

TOWN OF
STONEHAM
MASSACHUSETTS

Town Hall
35 Central Street

Stoneham Conservation Commission
781-279-2696

STONEHAM CONSERVATION COMMISSION
MINUTES OF MEETING
November 27 2023 Virtual 7 PM

Join meeting <https://meet.goto.com/340213085>

Phone Access Code: 340-213-085 U.S.: [+1 \(408\) 650-3123](tel:+14086503123)

Jessica Gerke, Norman L'Esperance, Alex Rozycki, Megan Day, Domenick Cimina, Richard Jackson, Jeanne Craigie, Charles Houghton, Diann Ewanchuk, David Klinch, Steven Cicatelli, Raymie Parker, Nicholas Morgan, Chris Boyce

PUBLIC HEARING

20 Gerald Rd #297-0361, 297-0362, 297-0363, 297-0364, 297-0365

Charles Houghton

Extensions of Order of Conditions requested

Charles Houghton states ability to move on this property dependent on Weiss Farm, fixing of pumps will help 20 Gerald Rd. Jessica Gerke asks what is covered, Charles Houghton responds 10 orders covers the property. 12/17/23 expiration date. Delay has been caused by 7 year litigation next door.

Alex Rozycki comments situation with Weiss Farm when storm water has changed so much, project should be held to storm water standards when project kicks off for impervious area, construction and phosphorus removal. Charles Houghton storm water management wasn't around and it is going to be more than an acre so storm water management will need to be involved.

Motion to approve 3 year extensions for 20 Gerald Rd for Alex Rozycki seconded by Richard Jackson. Roll call Jessica Gerke, Norman L'Esperance, Alex Rozycki, Megan Day, Richard Jackson yes 5/0/1 Domenick Cimina abstains.

Charles Houghton comments that McCourt construction shocked by flow of water at Eversource, water tremendous flow.

Eversource Energy #297-0386

David Klinch

Extension of Order of Conditions requested

Epsilon Associates, Woburn to Wakefield line project, started 11 years ago with permitting and project. In construction for 5 years. Mostly complete but asking for 1 year extension for remaining work for culvert replacement on Montvale Ave. Late summer rains on news, finished on other towns now back to Stoneham. Host community agreement with replacement of culvert at Sweetwater brook, undersized, clogged with debris, piece blocked by sewer vein. Relocated surrounded utilities. Most culvert elements done but needs to be completed, grouting of pieces and naturalization factors like washed riverstone. Work has 2-3 months to be complete, time

consuming parts with walls need to be poured in place. Can wrap by end of winter barring weather delays.

Norman L'Esperance says a substantial amount of work is being done. Domenick Cimina asks if riverstone in bottom of culvert that is concrete, putting river rock on top of it? Water shoots out of there like a rifle, what holds stone in place? David Klinch says design by Weston and Sampson, site visit in 2018 discussed 4-6 inch stone that is heavy enough to stay in place. Culvert slightly oversized, no lip or feature to keep it in there, DCR suggested to naturalize bottom of culvert. Domenick Cimina concerned stone will end up in Woburn. Dave Klinch has never seen before change in average flow vs change in high flow, stream stats is program that thinks it will be under 100 gallons per minute. Flooding in the area this past summer was catastrophic. Klinch can check this again on size of stone. Town project completed by Eversource.

Richard Jackson asks what if we don't use stone? Can't see it from street, foot thickness of stone for the purpose of naturalization. Domenick Cimina mentions culvert on Montvale Ave he built that took big pieces of riff raff with it. Suggests eliminating stone. Alex Rozycki stones may damage bank. Design standard that should involve Brett Gonsalves' decision on flow. Klinch says Dave Ragucci was involved with Weston and Sampson recommendation years ago. Stream crossing standards used. Stream this past summer velocity was unprecedented. Natural substrate as joints aren't smooth. No meaningful fish population. Stone not expensive but labor bares cost. Alex Rozycki easier to clean, happy to not put it in tonight and give extension.

Raymie Parker as Select Board member has reviewed Eversource, first she's hearing culvert needs months to complete. 12/31/23 deadline with Select Board. Ask Commission to get Brett Gonsalves and Weston Sampson involved. Dave Klinch happy to talk to group and DPW.

Motion to approve one year extension and forego stone on culvert pending input from DPW and design engineers by Alex Rozycki seconded by Norman L'Esperance. Roll call Jessica Gerke, Norman L'Esperance, Alex Rozycki, Megan Day, Domenick Cimina, Richard Jackson yes 6/0

CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE

Middle Pond Dam-Virginia Wood #297-0410

Diann Ewanchuk, DCR

Request for Certificate of Compliance

Jessica Gerke walked site, erosion control has been removed. Diann Ewanchuk works for Sovereign and did environmental oversight for DCR, soil excavated by stilling pool in order for repair of stone wall and dam. Repointed stone wall and dam, everything has been removed and is flowing nicely. Clear pool now. Native seed planted on way to pond. Will collect water samples and soil will be transported to disposal facility from DCR labor yard.

Motion to issue certificate of compliance by Norman L'Esperance seconded by Richard Jackson Roll call Jessica Gerke, Norman L'Esperance, Alex Rozycki, Megan Day, Domenick Cimina, Richard Jackson 6/0

DISCUSSION

Redstone Shopping Center LTD Partnership #297-0329

Steven Cicatelli

Discuss options

Steven Cicatelli states OOC has been completed with exception of 12,000 square foot behind Marshalls. Chris Boyce is on call. One year extension of site plan approvals because there are prospective tenants for space behind Marshalls from Select Board and Planning Board. Foundation plan to present to Commission for amendment. Sato site has 2 perspective tenants, new building will include parking lot redesign. Request certificate of compliance for existing order, engineer state comply except for no construction behind Marshalls from 2008 plan. Amendment to plan not constructed, refile new notice of intent for daycare that includes Sato. Domenick Cimina asks about LA Fitness and CVS timeline, Steven Cicatelli states its from 2008. Edge of pavement, elevation never changed, may have been building of Target from Shaws. Alex Rozycki asks we get an as built and notice from engineer with Steven Cicatelli's cover letter.

Spot Pond Recreational Trail

Dennis Sheehan

Jessica Gerke comments Dennis Sheehan asked Commission to review plan and provide questions or comments, and give Conservation's endorsement. Alex Rozycki commented plan is conceptual, seems like they are looking for endorsement. Jessica Gerke doesn't recall any reservations about endorsing. Megan Day asks if there were any changes? Wasn't concerned with plan, asked more specifically about Conservation's involvement. Jessica Gerke comments Dennis Sheehan asked if Commission is comfortable endorsing? Richard Jackson said it is great for community, he attended grant and conservation workshop and this program would qualify. Pinch points can be fixed by bridges, area qualifies and trails needs to be updated. Dennis Sheehan should know this would be great for community, if time goes by it will be easier to ask for money for this project. Alex Rozycki agrees it is grant related and will write letter of support to work with project team. Jessica Gerke mentions we would be involved with wetlands permitting. Alex Rozycki we should be meeting quarterly on design. Megan Day thinks it would be helpful to know what they are looking for, is this bound to a grant report? Why the timing of this right now? Jessica Gerke says she believes were being asked to be supportive and not create roadblocks. Raymie Parker is saying they are looking for endorsement. Richard Jackson doesn't have a cost for this yet. Erin Wortman joins call to answer questions. Megan Day states what is the ask? Erin Wortman states Dennis Sheehan doesn't need anything formal, conceptual plan vote in favor from Conservation Commission. Any action that involves Conservation will come before Commission. Alex Rozycki mentions updates about implementation would be appreciated, Erin Wortman agrees.

Alex Rozycki motions for a vote of support of project Roll call Jessica Gerke, Norman L'Esperance, Alex Rozycki, Megan Day, Domenick Cimina, Richard Jackson yes 6/0

Whip Hill

Santa at Whip Hill December 16/17 from 2-5pm

Richard Jackson asks if we've been doing this for a few years. Megan Day answers about 30 years.

Arts and Crafts decorates tree, Garden Club decorates house

Motion to allow event by Alex Rozycki, seconded by Norman L'Esperance Roll call Jessica Gerke, Norman L'Esperance, Alex Rozycki, Megan Day, Domenick Cimina, Richard Jackson 6/0 yes

Update from Subcommittee- Megan Day mentions meeting 11/20/23 discussion, next meeting 12/11/23. Bob Galvin will attend next meeting to review current documents, caretaker agreements and job descriptions, land use management later by consultant. List of who we need to talk to and gather information and list of documents to compile. Jessica Gerke asks if there is any input from the Commission.

Tree Committee

Megan Day

Alex Rozycki feels it should not be required components of Conservation volunteers. Jessica Gerke asks if anyone would like to be on tree committee? Alex Rozycki asks if we can vacate seat?

Approve Meeting Minutes from November 6, 2023

Motion to approve by Alex Rozycki seconded by Richard Jackson roll call yes Jessica Gerke, Norman L'Esperance, Alex Rozycki, Megan Day, Richard Jackson 5/0/1 abstain Domenick Cimina

Next Meeting December 18, 2023

Motion to adjourn by Norman L'Esperance seconded by Alex Rozycki roll call yes 6/0 Jessica Gerke, Norman L'Esperance, Alex Rozycki, Megan Day, Domenick Cimina, Richard Jackson