

CONSERVATION COMMISSION
MINUTES
November 4, 2020
7:15 PM
Virtual Meeting

Present: Terry Maitland, Amy Green, Carolyn Kiely, Zywia Chadzynska, Jim Colman, Suzanne Flint

Absent: Tim McKinnon

Natural Resources Director and recording secretary: Tom Tidman

Zoom Host: Fran Portante

Regular Business

Terry opened the meeting by reading the guidelines for virtual meetings.

7:20 Request for Determination: 117 Arlington Street

Richard Scranton, for a property at 117 Arlington St. (town atlas plate E-2 , parcel 233), Acton, MA 01720. The project is the construction of a 12 foot by 16 foot shed within 100 feet of wetlands.

The owner, Richard Scranton presented, stating that he would like to have a 12ft. X 16ft. shed installed at the rear of his lot within the 100ft wetlands buffer. The shed would be located on existing lawn off the edge of the leach field, at its nearest point 80ft. from wetlands. The shed will sit on concrete blocks. The shed will primarily be used to house gardening tools.

Mr. Maitland closed the meeting at 7:30 pm:

Decision: Jim moved to issue a negative 3 determination, meaning that work described in the Request is within the Buffer Zone, as defined in the regulations, but will not alter an Area subject to protection under the Act. Therefore, said work does not require the filing of a Notice of Intent. Amy seconded the motion and the roll-call vote was unanimous.

7:30 Notice of Resource Area Delineation: 47 Conant Street

Property is located at 39 & 47 Conant St, (town atlas plate I2, parcels 50-1 & 56 and parcel Z.) filed by Joseph Levine, Northeast Site Development. The applicant is seeking confirmation of the delineated resource areas on the property.

Presenting for the property owner, Austin J. O'Malley, was Dave Crossman with B&C Associates, Inc., presenting survey plans dated October 20, 2020, prepared by Stamski & McNary, Inc. Mr. Crossman noted that he had been on site with the Administrator and three Commissioners on Tuesday November 3rd to review the flagging line, and that the Commissioners present on the walk were satisfied with the flagging locations. Mr. Crossman noted that additional flags had been located on the property to the north of 39 Conant Street, but that the flags had been removed. Survey of the flag locations is, however, included on the ANRAD plan provided. Mr. Crossman noted that the wetlands and surrounding buffer zone is generally flat and sloping to the rear of the properties. There is a slight depression were water

travels down the center of the wetlands. This is a red maple swamp, with some elm and white ash in the canopy.

Joan Cirillo at 45 Conant asked if March, with snow on the ground, was an appropriate time of year to accurately flag wetlands. Ms. Cirillo also noted that test holes had been dug on the property during the same time frame. Mr. Crossman stated that the ground was not frozen when flagging was initially done in March 2019, and that both soil borings and plants were used to locate the edge of wetlands. Mr. Crossman noted that he has been back to the site three times since the initial wetlands flagging.

Ms. Cirillo asked why the wetlands as flagged in the ANRAD could be so different from the Town GIS maps? Jim responded that GIS maps are generally done from aerial photographs and always require ground verification for accuracy.

Amy asked if a DEP file number had been issued for the site. Fran and Tom both stated that no DEP file number was assigned, indicating that DEP had not yet completed their review of the filing.

Mr. Maitland requested that the hearing be continued to November 18th @ 7:30 pm, and mentioned that he would like to walk the property prior to the continued hearing date.

7:45 Preliminary Discussion: 12 Spring Hill Road

Scott Goddard with Goddard Consulting, LLC, showed Commissioners a conceptual plan of two (2) single family house lots off a common drive at 12 Spring Hill Road. Mr. Goddard noted that an ANRAD had been submitted and approved for this property earlier this year. Mr. Goddard stated that an easement from the abutting property at 8 Spring Hill Road had already been obtained. Mr. Goddard stated that the site plan prepared by Markey & Rubin Civil Engineering also shows the location of an intermittent stream on the property.

Commissioners thanked Mr. Goddard for sharing the preliminary site plan with them, but asked that the site plan be submitted formally as part of a Notice of Intent filing, noting that this site has a long history with the Conservation Commission and abutters that need to be notified of the hearing date and be present for the NOI presentation.

New Business: none

Special Business: none

Consent Items:

Minutes:

The Minutes of **10-07-2020** were reviewed by Carolyn, Zywia, Suzanne, Tim and Amy. CK, ZC, SF, TMc, AG. Amy moved to accept and approve the minutes; Carolyn seconded the motion and the role-call vote was unanimous

The Minutes of **10/21/2020** were reviewed by Carolyn and Tim. Amy moved to accept and approve the minutes; Suzanne seconded the motion and the role-call vote was unanimous.

**At 8:25 p.m., it was moved and seconded to adjourn the meeting.
The motion was approved unanimously.**

Documents and Exhibits Used During this Meeting

Request for Determination of Applicability for 117 Arlington Street
Abbreviated Notice of Resource Area Delineation for 47 Conant Street

These documents may be found here: <http://doc.acton-ma.gov/dsweb/View/Collection-11855>

Terry Maitland
Terry Maitland, Chair