

TOWN OF
STONEHAM
MASSACHUSETTS

Town Hall
35 Central Street

Stoneham Conservation Commission
781-279-2696

STONEHAM CONSERVATION COMMISSION
MINUTES OF MEETING
March 25 2024 Virtual 7 PM

Please join meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.

<https://meet.goto.com/846996573>

Access Code: 846-996-573 United States: [+1 \(224\) 501-3412](tel:+12245013412)

Jessica Gerke, Alex Rozycki, Megan Day, Domenick Cimina, Richard Jackson, Brett Gonsalves, Arthur Bennett, Martin Wantman, Bill Sullivan, James Sullivan, Raymie Parker, Donna Weiss, Patty Nolan, Ellen McBride, Andrew Jamgochian, John Cappello, Sam, Josh Magee, Borto, Mhc, JH, Kathleen Dasho

Motion to open meeting Alex Rozycki seconded by Richard Jackson Roll call 5/0 yes Richard Jackson, Domenick Cimina, Alex Rozycki, Megan Day and Jessica Gerke

PUBLIC HEARING

Presenter gives presentation of about 5 minutes, conservation commission asks questions, public comment limited to 2 minutes per person.

DPW Stream Maintenance #297-0417

Brett Gonsalves

Notice of Intent to perform stream maintenance to remove vines and overgrowth from the stream channel that is blocking the natural flow of the brook.

Overgrowth in streams, maintenance need, 10 foot wide easement of Town, remove vines and invasive species on edge of bank growing over a stream. 175-177 Franklin Street photo. Starting point to clean out and have unobstructed flow of water. Meeting house brook and area behind Weiss Farm would be next. Systematic phased approach to cleaning with DPW employees and may contract out as well. Removing vines and debris but not disturbing bank or private properties, in stream area only. Kindercare/Arbors photo shows overgrowth. Picture near high school of overgrowth that will be addressed.

Jessica Gerke asks if manual removal on foot? BG answers hand tools on foot, headwalls may position equipment for debris cleaning at outlets. Wet and inaccessible areas may need to be revisited.

Megan Day asks if jurisdictional to Conservation or is this outside of work at Weiss Farm. Outside of DEP superseding order. Timeline questioned? Sunset Rd cleared as soon as possible, 10 day appeal period and order of conditions recorded then work would commence.

Alex Rozycki asks why it's not covered in standard operations and M agreement, why isn't this regular repair work. Brett answers comprehensive stream maintenance plan on annual basis is goal. Alex Rozycki says if equipment or more substantial than involve Conservation Commission. Brett Gonsalves says if more challenging then he would come back to Commission.

John Capello 3 Emerald Court any plans to dredge stream? Silt built up, used to be deeper, frogs used to be there. BG replies no plans to dredge. Army corps of engineers would need to be involved. Can look into it further and seek outside equipment and funding.

Jim Sullivan 6 Sunset Rd discussed with neighbors. Concern stream and culvert are not adequate to accept additional water from Weiss Farm. Culvert built over 70 years ago, badly engineered, pipe undersized at 18 inches, installed at too high of an elevation, doesn't have adequate draining. Stream cleaning will result in increased water flow. Cleaning stream to accommodate more water over to Sunset side. Culvert leaks onto Fieldstone, breach in pipe.

Alex Rozycki states Conservation Commission did not approve Weiss farm, we are not involved in that water. DEP gave superseding order.

Martin Wantman Town cleaning stream from Weiss to Doleful pond, less water pumped across Franklin St if this problem is done. Gerald Rd resident has flooded property and has neighbors who are flooded. Stream maintenance runs to pump house and needs to be cleaned. Ellen Rd across Gerald Rd onto Weiss, when pump is turned on the people should get less water. Main ditch from weir dam needs to be cleaned out. Water runs north instead of south.

Arthur Bennet 7 Sunset Rd increase in stormwater runoff from Weiss, does not want his property inundated. Culvert needs to be drained and cleaned before activation of pump. Who will check water leverage, how will it be maintained. Pipe is too small to handle flow, pipe needs to be cleaned.

Raymie Parker 111 Franklin St asks BG if Sunset starts downstream project behind high school, correct way so people are not affected.

Brett Gonsalves is not familiar with wetland restoration, Brett G met with Arthur Bennet, pipe was free flowing, didn't see evidence of blockage. Proposal mid 60s to increase size of pipe was turned down, no further action to replace 18 inch pipe. Wanted to clean out overgrowth. Surface of stream edges being cleaned. Stream is flowing, open so they do not have obstructions in stream.

Megan Day will this exacerbate or worsen water situation? BG says it will not be worse.

Chris Borto 9 Sunset next to Mr. Bennett, wants to make sure there are plans if pipe does get clogged in the future. Anything being done to keep it from clogging in the future? BG mentions access to inlet of pipe, manhole on property on Sunset 50 is difficult, catch basin 17 sunset in side yard where it could be jetted. During storm events at points of entry and midpoints there was unobstructed flow, no visual blockage. If there is a blockage a jetter would have to go in and clear pipe both directions.

Ed D'Entremont if necessary can provide access within reason.

Martin Wantman historically equipment was used to dredge at 170 Franklin Street has been done in the past. Jessica Gerke comments this project is not about dredging.

Richard Jackson may need to recuse himself. Motion from Alex Rozycki to approve storm maintenance proposal seconded by Domenick Cimina Roll call yes 4/0 Alex Domenick Megan and Jessica

Letter from owner at 21 Sunset Patty Nolan will be part of the record.

Whip Hill

Update from subcommittee

Megan Day job description can be voted on. Contract will be distributed as well as guidelines for use of property. Memorandum of Understanding between Trust and Conservation Commission has involved Ellen McBride and Bob Galvin.

Alex Rozycki suggests packaging job description and contract in one vote at next meeting. AJ Jamgochian states if fundamental use of park changes it would need to be reflected in job description.

Insurance valuation March 29, 2024

Thank you from Girl Scouts.

Topics not reasonably anticipated 48 hours before the meeting

Next Meeting April 8, 2024

Motion to close public hearing and adjourn by Alex Rozycki seconded by Richard Jackson. Roll Call yes Alex Rozycki, Megan Day, Richard Jackson, Domenick Cimina and Jessica Gerke 5/0