commercial Street culvert.

Bob Luongo, Weymouth Planning Director, said that details of the landscaping features have not been ironed out yet. He also said that they have received Mrs. Papadopoulos' approval, but she did not want to provide land for the daylighting.

A resident asked what kind of substrate would be used and why.

Tom Liddy, Lucas Environmental, explained that they want hard, stony substrate to achieve a velocity of 1½ - 3 cubic feet per second (cfs) and a water depth of 6"-12". He said they will use 4"-8" of cracked stone embedded in a geomembrane.

Chairman Tanner asked about the work in Commercial Street.

Christopher Ianuzzi of EBI responded that there will be half-road closures and it will take 1-3 months for the project construction. They will work with the communities to determine best times to do work in Commercial Street.

Water depths and stormwater coming into the culvert were discussed.

Construction procedures:

- Close upstream and downstream openings: close culvert opening at the Fore River and close the fish gate
- Work in the dry
- Install coffer dam, shoring/sheeting, pumping system for diversion of water and construction area dewatering

Cmmr. Dowd asked if EBI has worked with Brad Chase of Division of Marine Fisheries (DMF); Mr. Ianuzzi said they have.

Cmmr. Dowd asked about stormwater runoff and snow management; Mr. Ianuzzi said excessive snow will be taken off-site.

Cmmr. Dowd asked what the decorative fence will look like; Mr. Ianuzzi explained that the fence will be 4' or 6' tall on top of the culvert and will have vertical bars with 8" spacing, similar to Town Brook in Quincy.

Cmmr. Dowd said he had some concerns regarding trash and the dumpster pad.

Mr. Luongo stated that the walkway will be maintained by Weymouth (Delegas granted easement to Weymouth) and the Commercial St. culvert will be jointly maintained by Weymouth and Braintree.

Cmmr. Dowd asked about night time lighting, explaining that the Commission will want to minimize the direction of light toward the brook.

Mr. Luongo said they will probably want to match the light pole design as seen along Commercial St., adding that the lighting will be pedestrian-focused.

Cmmr. Singleton asked where the runoff from the Delegas building roof is going; Ms. Schloss answered that the Brookpoint roof will discharge into the drain system.

A resident commented that the substrate used in the Quincy Town Brook project was not wildly successful for egg laying.

Mr. Liddy said that Lucas Environmental did a 3-year monitoring for smelt after the Quincy Town Brook daylighting:

- Year 1 – good amount of eggs
- Years 2 & 3 – fewer eggs
- Post construction monitoring – lots of eggs

Mr. Liddy explained that smelt are in decline and there are lots of ups and downs (of numbers of eggs) from one year to the next.

Cmmr. Singleton said he wanted to be assured that no storm drains were shooting into the stream.

Braintree Cmmr. Feldman asked about the landscape plans.

Mr. Liddy responded that they were doing landscape plans but saw some conflicts with the Landing 53 landscape plans and have some things to work out.

Braintree Chair Heather Charles Lis stated that she would like to see more native species on the landscape plan and asked if a water quality analysis has been done.

Mr. Liddy explained that a water quality analysis was not done.

Braintree Cmmr. Weinberg asked if a 401 Water Quality Certificate would be needed.

Mr. Liddy said this project doesn't trigger a 401 WQC requirement.

Braintree Commissioners discussed landscape conflicts and asked when they would be seeing the revised plans. There was general agreement that all native species are wanted.

Mr. Luongo, Weymouth Planning Director, said they will be getting comments from the state and want to see any design changes before the final landscaping revisions are made.

Ms. Phelan said she would circulate the landscaping plan for Landing 53.

Braintree Cmmr. Francis asked about runoff from the project site.

Ms. Phelan said there are Stormceptors and infiltration for Landing 53 project.

Braintree Chair Heather Charles Lis said, regarding stormwater management, that the Stormceptor has not been accepted by MASTEP; they are crediting 25% Total Suspended Solids (TSS) removal only. She said a Stormceptor is overkill.

Mr. Ianuzzi said he would work on the design, suggesting perhaps a shallow rain garden with scuppers.

Braintree Chair Lis stated that a construction sequence will be required as part of an Ecological Restoration project. She also asked about the NOI statement regarding contaminated soils.

Mr. Liddy said they have a Licensed Site Professional on staff. He said they have no knowledge of contaminated soils; he said the language in the NOI was a generic statement regarding the potential of encountering contaminated soils.

Braintree Chair Lis asked about erosion controls.

Mr. Ianuzzi said they would prepare a more detailed Erosion Control Plan.

Mr. Liddy said the daylighting may occur before the Brookpoint project is constructed and if so, they can use the Brookpoint property for staging.

Mr. Luongo said the municipal lot can also be used for staging.

Braintree Chair Lis asked how to manage the storm drains during construction.

Mr. Spicer explained that the catch basins, on either side, drain into the culvert and the 36" RCP will have to be diverted.

Weymouth Cmmr. Singleton asked about back up from the tide and if it was incorporated into the daylighting design.

*Public comments:*

Michael Lang, East Braintree Civic Association, asked if the wall will be high enough so it is not overtopped. He said he wasn't very happy with the grates over the brook and asked if the brook could be pushed closer to El Serape. He said that, during the Greenbush Project, he talked with Brad Chase, DMF, who said he wanted daylighted opening close to the river so fish could sense light. He asked if this proposal has daylighting too far upstream.

Mr. Liddy said Brad Chase is happy with this design.

Mr. Luongo agreed to look at the grates and moving the brook toward El Serape. He explained that this project design and timing are different because Mr. Katzen was already underway with the Landing 53 project when the engineers were brought on board.

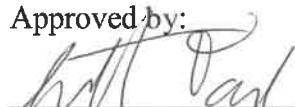
Braintree Chair Lis expressed that she wanted the Braintree and Weymouth Conservation agents to co-ordinate on the Orders of Condition.

The Weymouth Conservation Commission voted unanimously to continue the hearing to 7p.m. on Thursday, July 6, 2017 in Braintree for a joint public hearing with the Braintree Commission.

**Adjournment**

*On a motion made by Cmmr. Singleton, seconded by Cmmr. Reilly, the Commission voted 4-0-0 to adjourn at 8:00 p.m.*

Approved by:

  
Scott Dowd, Clerk

  
Date