

AGAWAM CONSERVATION COMMISSION
May 9, 2019

Members Present:

Henry A. Kozloski, Chair
Sheryl Becker
S. Page Fallon
Magda Galiatsos
Frank Meagher
Jill Messick

Also Present:

Pam Kerr
Amanda Boissonneault

Mr. Kozloski called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM

A. Public Hearing – Notice of Intent – Paul Revere Drive – Town of Agawam

Town Engineer Michelle Chase and Assistant Town Engineer Michael Albro were in attendance to present this NOI. Ms. Chase explained there has been an ongoing issue with flooding due to sedimentation in Still Brook. The Town has a drainage easement on the portion of Still Brook behind the homes on Paul Revere Drive. She stated that the DPW will clean out the erosion and sediment that has settled within a 150 foot segment that is slowing down the water and contributing to flooding on two properties. The town would like to enter through the adjacent Tuckahoe property using construction matting to minimize disturbance to the area. Ms. Chase said they are still reviewing different methods to effectively clean out the area. One method is to enter the area once with a smaller excavator that has a larger arm to clear out as much sediment as they can while avoiding the stone lined swale. The remainder of the sediment will be cleared out by hand. Prior to using the excavator, a cofferdam would be installed upstream to pump water below the resource area, with erosion controls being used downstream that will be cleaned out periodically during the project. Public outreach would also be utilized to educate the neighborhood in ways to help prevent erosion and sediment build-up. Ms. Chase and Mr. Albro discussed with the Commission being able to file under a limited project. Mark Stinson with DEP advised Mr. Albro that if the Commission approved the work falling under a limited project, the applicants would only have to notify DEP of the change instead of having to file a new Notice of Intent. Mr. Kozloski asked what is the goal of this project. Ms. Chase answered the goal is to reestablish the drainage easement and channelized swale/stream to the condition of the original subdivision. The stream will still flood because it is in a 100-year floodplain, but will drain within 24-48 hours.

Mr. Kozloski opened the meeting to the public.

Charlene Clark, 108 Paul Revere Dr., said there is a culvert between her property and 104 Paul Revere Dr. that brings debris into the stream and causes flooding between the two properties. Ms. Clark would like to see the stream flow the way it should to alleviate flooding.

Mark Paleologopoulos, 100 Paul Revere Dr., said the stream does flood during heavy rain, but not enough to reach the homes.

No one else spoke for or against.

Motion made by Ms. Messick and seconded by Mr. Meagher to allow the Notice of Intent for Paul Revere Drive to be looked at under a limited project.

VOTE 6-0

The applicants requested a continuance of this hearing to the Commission's next meeting. Comments from DEP will be addressed prior to the next meeting. Mr. Kozloski requested more information from the Engineering Department in regards to this Notice of Intent, including more upstream and downstream survey information.

Motion made by Ms. Messick and seconded by Ms. Galiatsos to continue the public hearing for the NOI for Paul Revere to the Conservation Commission's May 23, 2019 meeting.

VOTE 6-0

B. Public Hearing Cont. – Abbreviated Notice of Resource Area Delineation – 0 & 683 S. Westfield St. – DePalma

Ryan Nelson from R. Levesque Associates was in attendance. Mr. Nelson requested a continuance of this hearing to the Commission's next meeting in order to respond to the peer reviewer's comments.

Motion made by Ms. Messick and seconded by Ms. Becker to continue the public hearing for the ANRAD for 0 & 683 S. Westfield Street to the Conservation Commission's May 23, 2019 meeting.

VOTE 6-0

C. Abbreviated Notice of Resource Area Delineation Cont. – 0, 1246 & 1266 Springfield St. – Eagle Investments LLC

Ryan Nelson from R. Levesque Associates and Peer Reviewer Emily Stockman were in attendance. Mr. Nelson explained they have addressed all of the peer review comments, and a new plan with revised flag locations was submitted electronically. Slight changes to the flags were made along the existing agricultural fields and the tilled area along the eastern property line. Ms. Stockman recommends approval of the boundaries shown on the plan dated May 8, 2019. Ms. Kerr asked for hard copies of the plan to be submitted.

Mr. Kozloski opened the meeting the public; no one spoke for or against.

Mr. Kozloski closed the public hearing.

Motion made by Ms. Messick and seconded by Mr. Meagher to approve the ANRAD for 0, 1246, & 1266 Springfield Street as depicted on the plan dated May 8, 2019.

VOTE 6-0

D. Public Hearing Cont. – Abbreviated Notice of Resource Area Delineation – 255 & 267 S. Westfield St. – DePalma

Ryan Nelson from R. Levesque Associates and Peer Reviewer Emily Stockman were in attendance. Ms. Stockman was able to complete the field assessment, and will provide the Commission with written comments as soon as they are completed. There is a bvw along the north boundary, and a small isolated wetland located southeast of the existing structures. Between the isolated wetland and northern BVW is an area that seems historically have been filled, which will be further looked into. Mr. Nelson said the USGS mapping shows a solid blue line stream at the eastern extent of the property and possibly just off site. Mr. Nelson found a swamp in that area but could not locate a channel. Mr. Kozloski said there was a channel in that area prior to the construction of Route 57. Mr. Nelson requested a continuance of this hearing to the Commission's next meeting.

Motion made by Ms. Messick and seconded by Ms. Becker to continue the public hearing for the ANRAD for 255 & 267 S. Westfield Street to the Conservation Commission's May 23, 2019 meeting.

VOTE 6-0

E. Public Hearing Cont. – Notice of Intent – 466 S. Westfield St. – Shibley/Sweeney

Terry Reynolds, Dan Niche, Kathleen Sweeney, Victor Shibley, Town Engineer Michelle Chase and peer reviewer Emily Stockman were in attendance. Ms. Chase advised the Engineering Department has finished reviewing the storm water calculations for the pre and post 100 year storm conditions and that the applicants meet all the requirements. The Engineering Department was also able to review two sets of comments from Ms. Stockman. Ms. Chase questioned if the project meets the DEPs stormwater management standards and if there needs to be additional information provided regarding low impact development. Ms. Stockman said there were three key items requested by the Commission during the last public hearing, which included a color copy of the plans presented that night, an assessment of the buildout, and a thorough phasing plan. To Ms. Stockman's knowledge, only the color plans have been submitted.

Mr. Kozloski stated the Commission needs to determine if the low impact development and environmentally friendly site design standards have been met. Mr. Reynolds answered low impact techniques have been applied through the infiltration basin and rain garden, and that there is not another suitable area for infiltration. Mr. Reynolds said the design proposed is a vast improvement to the current site conditions. Mr. Kozloski asked if there is a phasing plan. Mr. Reynolds said there is a narrative provided in the plans that addresses construction sequence. Ms. Messick read DEP comment #2, which advised the Commission to request a clear and concise report on the sequencing of the project. Mr. Reynolds answered that the site is too challenging to provide a specific phasing plan, and will be weather dependent on how it will be managed during construction. Ms. Messick stated this is an outstanding document that both DEP

and the Commission have requested. Ms. Messick further explained that since this is a site with poor draining soils, the Commission needs documentation of how water is going to move through the site during construction. Mr. Kozloski asked if an alternative analysis has been submitted. Mr. Niche said one has been submitted, but did not include reducing the number of units. Mr. Niche said per the applicant, it is not economically feasible to reduce the number of units. Mr. Kozloski asked for that statement in writing at the last meeting, which has yet to be provided. Mr. Kozloski said there is an intermittent stream north of the buffer zone that needs to be protected. Ms. Kerr asked if the buildings closest to the infiltration basin would have decks or patios. Ms. Sweeney answered the units with walk outs will have a deck and the other units will have a patio.

Ms. Messick explained a complete alternative analysis with a lower build, potential low impact developments, and a specific phasing plan need to be submitted or the application will be considered incomplete. Ms. Kerr went over the Residence A5 passive recreation and open space requirements with the applicants, which will be reviewed by the Planning Board. Ms. Kerr and Ms. Chase went over the Engineering Department comments, including relocating drainage out of an easement and resolving a property line dispute. Mr. Kozloski asked the applicants to consider a design that moves the buildings further out of the buffer zone.

Motion made by Ms. Messick and seconded by Mr. Meagher to continue the public hearing for the Notice of Intent for 466 S. Westfield Street to the Commission's May 23, 2019 meeting.

VOTE 6-0

F. Certificate of Compliance

1. CT Expansion Project Suffield St. – TGP (Tabled to 4/25/19)

Mr. Kozloski made an onsite visit. He advised the plantings are in and the wetland has been restored.

Motion made by Ms. Becker and seconded by Ms. Galiatsos to issue a Certificate of Compliance for the CT Expansion Project on Suffield Street.

VOTE 6-0

G. Enforcement Order Updates

1. Federal Street – No Update

2. Bondi's Island (cont. to 5/13/19) – A letter was received from the City of Springfield City Solicitor. The City is working with a contractor to create a plan for the restoration work.

Motion made by Ms. Becker and seconded by Ms. Galiatsos to extend the Enforcement Order for Bondi's Island to June 12, 2019.

VOTE 6-0

3. 944 Springfield Street – Mr. Nelson with R. Levesque Associates was in attendance. A mitigation plan showing the existing edge of parking to the northwest property boundary will

be inspected for debris and dumping and will be removed by hand. Mr. Kozloski asked for a fourth shrub to be planted in between the parking lot and dumpster, Mr. Nelson said he can add that to the plan. Mr. Nelson said the existing silt fence will be removed, a staked straw wattle will be installed and the DEP sign will also be installed. The Commission will notify the applicant that both the mitigation and restoration plan need to be completed by the Commission's first meeting in June.

Motion made by Ms. Messick and seconded by Ms. Galiatsos to approve the Mitigation Plan dated May 3, 2019 for 944 Springfield Street with the addition of one shrub. The Mitigation Plan and Restoration plan are to be adhered to by June 13, 2019.

VOTE 6-0

H. Approval of Minutes – April 25, 2019

Motion made by Ms. Messick and seconded by Mr. Fallon to approve the April 25, 2019 minutes.

VOTE 6-1 (Galiatsos abstained)

I. Correspondences and Complaints

Maple View Commons – Mr. Russo has requested an inspection for work that he has completed. Mr. Kozloski would like the Engineering Department to also attend the site visit.

J. Discussion – Local Wetland Ordinance

K. Public Hearing (cont. to 5/23/19) – Notice of Intent – Shoemaker Ln., Silver St. & Suffield St. – 261 Upgrade Projects – Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company

L. Public Hearing (cont. to 5/23/19) – Notice of Intent – Springfield Water & Sewer Commission – M St. & Connecticut River

The meeting adjourned at 8:35 PM