

Carlisle Conservation Commission
May 4, 2023
Minutes

7:04 p.m. Chair Alex Parra called the remote meeting to order. For this meeting, the Conservation Commission convened via Zoom web conference as posted on the town's web site identifying how the public may join.

Members Present: Alex Parra (Chair), Brian Murphy, Helen Young, George Shepard (7:14 p.m.), Nick Ognibene, Navneet Hundal (8:00 p.m.)
Conservation Staff: Sylvia Willard, Conservation Administrator; Mary Hopkins, Conservation Assistant

New and Pending Business/Administrative Reports:

Signatory Authorization: On the motion by Young and seconded by Murphy, it was VOTED to authorize the Conservation Administrator to sign documents discussed at this meeting on behalf of the Conservation Commission. Roll Call Vote: Ognibene-aye, Murphy-aye, Young-aye, Parra-aye.

Approval of Bills: On the motion by Murphy and seconded by Young, it was VOTED to approve the bills as presented. Roll Call Vote: Ognibene-aye, Murphy-aye, Young-aye, Parra-aye.

Minutes: Deferred to next meeting

Town Meeting - May 8, 2023: Parra thanked Susan Provenzano of the Cranberry Bog Working Group for her willingness to present the CPA warrant article for the funding (\$300,000) of the Cranberry Bog Dam repair project.

Appeal: (DEP 125-1138) 384 River Road: DEP site visit has been scheduled for 5/9/2023 at 12:30 p.m.

SUASCO Riverfest Sunrise Canoe/Kayak trip: Alan Ankers has generously offered to organize the Conservation Commission's annual Sunrise Canoe/Kayak Paddle, which will be held on July 2.

Land Stewardship Committee Appointment: On the motion by Murphy and seconded by Hundal, it was VOTED to recommend to the Select Board the appointment of Adam Chojnacki for a three-year term on the Land Stewardship Committee. Roll Call Vote: Hundal-aye, Ognibene-aye, Shepard-aye, Murphy-aye, Young-aye, Parra-aye.

7:15 p.m. (DEP 125-1147) Notice of Intent, Continued Hearing

Applicant: Town of Carlisle, MA Conservation Commission

Location: 750 Curve Street (Cranberry Bog Conservation Land)

Project Description: Work to stabilize a regulated dam, Cranberry Bog Dam #1.

Parra reported the Commission has received the Chapter 253 Permit from the Office of Dam Safety and is now ready to consider the issuance of an Order of Conditions following an update from the representative. The Certificate of Registration has been recorded at the Registry of Deeds, the receipt for which will be sent to the Office of Dam Safety as required.

Dan Carr of Stamski and McNary presented an overview of the project following a series of continuances during the Office of Dam Safety's (ODS) review of the Chapter 253 permit application. The plan addresses erosion on the upstream side of the dam by building up the dam with filter fabric and rip rap to stabilize the slope and dam and to prevent future digging/burrowing by wildlife. The plan also includes an emergency overflow to augment the existing two pipes that control water flow in order to manage 50- and 100-year storm events to prevent overflow and resulting erosion. The surface of the overflow will be treated with mortared cobbles. The plan

includes a boardwalk with handrails over the overflow to maintain accessibility. Trees proposed for removal are limited to those that are impacting the integrity of the dam along the eastern edge of the dam.

Willard had identified several outstanding issues regarding the draft OOC she had provided to the Commission prior to the meeting, including identification of a storage location and whether there is a need to hire environmental monitor for the project, as this will impact the parameters of the bid package. The ODS permit requires the project engineer to provide oversight at specified times during construction. Additionally, municipal engineer Bill Risso will be on site intermittently throughout the project. The concern is consistent, ongoing monitoring for potential erosion issues. Murphy did not believe an environmental monitor would be necessary given the additional oversight that could be provided by the Cranberry Bog Working Group, the Friends of the Cranberry Bog, and the Commission. The Commission agreed adding another layer will not be necessary given the nature of the project and the level of supervision already in place.

Willard shared an aerial photo identifying locations on site where she believes there is a need for construction fencing along the edges of the cart paths to address access issues in moving equipment and materials out to the site and which also provides the equipment access route and specified locations for stockpiling of materials.

Murphy asked Mr. Carr if there may be an alternative design that could be provided to avoid the need for handrails on the boardwalk. Mr. Carr said the distance from the bottom of the weir to the top of the boardwalk is approximately 3.5 feet, exceeding the 3-foot threshold. Parra suggested the Commission wait to make a determination as to whether to amend the design until the weir has been constructed.

Chris Spinney of Fiske Street voiced concerns regarding the potential that the plan design may result in lowering the water level during normal conditions. Murphy will coordinate with Mr. Carr in obtaining additional data regarding the bog watershed and how the various flumes may impact the design relative to water levels. Parra noted that any alterations to the current design would be subject to review by the Office of Dam Safety.

On the motion by Murphy and seconded by Young, it was VOTED to continue the hearing to 5/25/2023 at 7:15 p.m. Roll Call Vote: Hundal-aye, Ognibene-aye, Shepard-aye, Murphy-aye, Young-aye, Parra-aye.

8:05 p.m. (DEP 125-1155) Notice of Intent, Ecological Restoration Limited Project, Continued Hearing
Applicant: Danielle Zimmerman
Project Location: 620 Lowell Street, Map 27 Parcel 57A-A
Project description: Treatment of invasive species in a pond

James Treacy of TRC Companies was present on behalf of the applicant. In response to the Commission's request for clarification regarding the potential that the pond may exist partially on the abutting property, he reported that the owner of the property located at 640 Lowell Street has signed the NOI. Additionally, he has provided the Commission with an excerpt from the WPA Regulations regarding notification of abutters which provides evidence that no additional abutter notifications were required.

Mr. Treacy then addressed concerns expressed at the previous hearing regarding how long the herbicide remains active, since this would dictate whether the timing of the application should be delayed due to the presence of salamander egg masses and other amphibians. Mr. Treacy referenced a review document provided by Mass DEP/DAR regarding the use of Florpyrauxifen-benzyl (ProcettaCOR) for application to lakes and ponds. The document states that the mean half-life of this herbicide was approximately 2.6 days in anaerobic conditions and 8 days for aerobic conditions. Based on TRC's measurements, the subject pond is more anaerobic, which is the reason they are proposing the installation of an aerator. Mr. Treacy noted they are proposing the lowest recommended dosage for in-water application.

Mr. Treacy then shared the anticipated implementation schedule, which breaks down, by year, the various elements to the proposal including herbicide applications, aeration, and monitoring, as well as hand pulling and algaecide application, if needed. Although the schedule includes years 1-5, Mr. Treacy said that in his experience,

one year of treatment should be sufficient, and depending on the density of the regrowth, they will utilize either hand pulling to control limited regrowth or implement a second application. He does not anticipate there will be a need to extend beyond the life of the OOC given how localized the milfoil is and the small areas they will be treating.

Murphy expressed concerns regarding the 12-inch plastic outlet pipe that discharges to a trench leading down to a wetland. He recommended the pond should be isolated by locating the upstream end and sealing it off before being treated, given the chances of failure and the fact that the herbicide is not milfoil specific. Mr. Treacy said he was on site last August when the pond level was low, and the pipe was not visible. Murphy suggested that if they are unable to locate the inlet themselves, they could hire a septic contractor to locate the pipe. The Commission agreed the pipe must be located and sealed before any chemical treatments are performed.

On the motion by Hundal and seconded by Murphy, it was VOTED to continue the hearing to 5/25/2023 at 7:30 p.m. Roll Call Vote: Hundal-aye, Ognibene-aye, Shepard-aye, Murphy-aye, Young-aye, Parra-aye.

8:27 p.m. (DEP 125-1140) Notice of Intent, Continued Hearing

Applicant: Martha and Kenneth Bedrosian

Project Location: 44 Bedford Road

Project Description: Construction of a detached three car garage, installation of utilities, mitigation plantings and paving of an existing dirt driveway with work within the 100-foot Buffer Zone of a Bordering Vegetated Wetland.

On the motion by Murphy and seconded by Young, it was VOTED to continue the hearing at the applicant's request to May 25, 2023 at 7:30 p.m. Roll Call Vote: Hundal-aye, Ognibene-aye, Shepard-aye, Murphy-aye, Young-aye, Parra-aye.

8:30 p.m. (DEP 125-1154) Notice of Intent

Applicant: Michael Napier/East Coast Development

Project Location: 42 Bingham Road

Project Description: Construction of a driveway with an open bottom box culvert to cross an intermittent stream providing access to a proposed single-family dwelling and deck, a water supply well, elements of a sewage disposal system, a second, and temporary disturbance and reconstruction of an intermittent stream to allow installation of a septic system leaching field. Work is proposed within Bordering Vegetated Wetland and Bank resource areas and within the 100-foot Buffer Zone of a Bordering Vegetated Wetland.

On the motion by Hundal and seconded by Young, it was VOTED to continue the hearing at the applicant's request to 5/25/2023 at 7:30 p.m. Roll Call Vote: Hundal-aye, Ognibene-aye, Shepard-aye, Murphy-aye, Young-aye, Parra-aye.

8:32 p.m. (DEP 125-) Notice of Intent

Applicant: Bryan Duby, Cadyco Revocable Trust

Project Location: 0 Bingham Road

Project Description: Clearing of a path of vegetation within the 100-foot Buffer Zone for soil testing.

Robert Melvin of Stamski and McNary presented the plan, which includes the clearing of a 10-foot-wide path of vegetation within the BufferZone, north of the onsite BVW, and cross the BVW with an excavator to perform soil testing at the northeast side of the lot. The proposed wetland crossing was identified in the field with Carlisle's Conservation agent and is approximately 20 feet wide. Metal plates will be laid across the wetland, extending 10 feet from either side of the BVW. Soil testing will be located outside the 100-foot Buffer Zone. Vegetative cover on the southern side of the BVW is not dense and will not require any clearing.

The Commission requested that the location of the beginning and ending points of the metal plates should be identified on site with flagging as well as any shrubs that will require removal or cutting within the BVW, the stream, or on Bank resources.

On the motion by Murphy and seconded by Hundal, it was VOTED to continue the hearing with the representative's approval to 5/25/2023 at 7:15 p.m. Roll Call Vote: Hundal-aye, Ognibene-aye, Shepard-aye, Murphy-aye, Young-aye, Parra-aye.

8:36 p.m. (DEP 125-1152) Notice of Intent, Continued Hearing

Applicant: Federal Investment Properties Trust

Project Location: 445 East Riding Drive - Lot 1

Project Description: Construction of a single-family dwelling, soil absorption system, associated tree removal and grading.

(DEP 125-1151) Notice of Intent, Continued Hearing

Applicant: Federal Investment Properties Trust

Project Location: 445 East Riding Drive - Lot 2

Project Description: Construction of a single-family dwelling, soil absorption system, and associated grading.

(DEP 125-1150) Notice of Intent, Continued Hearing

Applicant: Federal Investment Properties Trust

Project Location: 445 East Riding Drive - Lot 3

Project Description: Demolition of an existing tennis court, construction of a single-family dwelling, soil absorption system, a portion of a driveway and associated grading.

On the motion by Young and seconded by Hundal, it was VOTED to continue the hearings for DEP 125-1150, DEP 125-1151, and DEP 125-1152 at the applicant's request to 5/25/2023 at 7:45 p.m. Roll Call Vote: Hundal-aye, Ognibene-aye, Shepard-aye, Murphy-aye, Young-aye, Parra-aye.

Enforcement updates:

212 Acton Street: The Environmental Monitor, David Crossman of B & C Associates, has confirmed there have been no storm related erosion issues. A NOI filing is due by 5/8/2023.

271 Russell Street, David Thomas: There is an outstanding requirement for a planting plan and its implementation for the unpermitted tree removal that occurred on this property; the wetlands were delineated as required; logs within the BVW were removed with equipment that reached into the wetland from the Buffer Zone; there has been no communication with the owner since November. Parra asked Willard to contact the property owner to remind him that further action is required under the terms of the EO.

1215 Curve Street, Tamara Murray (125-1089) The wetland scientist has provided confirmation that the Commission will be notified one week prior to work commencing work on the wetland replication area and the stream crossing.

Conservation Land Management:

Greenough Dam - Spillway Adjustment: The Commission will request time on an upcoming Select Board agenda to request their support in moving forward with the engineering amendment; the DPW has confirmed they will manage the boards if they are installed.

Cranberry Bog House: The Commission will be coordinating with the Cranberry Bog Working Group in crafting a revised lease agreement for the Bog House, which will ultimately be put out to bid.

9:00 p.m. Adjournment: On the motion by Ognibene and seconded by Hundal, it was VOTED to adjourn.

Roll Call Vote: Hundal-aye, Ognibene-aye, Shepard-aye, Murphy-aye, Young-aye, Parra-aye.

Prepared by: Mary Hopkins

All supporting materials that have been provided to members of this body can be made available upon request.