

# Minutes of the Southwick Conservation Commission

## November 19, 2007

**7:20 PM** –Chairman Chris Pratt called the meeting to order. Seated were Al DeLoreto, Mike Krawiec, Rick Solek, and Seth Kellogg, Vice Chair. Dennis Clark was also seated.

### Review of Mail

- ☞ FY09 Budget Package
- ☞ From Open Space Accounting for monies expended from NRCS \$1122.00 grant
- ☞ Notice of Recreational Trail Grant Award for \$1650.00 for trail resurfacing @ 155 Mort Vining
- ☞ Announcement MA Smart Growth/ Smart Energy Conference Dec. 7 Worcester
- ☞ Announcement Denette-Ollari Municipal Solutions. Ludlow Available to assist
- ☞ Cc of letter to MA Highway RE Plantings on RT 168 culvert
- ☞ MA Wildlife News
- ☞ Minutes- Planning Board, Board of Selectmen, Park & Rec, Health, Lake Management

### **Conservation Coordinator, D Clark Report:**

Sunnyside Rd. SWK Order of Conditions – Request for a time extension for File # 454-103. Mr. Clark reported that David Hall requested a Certificate of Compliance in December 2004. The Commission was satisfied that the wetland replication that was proposed in the Notice of Intent was established as required in the Order of Conditions.

75,77,79 Mort Vining Rd. DEP File #292-222 – A letter in reply to K MacNaughton, Manager for Blue Sky Builders suggesting changes to the work on the driveway was reviewed. Our Counsel for this matter provided much needed insight into this reply. Chairman C Pratt signed the letter.

**SOSPC Report** - Rick Solek reported that the Stargazing was phenomenal. During the peak arrival time thirty cars were counted in the parking lot. It was incredible the number of stars you can see from up there.

Robin Rd. Enforcement – A DeLoreto reported that he met with Mr. Houle yesterday to go over the plan. Mr. Houle is still requesting to cut one more cherry tree. I told him “No” I showed him which trees can be limbed out. Most of the trees that were cut were cottonwoods and quaking aspen. I recommended he replant with Hemlocks due to the amount of shade and one sugar maple. He advised Mr. Houle that he would return in May to view the progress. Mr. Croteau has concerns now that someone will drive off the road bed unsuspecting the drop off. It was recommended a reflector be placed on the edge of the road to warn motorists.

So. Loomis aircraft engine on yard – Mr. Clark reported that a complaint had been filed. The engine is to be removed. One brother is a pilot and the other is attending aircraft mechanic school. It was a training experiment. Some of the parts were stripped. The Zoning Officer reported that it is not against Town Law.

7:15 NOI 68 Fred Jackson Rd. owner Vezzola, Springfield. Applicant J Waitt. Hearing notice was read by the Chair. Wetland representative, R Levesque appeared to present the plan. Joseph Wzorek appeared before the SCC to state that there was a typo in the Abutters Notice. The Hearing date given was incorrect. Dennis Clark stated that he, (DC) is a direct abutter for this parcel, however his duties as Commission Coordinator will not be jeopardized as he does not vote on projects. Rob Levesque advised the Commission that the parcel in question is about 22 acres. It is wooded upland. There are a couple of resource areas that will be altered due to proposed work. Upon approval of the NOI an ANR will be filed with the Planning Board to divide the lot. An intermittent stream runs along the western border of the subject site. The proposed driveway for the western-most home lies within the 100’ buffer to said bank. A total of 6,876 s.f. of disturbance is proposed within the said buffer. A hay bale and silt fence erosion control barrier is proposed between the bank and work areas. It will also act as limit of work line. A perennial stream, Johnson Brook, runs east-west off-site along the southern side of Fred Jackson Rd. Seth Kellogg inquired about the slope to the driveway. Mr. Levesque replied the slope of the driveway is in the neighborhood of 9%. Mr. Clark inquired about NHESP filing. Mr. Levesque replied the NHESP determined the project as stated will not result in a prohibited “Take” of endangered species. The septic system for

the 2<sup>nd</sup> house was questioned. Mr. Levesque said the location may change. There have been problems obtaining the proper perc. The applicant was advised that the SCC has not received the DEP file # nor any comments about the plan. Therefore the Hearing can not be closed and will be continued until December 3, 2007. The applicant signed a Continuation sheet.

**7:35 pm NOI 264 So. Longyard Rd.** – G. Liquori – To remove an existing home out of the riverfront area and construct a new house out of the RA. A portion of both driveways will be within the riverfront area. Hearing Notice was read by the Chairman. The wetland representative, CM Maronn, appeared before the SCC to present the plan of work. Mr. Maronn presented the proof of mailing for the abutters notices. Mike Krawiec recused himself from the Hearing. The applicant wishes to build a new home on the western portion of the property and move the existing home there to the eastern corner after dividing the parcel into two lots. The bordering vegetated line was shown on the plan as well as the 200' riverfront line. The inner riparian zone was also shown. The new house on the larger lot will utilize the existing driveway and add approximately 60 s.f. of impervious surface within the riverfront area. The new driveway to the relocated house will add about 1,050 s.f. of new impervious surface and about 570 s.f. of new impervious surface within the right-of-way, for a total of approximately 1620 s.f. within the riverfront area. Mr. Maronn explained the plan is way under the standards for a plan of this type. Mr. Maronn stated both plans, one for the home and one for the whole project have been forwarded to NHESP and they have no problem with the plans. Ms. Cherrie Benoit, an abutter, was advised the storm water from the driveway is going to be directed to the opposite side of her house, away from her property. The stormwater will flow to a 3' wide grass drainage swale with check dams every 20 feet. The check dam will be made out of stone and enhanced with fabric so that the sediments don't go to the river front area. Slopes are recommended to be covered with an erosion control blanket after the seeding has been done. The Town of Southwick likes a vegetated buffer between the driveways and abutting properties. So a number of trees and shrubs are recommended to be planted along the driveways. MS Benoit questioned what happens to the existing tree line. Mr. Maronn replied "It will have to be replanted". Mr. Maronn advised Ms. Benoit that she will have a chance if she has other concerns to return Dec. 3, 2007 and also that the lot division will require a Special Permit so she will have a chance to comment at that time. The applicants' representative was advised that the DEP File Number and accompanying comments have not been received so the Hearing must be continued. Mr. Maronn signed the permission slip to continue the Hearing until Dec. 3, 2007.

8:03 pm RDA D Grecco, 668 College Highway- Mr. Grecco was unable to be present. He requested a continuance until Dec. 3, 2007.

8:05 pm Michael Krawiec made a motion to adjourn until the next regularly scheduled meeting. 2<sup>nd</sup>= All in Favor Motion Carried.

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Christopher Pratt, Chairman

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Seth Kellogg, Vice Chairman

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Albert DeLoretto

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Michael Krawiec

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Richard Solek