

Weymouth Conservation Commission

Council Chambers, Town Hall

September 28, 2011 Meeting

Present: George Loring, Chairman
Steve DeGabriele, Vice-Chairman
Scott Dowd, Commissioner
Laura Harbottle, Commission Clerk

Also Present: Mary Ellen Schloss, Administrator

Recording Secretary: Patricia Fitzgerald

Cmmr. Loring called the September 28, 2011 meeting to order at 7:00 PM in the Council Chambers at Weymouth Town Hall, Weymouth, MA.

Minutes

Cmmr. Harbottle made a motion to approve the minutes from August 17, 2011 as written and amended, seconded by Cmmr. Dowd. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED

**Weymouth Commons, Notice of Intent
Closed Hearing, Vote on Order of Conditions
97 Audubon Road
DEP File #81-1090**

Ms. Schloss stated that she notified the applicant that 48 hours' notice for sampling is not needed.

All agreed that everything is okay with the OOC.

Cmmr. DeGabriele moved to issue a Standard Order of Conditions as written, seconded by Cmmr. Dowd. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED

**Draft Conservation Restriction – Discussion
Extension to Brad Hawes Park**

The draft was reviewed by the Commission members.

The discussion began with comments regarding the prohibition of recreational activities within 100 ft. of any wetlands.

Cmmr. DeGabriele added that it does not waive their responsibility to come before the Commission and seek approval if they do something within the jurisdiction of the wetlands.

Ms. Schloss commented that in April she made some changes and she wants to confirm that they are in this draft.

Cmmr. Harbottle suggested that there could have been more appreciation for Conservation interests and suggested that in areas where it was changed to read 'recreation' only, it should read 'conservation and recreation uses'; all agreed.

Cmmr. Harbottle pointed out the importance of page 2 reading 'for active and passive conservation and recreation uses'.

Ms. Schloss added that 'all acts not expressly permitted or authorized are prohibited'.

Everyone agreed with the changes; there was no vote at this time.

**Whitmans Pond Lake Management – Discussion
Application to CPC**

Appearing before the Commission were Trish Pries, President of Whitman Pond Association, and resident Joanne Marques.

Ms. Schloss explained Bob Luongo's changes, explaining that he felt some questions should be addressed e.g., why another study is needed. Ms. Schloss stated that a lot of people feel the study has already been done.

Ms. Pries said that the study data is outdated and no studies have been duplicated.

Ms. Schloss explained that she is working with a lake management expert that had reviewed the 604b Grant application. She ran it by Brad Chase, fish specialist with the Div. of Marine Fisheries, who is doing a (2) year study. He has been out each month from May through September, most recently with Phil Lofgren.

Cmmr. DeGabriele remarked that an action plan is needed to deal with the problem, but without maintenance things will be back to the way they were.

Ms. Pries explained that the CPC funds can't be used for maintenance.

Ms. Schloss stated that the action plan may be different for different areas of the pond and the CPC will want to know what will need to be done in the future.

Revisions to the plan were recommended:

- Reword "no silver bullet" sentence to make meaning more clear.
- Move up the cost of the project to the Executive Summary section.
- Use 2 or 3 sentences to make clear the project goals.

Ms. Schloss and Commissioners Loring and Dowd will attend the Oct. 13th CPC meeting.

Ms. Schloss explained that for projects less than \$25,000. (3) proposal/quotes are needed.

Ms. Pries suggested sewerage overflow data, but Ms. Schloss replied that this application is just for vegetation management and asked how it is relevant.

Ms. Pries responded that it contributes to the vegetation problem.

Cmmr. DeGabriele asked if the application can acknowledge that, long term, the input of nutrients needs to be considered; Ms. Schloss agreed.

Ms. Schloss said she has given a draft and a copy of the application to the Mayor and committed to sending application changes (probably) by Oct. 6th.

Other Business and Conservation Report

New Commission CPC liaison:

Cmmr. Harbottle reported that the CPC is going through some schedule changes and felt that this would be a good time for her to step down as the Commission liaison.

Cmmr. Loring nominated Cmmr. Dowd as Con Comm representative to the Conservation Preservation Committee; all agreed to this appointment.

Show Cause Hearing:

Cmmr Harbottle asked for this designation to be on the agenda; she explained that Scituate and Cohasset are using it.

Ms. Schloss said she would need to talk to Town Council first and she would try to reach Paul Shea in Cohasset before the next meeting; Cmmr. Loring promised to send a letter to MACC to obtain some information.

Ms. Schloss provided the following updates:

1340 Washington St:

The stakes are not in but she has not heard back from the surveyors.

Commission opening:

It was confirmed that Mrs. Gowen is no longer an official Commissioner and the Commission was told that the Mayor needs to make the nomination, but nothing has been said about filling the position.

Chairman Loring stated he would call the Mayor the following day.

November and December Con Comm meetings:

The Commission will meet on November 9th, but the December date has yet to be determined.

Woodbine Road:

DEP has not issued a Superseding Order of Conditions. Ms. Schloss talked to Chris Ross who does not think he will have a permit to issue prior to the Oct. 14th meeting.

Mr. Ross feels they should not ask for a continuance again and doesn't think it's wise for Mr. Collins to wait for DEP's SOC.

Cmmr. DeGabriele suggested it is important that the applicant understands that Weymouth will trump the DEP on the local ordinance.

Herring Run Skate Park:

Ms. Schloss, along with (14) 'court people,' did maintenance at the Skate Park (plantings from the Dunkin Donuts expansion in 2007). Thayer Academy has also offered their services.

Areello Landscaper:

The landscaper that drained water from Whitmans Pond for his hydro seeding has planted (3) silky dogwoods, as he promised.

209 Belmont Street:

The surveyor and applicant Paul Campbell have both been spoken to, but nothing has been heard back.

Weymouth Club:

This project is looking good and the applicant will be coming before the Commission for a Certificate of Compliance.

328 and 308 North Street:

The consultant has had some physical issues and has not been too involved. The property is completely vegetated and Ms. Schloss feels that it is now, probably, done. She will speak to the consultant but feels that the additional plants may not be needed and what Con Comm wanted has been accomplished.

Cmmr. DeGabriele remarked that he trusts the Administrator's judgment, but the Commission did not get what was promised.

Ms. Schloss responded that she never asked for all the plants that were offered by the consultant, adding that she hasn't spoken to the owner; she offered to put it on the next agenda.

Wampum Street:

The trees that were cut down have been replaced with some really nice trees, along with some shrubs and watering bags.

Southfield:

The Conservation Commission has no involvement in the filing for the East-West Parkway.

October 12th agenda:

- VCA Animal Hospital
- Woodbine Road
- Middle St. RDA

Adjournment

Cmmr. Harbottle moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 PM and to meet again on Oct. 12, 2011 at 7 P.M., Town Hall Council Chambers, seconded by Cmmr. DeGabriele. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Fitzgerald

Approved:

Laura Harbottle, Conservation Clerk

Date