



SUDBURY CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Meeting Minutes of January 25, 2021

Present: Thomas Friedlander (Chair), Dave Henkels (Vice Chair), Richard Morse, Bruce Porter, Mark Sevier, Ken Holtz, Jeremy Cook (Associate Member), and Lori Capone (Conservation Coordinator)

Absent: Kasey Rogers

Chair Friedlander opened the meeting under the MA Wetlands Protection Act and the Sudbury Wetlands Administration Bylaw at 6:45 PM, via roll call vote.

The Chair advised the Commission to ensure all meetings were respectful and considerate of diverse opinions.

New Wetland Applications:

Notice of Intent: General Federation of Women's Club of Massachusetts: 245 Dutton Road, DEP #301- :

Chair Friedlander opened the Notice of Intent hearing to prune and remove hazard trees within the Buffer Zone and Riverfront Area pursuant to the Wetlands Protection Act and the Sudbury Wetlands Administration Bylaw.

The Chair recognized Donna Shibley, General Federation of Women's Clubs of Massachusetts, for her presentation, and stated the DEP number was still open so this hearing would likely continue.

Ms. Shibley began by describing the site of the Women's Federation on Dutton Road. She stated due to several storms, the trees surrounding the caretakers cottage were deemed by a Certified Arborist to be a danger and should be removed. The Federation was asking permission to remove the trees. Coordinator Capone provided a sketch of the property, and showed the 15 trees to be removed. She stated they were directly over the caretaker's house and provided pictures of the area with the trees. She stated she felt that all of the trees should be removed along with some motorized items and building debris as they are very close to the wetland.

D. Henkels asked if it was estimated or priority habitat, and she affirmed it was and that Natural Heritage had been notified and confirmed they can remove the trees. She said the Department was awaiting a formal letter. Ms. Shibley stated that they are also in the process of developing a Forest Cutting Plan for the property.

The Applicant stated they were willing to mitigate and work with the Commission. Coordinator Capone suggested leaving the stumps, replanting native shrubs and trees along the wetland edge and cleaning up the machinery and debris deposited between the caretaker's house and the wetland. The Chair asked if a mitigation plan could be worked up before the next meeting.

A comment from Cannon Gloyd, the caretaker, stated there were several Maples and Birches that could be left which was preferable and good for the remaining trees.

With no further Commissioner or public comments, R. Morse made a motion to continue the hearing to February 8, 2021. Seconded by D. Henkels, the Commission so voted unanimously, via roll call vote.

Certificate of Compliance:

14 Bowen Circle (Lot 32), DEP #301-0042:

The Coordinator stated there was no physical file but this Order of Conditions is associated with the construction of a single family house and remains open. Coordinator Capone had visited the site confirming no violations and recommended issuance of a Certificate of Compliance. On motion by D. Henkels, seconded by M. Sevier, via roll call vote, the Commission voted unanimously to issue a Certificate of Compliance.

Other Business:

Warrant Articles

Coordinator Capone stated there were three Revolving Fund accounts that needed to be reestablished at Town Meeting: Wetland Fees, Trail Maintenance, and Forestry.

On motion by D. Henkels, seconded R. Morse, via roll call vote, the Commission voted unanimously to approve and submit these three Warrant Articles.

FY 22 Budget

The Coordinator updated the Commission on the proposed FY22 Budget for the Conservation Department, which includes funds for a Land Management position.

Ford's Folly

The Coordinator stated Fords Folly near the Boy Scout Reservation, has a damaged wall section that has become dangerous and a safety hazard. The wall needs to be reconstructed, so the area has been closed off. The repair will be costly, so she is going to go to seek Community Preservation Act funds in the next cycle. She will keep the Commission updated.

On motion by D. Henkels, seconded by B. Porter, the Commission voted unanimously, by roll call vote, to adjourn the meeting at 7:15 PM.