

AGAWAM CONSERVATION COMMISSION  
September 8, 2011

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Henry A. Kozloski, Chairman  
Sheryl Becker  
Magda Galiatsos  
Jill Messick  
Mark Soticheck – 6:40 PM

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Fred Harpin

ALSO PRESENT:

Deborah S. Dachos  
Pamela R. Kerr  
Mark Stinson, DEP Circuit Rider

Mr. Kozloski called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

1. REQUEST FOR DETERMINATION – Heritage Woods – Cooper Street

Norman Hill of Land Planning, Inc. was in attendance to present this Request for Determination of Applicability regarding the parking lot expansion at the dialysis center that is part of the Heritage Woods complex. He explained that they are proposing an increase of 37 parking spaces and additional stormwater management facilities. No work is proposed within 100 feet of a wetland that all work is outside of the 100' buffer. He stated that the existing drainage facilities associated with the dialysis center and built last year appear to be wetlands but are not. Silt fences are shown on the plan. Ms. Galiatsos asked whether the existing drainage facilities are wet now due to the rain or are they wet all year? Mr. Hill stated there are hydric soils on the site and that since April he has visited this site four or five times and it has been wet. Ms. Messick asked how the edge of parking lot would be treated. Mr. Hill stated there will be a berm and drainage will be routed through swales to sediment forebay and across an infiltration trench and into water quality swales before it reaches the detention pond. He explained that there will be no increase in runoff to the existing detention pond. Mark Stinson of DEP asked if the delineation was new. Mr. Hill stated that he flagged it in the Spring and it basically followed the original flagging for the dialysis unit – nothing had changed.

Motion was made by Ms. Galiatsos and seconded by Ms. Messick to issue a Negative Determination of Applicability for the parking lot expansion at Heritage Woods and that the existing stormwater management facilities at the site do not constitute a wetland now or in the future.

VOTE 4-0-1 (Soticheck abstained)

2. PUBLIC HEARING CONT. – Wright Street – Nardi

The applicant's representative requested that this item be continued to the next Commission meeting as they are still working with DEP and have not yet received a file number. Mark Stinson of DEP was in attendance and explained to the Commission why a file number hasn't been issued. He supplied copies of aerial photos ranging from 1997 to 2009 which show riverfront and bordering vegetated wetland disturbance. There was a brief discussion regarding the Enforcement Orders that the Commission had issued on this property in the past few years to the current property owner. Mr. Kozloski stated that at that time the owners indicated that they were farming the property and were raising pigs. Mr. Stinson stated that even agricultural purposes require Notices of Intent for work in the 100' riverfront area. He further stated that a profit must be shown to indicate a commercial purpose. He concluded by saying that his superiors at DEP are still looking at the site and he is hopeful a file number can be issued in the near future.

Motion was made by Ms. Messick and seconded by Ms. Becker to continue the public hearing for the Notice of Intent on Wright Street to September 22, 2011 as requested by the applicant's representative.

VOTE 5-0

3. CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE – Cooper Street – Heritage Woods

This request for Certificate of Compliance is for the recent dialysis addition to Heritage Woods. Mr. Kozloski stated that he made a site visit with the Engineering Department. A memo was sent to the Commission from Engineering stating that they are satisfied with the work as completed.

Motion was made by Ms. Messick and seconded by Ms. Galiatsos to issue a Certificate of Compliance for the dialysis addition to the Heritage Woods building on Cooper Street.

VOTE 5-0

4. ENFORCEMENT ORDERS – updates

Robin Ridge – Mr. Kozloski stated that he visited this site today. The owners of lot 2 will be installing the silt fence and swale soon and the detention basins needs much work (trees and bushes growing in it). The members agreed to schedule a site visit for the following Tuesday at 10:00 AM and asked that the Engineering Department be notified as well.

Main Street – Drenzek – The Commission voted at the last meeting to lift this Enforcement Order pending a favorable site visit by a member. Mr. Kozloski stated that he has looked at the property and the Enforcement Order can now be lifted.

Optasite Towers – Main Street – Ms. Kerr stated that she received a call today from Dean Gustafson of VHB and was informed that Optasite will be submitting a written schedule early next week on submitted the requested information.

5. CORRESPONDENCES/COMPLAINTS

Mr. Kozloski informed the members that John Furman of VHB contacted the office today regarding a culvert under the gravel road that leads to the Grove at Six Flags. During the recent rains the culver was damaged by flood waters and is under water at this time. The members set up a site visit for the following morning at 11:00 AM to view the area.

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - August 25, 2011

Motion was made by Ms. Messick and seconded by Ms. Galiatsos to approve the minutes of August 25, 2011 as written.

VOTE 5-0

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 PM.