



**CITY OF GARDNER
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Minutes of the Meeting of
February 26, 2018
Hubbard Conference Room
Gardner City Hall Annex Room 203**

Members Present:

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

Members Absent:

Norman Beauregard

Guests & Visitors:

Martin Bowers, Resident; Jennifer Bowers, Resident; MaryAnn Dipinto, 3 Oaks Environmental, Representing National Lumber; David Nash, National Lumber; Todd Groman, National Lumber; Janet Morrison, Land Conservation Consulting; Edward Jandris, Abutting property owner to National Lumber (Parker Street/South Main Street, Rear); Erin O'Dea, Resident.

Public Hearings

The Gardner Conservation Commission will opened the joint Public Hearing under MGL, Ch. 131, § 40, Wetlands Protection Act and the City of Gardner Wetlands Protection Ordinance (City Code Ch. 650) on the Notice of Intent filed by Nelson DeMoraes, Jr., representing National Lumber, 95 Pearson Blvd. for work at National Lumber, 95 Pearson Blvd. The work will consist of the construction of a canopy and open-building addition to be attached to the north side of the existing structure for the purpose of housing a proposed sawmill. The work will occur within the 200-foot Riverfront Area of Foster Brook but outside of the 100-foot inner-riparian zone and the 100-foot buffer zone of the Bank of Foster Brook. The project is proposed as redevelopment within the Riverfront Area.

The meeting will be held at
6:30 p.m., Meeting Room 203,
2nd Floor, City Hall Annex, on Monday, February 26, 2018

Greg Dumas, Chairman
Gardner Conservation Commission

6:31 Todd Groman, National Lumber, Operations, described the proposed project and Resource Areas including a covered roof extension off of the existing building, excavation for a pad, and excavation for additional electrical services.

6:39 Chairman Dumas asked about the planned erosion control measures and excavation areas and noted that they were not included on the plan presented.

Mr. Groman described the proposed plan for excavations and erosion controls but acknowledged that they were not shown on the plan as presented. He stated that trenching would be required for the new electrical service.

6:44 Commission Member D. Burns asked if the groundwater level had been determined and if snow storage areas had been identified.

Mr. Groman stated that groundwater level had not been determined and that snow storage areas had been considered but were not identified in the plan.

6:45 Chairman Dumas commented that the plans would need to be revised to show the excavation areas and proposed erosion control measures in order for the Commission to make an informed and guided decision. He also commented that groundwater level should be assessed and that snow storage areas should be identified.

6:48 Agent Legros noted that invasive plants and debris had been noted within the Riverfront Area along the bank of Foster Brook and within the 30-Foot 'No Disturbance' Zone of the Bordering Vegetated Wetlands. It was his recommendation that these areas should be removed of invasive plants and that debris should be cleaned up and appropriately removed.

6:50 At Agent Legros' suggestion, MaryAnn DiPinto described the Resource Areas associated with the project including Riverfont Area of Foster Brook, Bank of Foster Brook, Bordering Vegetated Wetland, and their associated Buffer Zones. Ms. DiPinto also stated that she located the catch basin and inspected the outlet for signs of erosion and sedimentation. She noted that the catch basin appeared to have a sump and there were no signs of erosion or excessive sedimentation associated with the outlet.

6:55 The Commission members were in agreement with Chairman Dumas statement that additional information would be required including, revised plans showing excavation and sediment plans, snow storage areas, groundwater level, and a vegetation management plan.

6:50 A motion to continue the hearing pending the receipt of revised plans and additional information was made by D. Beauregard. The motion was seconded by D. Burns and voted unanimously, all in favor of continuing the hearing.

Meeting

Chairman Dumas called the meeting of February 26, 2018 to order.

Minutes

7:00 A motion was made by D. Burns to approve the Minutes of the Meeting of the meeting of January 22, 2018. The motion was seconded by D. Lehtinen and voted unanimously, all in favor.

Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of February 12, 2018 was tabled until the next meeting.

Orders of Conditions

None

Request for Determination of Applicability

None

Request for Certificate of Compliance

7:01 **#160-0553 – National Grid Park Street Substation Project:**

BSC Group provided the revised Stormwater O&M Plans and additional information requested by the Commission. Agent Legros stated that all information had been received as requested and that all work had been completed according to the plans and Order of Conditions and he recommended the issuance of a Certificate of Compliance on the project.

7:03 A motion was made by D. Burns to issue the Request for Certificate of Compliance related to DEP File #160-0553. The motion was seconded by D. Beauregard and voted unanimously all in favor.

Request for Emergency Certification

None

Enforcement Order

None

Presentations

Janet Morrison – Bailey Brook Greenway, North American Wetland Conservation Act funding, and Omealia Property LAND & PARC Grant: Status updates and next steps: Janet Morrison described the status of the LAND and PARC Grants related to the Omealia property acquisition and the NAWCA Grant

Status. She also described the status of communications with private landowners related to the potential Bailey Brook Greenway Conservation Restrictions of Resource Areas associated with Bailey Brook. Agent Legros commented that D&E Realty (West Street) had expressed an interest in discussing the possibility of a Conservation Restriction on portions of their property associated with Wetland Resource Areas. Agent Legros will follow up later this Spring or Summer to schedule a meeting and site visit at their suggestion.

New Business

None

Old Business

- **MACC Annual Conference Registration:** Agent Legros reminded Commission Members of the upcoming conference. D. Beaugard expressed interest in attending.
- **Commission Office Supplies and Equipment:** Agent Legros informed the Commission that he is working with the City IT Department to purchase a new laptop and necessary software.

Motion to Adjourn

8:02 A motion to adjourn was made by D. Burns. The motion was seconded by D. Orwig 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