

Minutes
Northampton Conservation Commission
Remote Online Meeting
February 10, 2022

Members	Present	Time
Kevin Lake, Chair	x	
Mason Maronn	x	5:51
Randy Krotowski	x	
Vacancy		
Jason Perry		
Alec Bernstein	x	
Jen Smith	x	
Staff	Present	Time
Sarah LaValley	x	

<i>Meeting Opened At:</i>	<i>By:</i>
5:39 p.m.	Kevin

<i>Minutes Approved:</i>	<i>Motion By:</i>	<i>Second By:</i>	<i>Unanimous:</i>
August 19, 2021	Jen	Randy	Yes, by roll call vote

Public Comment

None

5:30 PM, Notice of Intent for drilling of borings and monitoring well installation. Work proposed within riverfront area (former Mill River), bordering vegetated wetland, and buffer zone. Eversource Gas of MA, Smith Street and Randolph Place, Map IDs 32C-346 and 107

David Leone, GZA GeoEnvironmental LSP provided an overview of the project. A thin layer of dense nonaqueous phase liquids (DNAPL) were found at a 20 foot depth. Borings are proposed to investigate the issue. Work is proposed to take a day or two; if contamination is encountered in borings, permanent monitoring wells will be installed. Kim Degutis, GZA, stated that the access road will result in approximately 20 square feet of wetland alteration. Randy moved to close the hearing. Seconded by Jen, the motion carried unanimously by roll call vote. Randy moved to issue an Order of Conditions with standard conditions, and requirements that work take place when areas are dry or frozen, and a tree removal and replacement plan to be submitted for review and approval, since size and locations of trees to be removed will not be known until exploratory borings are complete. Seconded by Jen, the motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

5:45 PM Request for Determination of Applicability to determine if demolition of existing structures and lot clearing within buffer zone will alter resource areas. Nu-Way Homes, 39 Landy Ave, Parcel 23C-001

Ryan Nelson, Levesque Associates, provided an overview of the project, which will include demolition of existing structures and vegetation clearing. No new construction is proposed at this time. Sarah noted that a sizable area is proposed to be cleared, and there is no planting or restoration proposed. A condition requiring that trees be cut rather than cleared and grubbed would reduce the amount of soil that could be mobilized.

Celeste Palladino asked about communication regarding tree removal. Diane Scott talked about the vegetation that currently exists on the property. Public comments regarding capillary action, and possibilities of moving trees were provided.

Randy moved to issue a negative determination by checking box 3, noting that boundaries are not confirmed. In addition to standard conditions, a stabilization plan must be submitted for staff review and approval. Silt fence must be substituted for fiber roll at the rear of the site. Seconded by Mason, the motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

6:00 PM Request for Determination of Applicability to determine if walking path boardwalk installation within buffer zone to bank and wetlands will alter resource areas. Office of Planning & Sustainability, Rocky Hill Greenway, Old Wilson Rd, Parcel 37-049.

Wayne Feiden, Director of Planning and Sustainability, provided an overview of the project. The application proposes installation of raised trail boardwalks at the Pine Grove section of Rocky Hill Greenway. The docks will be similar to those already in-place at Ice Pond and Mineral Hills, although these include large spaces in the decking that will allow water and light to easily filter through the surface. Randy moved to issue a negative determination by checking box 3. Seconded by Jen, the motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

As there was no further business the meeting adjourned at 6:42 PM