

Department of Planning and Community Development

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Mayor Joseph C. Sullivan

Braintree Conservation Commission

Patrick Flynn, Chair
Donald Murphy, Vice-Chair
Diane Francis
Matthew Hobin
Daniel J. McMorrow, Jr.
Gail Poliner-Feldman
Alan Weinberg

Staff Kelly Phelan

CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES THURSDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2011

Members Present: Patrick Flynn, Chair
Gus Murphy, Vice Chair
Gail Feldman
Diane Francis
Alan Weinberg

APPROVED

Staff: Kelly Phelan

Public Hearings

Notice of Intent DEP File #8-610 60 Harness Lane Extension/West Point Development

Mike Kimito of West Point Development was present.

Staff prepared draft conditions for the Commission's review. She said the first condition (#20) referred to the waiver the Commission is granting for work in the 25 foot no-disturb buffer. The condition notes that this is granted because the project was previously approved under 8-452 and because of the location of the access easement. Mr. Murphy suggested that language be included in the condition to indicate that a previous board approved this. Mr. Weinberg suggested that the date of approval of 8-452 be added to indicate that it was previous members of the commission.

Staff suggested adding a condition to say that "work on this project may not begin until the outstanding property tax has been paid".

Ms. Feldman asked if there was a curb along the driveway to prevent runoff from going over the slope to the wetland. Mr. Kimito said there was not but that the slope was to be grassed.

Ms. Feldman asked Mr. Kimito about storage of construction equipment and materials as condition #27 restricts storage to outside the 50 foot buffer. Mr. Kimito said he would store materials in the back of the lot, out of the 50 foot buffer.

Ms. Feldman asked about the outstanding Order of Conditions. Staff said the current owner was working to address them and the condition (#21) gave incentive for the outstanding issues to be resolved since work on this project cannot begin until the old Order is closed out.

Mr. Flynn asked for public comment. There was none.

Motion by Mr. Weinberg, second by Ms. Feldman, to accept the Order of Conditions for 8-610 as amended and to find the project significant to the Wetland Protection Act and Braintree Wetland Bylaw and their interests. Vote: 5-0

Other Business

Daryn Brown – Braintree Golf Course Maintenance

Daryn Brown, the Director of Operations for the Braintree Golf Course was present. Mr. Brown said that an area which is part of the practice range and the site of the ice skating rink needs to be regraded and reseeded. The area is within the riverfront area of the Monatiquot River. He said the area is the former 8th tee and green and it is often flooded. There was a drain there to allow the flood waters to drain back to the river (there is a berm along the river) but the drain collapsed in the floods of 2010. He said the area cannot maintain grass because of the flooding and that has caused erosion as well as mosquito problems.

Mr. Brown said they would like to replace the collapsed drain and regrade the area and reseed it with Kentucky bluegrass seed. He said no fill would be brought in and they would use erosion control.

Mr. Flynn asked if they plugged the drain during the winter for the ice rink. Mr. Brown said they will use a cast iron catch basin grate in the summer and a solid cover in the winter.

Mr. Flynn said they are at the end of the window when it comes to get grass seed established. Mr. Brown said they will do it by the end of the month and hope for warm weather.

Ms. Feldman asked what affect this would have on flooding. Staff said it should have no effect. Since no fill would be brought in no flood storage volume would be lost. Ms. Feldman asked Mr. Brown why they had so much flooding problems. Mr. Brown said floodwaters have receded much more quickly over the last 18 months because Mr. Messina has removed the boards from the dam at Armstrong Cork.

Motion by Mr. Murphy, second by Mr. Weinberg to approve the work proposed by the Braintree Golf Course at the end of the practice range as maintenance. Vote: 5-0.

Sunset Lake Stormwater Project – Pond St. Pipe

Staff said she scheduled this as a discussion item per the Commission's request at the last meeting. The construction bids came back higher than expected and the stormceptor for the Pond St discharge is not able to be done. Staff showed the Commission the drainage area map prepared by the engineer for the project. The drainage area includes front of the 90 Pond St. property, down Pond St. toward Washington St.

Mr. Flynn asked how many pipes drain to the lake. Staff there about five. She said a study done in the 1990s tested water quality around these discharges and said the area near the beach was the priority. That is why the project focused on that area. Discussion ensued on the possibility of testing samples from pipes both around the lake and around town. Staff will look into prices on the lab work for this. Mr. Weinberg said the Water Dept. probably has a lab that they work with.

Splash Pad

Ms. Francis asked if DEP had made a decision on the splash pad. Staff said that Richard Keller, the DEP analyst working on the appeal, had said they consider it redevelopment but that a restoration area must be part of it. Mr. Murphy said that the DPW is looking at restoration for the area across from the gas station near the Union St. rotary. Ms. Feldman said she felt that the Commission should have the opportunity to look at the restoration site and weigh in on it. Mr. Flynn agreed.

Approval of Minutes

Motion by Mr. Murphy, second by Mr. Weinberg, to approve the September 22, 2011 minutes. Vote: 5-0.

Adjourn

Motion by Mr. Weinberg, second by Mr. Murphy, to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 PM. Vote: 5-0.