



**CITY OF GARDNER
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Minutes of the Meeting of
January 8, 2018
Hubbard Conference Room
Gardner City Hall Annex Room 203**

Members Present:

Chairman Greg Dumas, David Beaugard, Duncan Burns, Michael Hermanson, Donna Lehtinen, and David Orwig. Also present was Conservation Agent Jeffrey Legros.

Members Absent:

Norman Beaugard.

Guests & Visitors:

Paul Grasewicz, PE, Graz Engineering, Representing Jamison Van Dyke for Lot 2, Timpany Blvd.

Public Hearings

The Gardner Conservation Commission resumed the joint Public Hearing under MGL, Ch. 131, § 40, Wetlands Protection Act and the City of Gardner Wetlands Protection Ordinance on the Notice of Intent filed by Jamison Van Dyke, 252 Goddard Road, Rindge, NH, for construction of a new Single Family Home at Timpany Boulevard (R07-15-6), Lot 2. The proposed work will include the construction of a new home and associated septic system, well, and site grading. The project involves work within the 100-foot buffer zone of a Wetland Resource Area, Bordering Vegetated Wetlands. Portions of the subject lot are within or adjacent to Bordering Land Subject to Flooding of the 100-Year Flood Zone. The home and septic system will be located outside of the 60-foot 'No Build' zone. No work will occur within the 30-foot 'No Disturb' zone. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has issued a Letter of Map Revision Based on Fill (LOMR-F) for a portion of the subject parcel. An Order of Conditions previously issued for work on this site has since expired.

6:32 Paul Grasewicz, PE, described the revised plans related to drainage along the proposed driveway of the proposed project. The plans, as presented, included a drainage swale between the roadway and existing flood zone along the northerly side of the proposed access driveway. Mr. Grasewicz also reviewed the plans and a background information related to the Flood Zone, FEMA Letter of Map Revision – Fill (LOMR-F), size (area) of the filled portion of the flood zone

within the lot (Lot 2), and total size (area) of the flood zone associated with that portion of Baker Brook.

Agent Legros stated that City Engineer Coughlin had reviewed the plans and did not have any major concerns. City Engineer Coughlin recommended that a Stormwater O&M be provided along with the plan and included in any subsequent Order so that maintenance needs and responsibilities of any approved stormwater features are clearly designated and known.

Commission Members D. Burns expressed concerns that a drainage swale between two access driveways of separate properties could be problematic with regard to care and maintenance and would likely fill in and deteriorate over time from normal activities related to seasonal activities and natural occurrences related to lawn and driveway maintenance and snow, ice, and leaf management.

Mr. Grasewicz said that a pipe could be substituted for a swale to alleviate such concerns and prevent them from occurring. He stated that a plan could be submitted to the Commission which is sufficient for the purpose and compliant with the Wetlands Protection Standards.

7:01 A motion was made by D. Beauregard to close the hearing. The motion was seconded by D. Burns and voted unanimously, all in favor.

Orders of Conditions

7:02 A motion was made by M. Hermanson to issue an Order of Conditions with Special Conditions to include a revised drainage plan to include a drainage pipe and associated O&M Plan. The motion was seconded by D. Beauregard and voted unanimously, all in favor.

Meeting Chairman Dumas called the meeting of January 8, 2018 to order.

Minutes

7:04 A motion was made by D. Beauregard to approve the Minutes of the Meeting of December 11, 2017. The motion was seconded by D. Burns and voted unanimously, all in favor, with M. Hermanson and D. Lehtinen abstaining as they were not present at the meeting of December 11, 2017.

Request for Determination of Applicability

None

Request for Certificate of Compliance

None

Request for Emergency Certification

None

Enforcement Order

None

Presentations

None

New Business

- **Commission office supplies** – A motion was made by D. Burns to increase the allocated funds to purchase a soil auger to **\$400** to account for increase in price from old catalog (2001) and to include the purchase of a Munsell Soil Chart; approve the purchase of a new computer and necessary accessories up to **\$2,000** and; approve the expense of a new office chair to replace the Agent’s broken chair at a cost of up to **\$250** from the WPA Fees Account. The motion was seconded by M. Hermanson and voted unanimously, all in favor.

The Commission asked Agent Legros to look into the cost of weatherproof field jackets and wetland boots for Commission members to wear on site visits.

- **Associate membership, committees, and projects** – Report by Agent Legros: Associate members are permitted but are not allowed to vote. They are considered “associate”, not “alternate” members and participate on a voluntary basis to assist with Commission interests. Associate members and volunteers are encouraged by the MACC. The Commission expressed an interest in assigning responsibilities to Commission members to organize and better document Commission Conservation Lands and City Open Space properties related to the responsibilities of the Conservation Commission. The matter will be discussed at a later date based on member interest.
- **2018 Commission goals and vision** – The matter will be tabled to a later date based on consideration by Commission members.

Old Business

- **Bailey Brook Conservation Efforts – LAND & PARC Grant Status Update** – At their meeting of December 18, 2017, City Council voted unanimously to accept a LAND grant, in the amount of \$71,038 for the acquisition of 93.2^{+/-} acres of the Omealia property to be owned as Open Space Land for Conservation purposes.

The vote was approved contingent upon receipt of a PARC grant award. Necessary City funds for the grant expenditure prior to reimbursement and estimated net costs in excess of the grant funds have been allocated for such purposes.

On January 5th it was announced by the Baker-Polito Administration that the City has received a PARC grant in the amount of \$97,388 for the acquisition of the

remaining 28.8^{+/-} acre portion of the Omealia Property off Leo Drive to be owned as Open Space Land for a Park to be used for Recreation purposes.

Motion to Adjourn

8:10 A motion to adjourn was made by D. Beauregard. The motion was seconded by D. Burns and voted unanimously, all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeffrey D. Legros, Conservation Agent

All materials used at the meeting are available for viewing at the office of the Conservation Agent, Room 202 of the City Hall Annex.

Minutes are available as follows:

- Minutes are available on the City of Gardner website (www.gardner-ma.gov) under Conservation Commission.
- By appointment or request in Conservation Agent's office, Room 202 of the City Hall Annex
- Community Development & Planning office, Room 201 of the City Hall Annex