



Acton Conservation Commission

Meeting Minutes

May 11, 2022

7:15 PM

Virtual Meeting

Present: Terry Maitland, Jim Colman, Amy Green, Jillian Peters, Peter Hocknell
Natural Resources Director and recording secretary: Tom Tidman
Zoom Host: Kim Clark

Regular Business

7:15 Chairman Jim Colman opened the meeting and read the Virtual Meeting guidelines.

7:20 Commissioners discussed the preparation of a “findings of fact” as an introduction. The “special conditions” being drafted and discussed this evening, will be included with the approval of standard conditions for the project. An Order of Conditions may be issued for the removal of the 53 River Street dam and may be approved and conditioned as an Ecological Restoration Project , as defined in 310 CML 10:53(4)(a)(b)(c)(d)(e)1.

Chairman Terry Maitland asked vice chair Jim Colman read through each of the 12 special conditions drafted by Commissioner Amy Green with comments from Commissioner Tim McKinnon and Agent Tom Tidman, (draft conditions attached).

Special Condition # 4 – Commissioners discussed who would be involved in the selection process and approval of the Environmental Monitor (EM) for the project, stating that the Conservation Commission should be involved in the selection of an EM. Commissioners discussed at what points in construction the Commission should be made aware of progress “milestones” and when site meetings should be arranged.
Mr. Colman asked if there was any comment from the public.

Special Condition # 5 – Commissioners will require sufficient time to review and comment on all NPDES permit and plans and all other flood control and storm damage preparedness plans.

Mr. Colman asked if there was any comment from the public.

Special Condition # 6 - to be combined with special condition # 4. Commissioners discussed requiring the site contractor to be in communication with the Conservation Agent regarding storm event preparedness and erosion control measures and frequent weather forecast review.

Mr. Colman asked if there was any comment from the public.



Special Condition # 7 – Commissioners discussed what the qualifications should be for an Environmental Monitor. Commissioners discussed the scope of work to be overseen by the EM, including onsite observation during dam removal, building removal, MBTA abutment re-enforcement and stream bed restoration. Commissioners discussed the length of time the Project General Contract should cover plantings and success rate (3 growing seasons), followed by an additional 2 years observation by the town of Acton. Commissioners will condition the quality of loam being introduced to the property with emphasis on no additional invasive species being introduced and an invasive species removal plan to be submitted and approved by the Commission. Commissioners discussed the preference to see that all hydraulic oil products to be used within the resource areas should be vegetable based/bio-degradable oils. Mr. Colman asked if there was any comment from the public.

Documents and exhibits used at this meeting:

Draft of Conditions for 53 River Street DEP 85-1321

All documents can be found at <http://doc.acton-ma.gov/dsweb/View/Collection-14515>

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Terrence Maitland, Chair