

Minutes of the Southwick Conservation Commission

December 3, 2007

7:04 PM –Chairman Chris Pratt called the meeting to order. Seated were Al DeLoreto, Mike Krawiec, Rick Solek and David Stansbury. Dennis Clark was also seated.

Review of Mail

- ✉ MA DEP RE: Olde Farm Golf Course Watering Management Plan
- ✉ Building Dept. letter RE: Airplane engine @ 107 So. Loomis St.
- ✉ Annino, Draper & Moore October invoice RE: Berkshire Ave.
- ✉ Westfield Evening News – Legal Ad Price Increase
- ✉ Ferrin Hts. Homeowners Assn. Permission to remove 14 trees
- ✉ Pearl Brook resident complaint RE: Dirt Bile Track Noise and erosion
- ✉ UMass- Invitation to Keystone Training (formerly Coverts program.) April 24 to 27th.
- ✉ Minutes: Historical Commission and Water Commission

D Clark Report:

- ▶ Mr. Clark reported that he received a telephone call at home over the weekend from **Mr. James Shields @ 192 Berkshire Ave.** to say that a beaver is chewing on a large tree near the lake and the tree will fall into the water. He hoped the Town would do something to eliminate the threat that the tree would fall into the water. The SCC concurred that it would be a good thing if the tree fell into the water. Let the tree and the beaver do their thing and if the tree falls into the water and the beaver abandon it so be it.
- ▶ **75, 77, 79 Mort Vining Rd.**- New England Environmental (K Frost) has forwarded their year end monitoring report for the work in the wetlands. R Solek reminded the commissioners that the developer postponed (with SCC approval) until another growing season due to weather conditions. R Solek agreed to compare the report to the site.
- ▶ **Granville Gorge signage** – A display of the wording proposed for the replacement sign(s) for this Granville Rd. property was reviewed. It was agreed 2 x 3 is too big. The 18 x 24 size was preferred. D Clark requested the wording regarding hunting on the property be removed. It was agreed the Conservation Commission does not regulate hunting unless it is specifically agreed to in the Purchase and Sale Agreement. It was agreed to take the issue up again if it becomes a problem.
- ▶ Rising Corner Rd. **potential acquisition** – A plan depicting the division of land on this 50-acre parcel that contains access to the M&M Trail at the state line was shown. The property contains steep slopes and is in the NHESP bubble. To recoup some of the costs for the property Mr. O’Sullivan intends to cut a flag lot out of the frontage. It is anticipated that this proposal will at some time be presented to the CPC for consideration. Also for consideration is the name of the entity that takes possession of the land. Possibly WRLT with a Conservation Restriction on it.
- ▶ **J Whalley has purchased from the DePalma family the 66.51 acres next to the Moto X and the Rec center. Other abutters are: R Plakias and Scibelli Family trust.**
- ▶ There is discussion regarding using the land on the upper portion for ball fields and the rear section Conservation has had an interest is for an Environmental Science Trail. The parcel has access to Fletcher Park and Woodland Ridge Open Space.
- ▶ Shaker Farms Country Club – The Manager of Shaker Farms came to the office today to discuss the feasibility of extending the existing Tilcon sand & gravel removal operation further north onto land owned by the Country Club. Apparently there is more than one owner to the property.
- ▶ Accounting memo- Effective immediately there will be no more Requests for Reimbursement honored unless the Accounting Office has preapproved the expenditure first.
- ▶ Environmental Bond Bill- The Commissioners signed the statement of support for this Legislation.

Request for Reimbursement- B Bradley is to travel to Boston early January to attend a Grant Writing conference. A Request for Reimbursement for Mileage for this trip was signed by the Commission in the amount of \$100.00. R Solek inquired about a restoration plan for the gravel pit. D Clark mentioned that he believes the SCC denied this proposal and the DEP Superceded the Order.

Sofinowski Preserve 155 Mort Vining Rd. – R. Solek stated they intend to remove the two split trees from the hedge row at the small pond this weekend. They will drop the trees into the hay field and remove all the wood. They will also remove the scrap metal pile. Chairman of Open Space J Stadnicki has given his approval.

7:20 PM Continued NOI #292-0273 filed by John Waitt for 68 Fred Jackson Rd. – Wetland Representative for the applicant, Rob Levesque appeared before the SCC. Mr. Pratt inquired of Mr. Levesque did the remaining of the Abutters Notices happen. Mr. Levesque responded yes and Mr. Clark verified the statement by saying that a person who received the notice called the SCC office this morning. Mr. Levesque reminded the SCC that the proposal is for one large house and another smaller house on a portion of the property that will be divided for a residence for the mother-in-law. No Resource Areas will be impacted. The DEP has completed their review and issued file #292-0273. R Solek made a motion to accept the plan presented with the NOI and issue a standard Order of Conditions. 2nd=David Stansbury All in Favor Motion Carried. The Commissioners signed the Order.

7:30 PM Continued NOI #292-0272 filed by G Liquori for 264 So. Longyard Rd.- M Krawiec recused himself from the Hearing. Wetland Representative for the project, C Mason Maronn appeared before the SCC. Mr. Maronn stated the DEP has completed their review and issued File #292-0272 for the project. He stated the DEP has no further comments for this project to build a new house and to move the existing house to a to-be created rear parcel. Mr. Clark stated he has had comments of disbelief regarding the moving of the house to the rear. Mr. Maronn stated that is a lot easier to accomplish this now and disposal costs are high. Al DeLoretto made a motion to accept the plan submitted on the NOI and issue an Order of Conditions. 2nd= R Solek All in Favor Motion Carried The Commissioners signed the Order of Conditions.

Comments to Planning Board RE: Williamsburg Estates proposed sub-division - The Commissioners compared the mark-up of the wetlands done previously in conjunction with DL Bean and the Preliminary Plan. Mr. Clark asked what pages actually have inconsistencies. The plan is printed on 16 pages. Mr. Mizanoglu and Mr. Solek went page by page through the two plans. Mr. Mizanoglu stated that some of the pages that have wetlands shown on one page they are not carried forward to the next page. They also noted individual lots that will need a Notice of Intent before building. Replication Areas have been eliminated. Open Space areas show no access; the Open Space is either wet or extremely steep slopes with not public access. The developer never discussed Open Space with Conservation. Who is going to accept the Open Space? Conservation has had an awful lot of problems with Planning Board authorized Open Space and the Conservation Restrictions on the property. Ferrin Heights and Amber Leaf Sub-divisions are nearly complete and the paper work remains undone.

7:50 PM – Cont'd RDA for D Greco for 668 College Highway – Hearing Notice was read by the Chair. David Greco appeared before the Commission to present the plan continue the existing paved driveway 300-feet to the rear and erect a 60' x 140' steel building. Mr. Clark inquired as to where the SAS is located. Mr. Greco explained there is an existing tank there now. Mr. Greco state the property has been perked. Mr Clark stated that the plan should show the SAS rather than have to file again when the plan for the SAS is presented to the Board of Health prior to construction. Mr. Clark stated that the area you have indicated will require a refilling and the placing of silt fences. Mr. Clark recommended continuing the Hearing until the plan is presented to Town Hall and add it to this plan. If the SAS is on the South side of the property it would be out of SCC jurisdiction.

R Solek suggested an oil separator for the storm water. He further explained that plants can absorb some oil but it would be better for the environment if oil separators were included. Being an oil company it is obvious that fuels are going to be deposited onto the driveway. Mr. Clark stated if roof drainage were directed to infiltrators it would help alleviate the problem. Mr. Grecco stated that would be agreeable. M Krawiec asked Mr Greco if these changes would create an economic hardship. Mr. Greco replied 'No". R Solek made a motion to accept the RDA plan with the addition of roof rain water infiltrators and to find "Negative" with conditions. The Commissioners signed the Determination.

Review of Minutes November 19, 2007 – The Minutes of 11-19-07 were reviewed. Mike Krawiec made a motion to accept the Minutes as presented. 2nd= R Solek All in Favor Motion Carried The Commissioners signed the Minutes

Review of Minutes November 5, 2007 The Minutes of 11-05-07 were reviewed. Al DeLoreto made a motion to accept the Minutes as presented. 2nd= D Stansbury All in Favor Motion Carried.

The Commission expressed their best wishes towards the happening in Westfield District Court on December 6, 2007.

8:19 pm Michael Krawiec made a motion to adjourn until the next regularly scheduled meeting. 2nd= David Stansbury All in Favor Motion Carried.

Christopher Pratt, Chairman

Albert DeLoretto

Michael Krawiec

Richard Solek

David Stansbury