



SUDBURY CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Meeting Minutes of February 22, 2021

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

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.

Continued Wetland Applications:

Notice of Intent: General Federation of Women's Club of Massachusetts: 245 Dutton Road, DEP #301-1324:

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 last continued from February 8, 2021.

The Chair stated that the DEP number is still outstanding. He stated the Commission could vote to close the hearing and vote to issue the Order at the next meeting. R. Morse moved to close the hearing, seconded by M. Sevier, via roll call vote, the decision was unanimous.

Notice of Intent: Matthew Riordan: 66 Cutler Farm Road, DEP File #301-1321:

Chair Friedlander opened the Notice of Intent hearing to remove and replace existing diseased trees, located within the Buffer Zone and Riverfront Area at 66 Cutler Farm Road, pursuant to the Wetlands Protect Act and the Sudbury Wetlands Administration Bylaw, continued from February 8, 2021.

K. Holtz recused himself as an abutter to the project.

The Chair stated this Application now had the requisite DEP number so the hearing could now be closed and the Order issued. On motion by D. Henkels, seconded by B. Porter, via roll call vote, the decision to close the hearing was unanimous. On motion by B. Porter, seconded by R. Morse, there was a unanimous roll call vote to issue the Order.

Notice of Intent: Jean Jewell: 37 Hampshire Street, DEP File #301-1322:

Chair Friedlander opened the Notice of Intent hearing to install of a Soake Pool with attendant patio and landscaping located within the Buffer Zone and Riverfront Area pursuant to the Wetlands Protection Act and the Sudbury Wetlands Administration Bylaw, continued from February 8, 2021.

The Chair asked if there were further questions for the Applicants, and, as there were none, a motion by D. Henkels, seconded by K. Holtz, the Commission voted unanimously to close the hearing. On motion by M. Sevier, seconded by R. Morse, the vote via roll call was unanimous to issue the Order.

K. Rogers joined the meeting at this point.

New Wetland Applications:

Notice of Intent: Kim Bennett, 5 Hunters Run, DEP File #301- :

Chair Friedlander opened the Notice of Intent hearing to remove a tree and prune within the 100-foot Buffer Zone, Vernal Pool Habitat and Adjacent Upland Resource Area pursuant to the Wetlands Protection Act and the Sudbury Wetlands Administration Bylaw.

The Chair recognized the Applicant, Kim Bennett, for her presentation. She stated there were two trees that had been recommended to be removed, as they were a danger to her neighbor's home. Coordinator Capone explained there was a Certified Vernal Pool in the area. She said the area had been well maintained and recommended allowing the trees be removed. She stated the tree would be removed with a crane positioned on the neighbor's driveway and the other trees would be laid down in order to provide wildlife habitat. A DEP number had not yet been issued, so she recommended the hearing be continued to March 8 but she had no concerns with the proposed work.

The Chair asked for any public comment. Hearing none, on motion by D. Henkels, seconded by R. Morse, the hearing was continued to March 8, via unanimous roll call vote.

Notice of Intent: Luke Faust, 35 Tavern Circle, DEP File #301- :

Chair Friedlander opened the Notice of Intent hearing to construct a patio and fire pit and implement landscape improvements within the 100-foot Buffer Zone pursuant to the Wetlands Protection Act and the Sudbury Wetlands Administration Bylaw.

The Chair recognized the Applicant, Luke Faust, for his presentation. Luke Faust began with a detail rendering of the project. He introduced the plan for removal and replacement of trees and planting plans. The Coordinator stated there was no plan for expansion of lawn, and the Applicant was committed to using native plantings to improve wildlife habitat. The Applicant explained he wanted to remove some nonnative trees adding native ones to replace them. The Applicant stated all the plants are on the Middlesex Native Plant list. B. Porter asked if the lawn remained the same, to which the Applicant said ½ was conversion from lawn to ground cover. K. Rogers asked about the new plantings in the rear of the property. The Applicant reviewed each plant and their placement.

The Chair asked if there was any public comment. Hearing none, he stated the hearing would need to be continued to March 8, as there was no DEP number issued. On motion by D. Henkels, seconded by K. Rogers, via unanimous roll call vote, the hearing was continued to March 8, 2021.

Other Business:

Town Report - The Chair asked if there were any comments on the draft Town Report submitted by the Coordinator. The Coordinator stated it was a very impressive year, and requested the Commissioners vote to accept and sign the Report so she could submit to the Town Manager's office.

On motion by R. Morse, seconded by B. Porter, the vote was unanimous via roll call vote to accept the Town Report.

Bicycle use on Town Trails – Hop Brook Marsh, Landham Brook, and Haynes Meadow

The Chair recognized the Coordinator for her comments. She stated that she had met with Department of Conservation and Recreation, Sudbury Valley Trustees (SVT) and the Town of Marlboro, discussing trails that would allow mountain bikes vs. non-bike trails in the Desert Natural Area. She requested the Commission review Sudbury's trails and what areas the Commission would recommend. She encouraged prohibiting the use of mountain bikes at Landham Brook and Haynes Meadow, as these areas are ecologically sensitive and adjacent conservation holdings do not allow this use. B. Porter asked if the Water

District had been involved in these discussions. The Coordinator stated at this point, no, but the intention was to reach out for their input shortly. The Chair asked what the Commission could do relative to this initiative. The Coordinator asked for the Commissioner's support and input to permit bike on designated trails at Hop Brook and prohibit bikes at Landham Brook Marsh and Haynes Meadow.

On motion by M. Sevier, seconded by R. Morse, the Commission voted via roll call vote to support these restrictions. She also mentioned SVT wanted to restrict dogs off leash in the Memorial Forest to which the Chair suggested placing this on a future agenda.

On motion by M. Sevier, seconded by D. Henkels, the meeting was adjourned via unanimous roll call vote at 7:14pm.