

**BURLINGTON CONSERVATION COMMISSION**  
**MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 12, 2009**  
**BURLINGTON TOWN HALL MAIN HEARING ROOM**  
**29 CENTER STREET, BURLINGTON, MA**

**Approved March 12, 2009**

Members present: L. Cohen, K. Melanson, G. Lima, I. Deb  
Also Present: John Keeley, Conservation Administrator and Randy Newell,  
Conservation Assistant

Absent: N. Celik

Meeting called to order by L. Cohen at 7 P.M.

1. Citizen's Time – no one was present

2. Minutes - The minutes of November 13, 2008 were approved - GL/KM 4-0-0  
- The minutes of December 11, 2008 were approved – GL/KM 4-0-0  
- The minutes of January 9, 2009 were approved – GL/ID 4-0-0

3. Public Hearing – Notice of Intent – Equity Office Properties Management Company – Commercial Building Addition – 15 & 16 New England Executive Park

Mark Vaughan, Riemer and Braunstein; Matt Varrell and F. DiPietro, VHB; and John Connolly of Equity Office Property Management Company were present. M. Vaughan explained that the project is for the construction of an addition to connect two commercial buildings located at 15 and 16 New England Executive Park. M. Vaughan stated the addition is a 2,000 sq. ft. internal corridor connection which falls within the Riverfront Area. M. Varrell commented that Vine Brook runs along two sides of the property, and showed its location on the plan. He stated that the resource area is mostly bank with a small area of bordering vegetated wetland. A small section of the proposed addition, approximately 942 sq. ft., is within the Riverfront Area. Approximately 2,000 sq ft. of existing pavement (12 parking spaces within the Riverfront Area and the 100-foot Buffer Zone) is to be removed for mitigation. M. Varrell then stated a couple of large trees will be taken down, but they are located far from the river. Replanting will be done with upland trees and shrubs; white pine, white oak, shadbush and dogwood. The rooftop runoff created by the addition will be infiltrated in leaching basins; up to a 100 year storm. No new runoff will be discharged to the river. M. Varrell said Bio Skirts and snouts will be installed in all catch basins in the parking lot. M. Varrell then explained the Bio Skirts and snout system. L. Cohen asked how many catch basins there are on the site and M. Varrell said there are approximately ten. K. Melanson asked if Bio Skirts absorb bacteria in the water and G. Lima told her it creates a surface area for bacteria to cling to. L. Cohen then asked the depth of the catch basins and F. DiPietro told him they are probably two feet deep. F. DiPietro said the distance from the rim to the inverts is about 5-7 ft. L. Cohen said he is concerned about re-suspension of solids in shallow

**Conservation Commission Minutes  
February 12, 2009**

catch basins. L. Cohen further stated the Commission usually asks applicants for upgrades to a minimum of 4 ft. sumps on most projects. M. Vaughan stated the applicant is not changing the existing parking lot. The work is for a 2,000 sq. ft. connector between two existing buildings. F. DiPietro stated that new stormwater regulations are being discussed at DEP that may go into affect in the near future. He explained that the new regulations will require the applicant to have a drainage maintenance program to upgrade the drainage system within four to five years. L. Cohen then asked about the new standards and F. DiPietro explained the regulations are only “proposed” regulations. They have not been finalized yet. L. Cohen said the Commission should get some kind of commitment from the applicant that the upgrades will be done, in case the new regulations aren’t passed. J. Connolly stated he would like to get possible costs before he commits to anything. J. Connolly further stated he could commit to a possible two to three year window to replace all eleven catch basins. M. Varell stated that all catch basins should be inspected. J. Keeley commented there is an error in the Notice of Intent. He said the work area *is* a critical area (it’s within a designated Zone Two). This fact was not included in the Notice of Intent application. L. Cohen asked where the existing rooftop runoff is going, and M. Varrell told him it is going to the main drainage system and flows to the river through a 36” pipe. He reiterated that the new rooftop runoff will go to leaching basins. M. Varrell also stated they will upgrade the Operation and Maintenance Plan for the site. K. Melanson had questions about curbing. F. DiPietro explained there is bituminous concrete curbing there now, and where pavement is removed, it will be replaced with sloped granite curbing. J. Keeley stated this project does not have a DEP file number. No one was in the audience for this project  
**ITEM CONTINUED UNTIL THE MARCH 12, 2009 CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEETING**

4. Continued Public Hearing – Notice of Intent – Nordblom Company – Commercial Redevelopment – 174 Middlesex Turnpike – DEP File No. 122-443

The applicant asked to continue the public hearing until the March 12, 2009 Conservation Commission Meeting.

5. Planning Board Comments – There were none.

6. Administration –

- a. Meeting Schedule - **February 26, 2009 – Meeting cancelled – no quorum;**
  - March 12, 2009 (K. Melanson will be absent and G. Lima may not be able to attend).
- b. Sub-Committee Reports – None
- c. Other – Minor Engineering Change – Herb Chambers – DEP File No. 122-376 – Mark Vaughan, with Reimer and Braunstein, and F. DiPietro, with VHB were present. M. Vaughan explained the site is the former CN Wood site and is now a Porsche/Audi car dealership. M. Vaughan explained most of the minor engineering changes are outside the 100-foot Buffer Zone. Frank reviewed the minor changes.
  - The grading at the rear of the parking lot, near the retaining wall, was raised one foot in order to improve drainage.

**Conservation Commission Minutes  
February 12, 2009**

- The orientation of the gas pump was rotated 90 degrees in order to make it more accessible. This created an additional 400 sq. ft. of impervious surface area on the site. This area is outside the buffer zone and will be mitigated for by adding additional landscaping within the 100-buffer zone.
- The dilapidated storage building was removed. The slab foundation was left in place so that another structure could be built on it.

L. Cohen asked if the grading in the replication area is OK and F. DiPietro said it has been done but sedimentation has to be removed. I. Deb asked if there is any increase in impervious and F. DiPietro explained it to him. F. DiPietro also pointed out the snow storage area. The snow will be stored close to the retaining wall, but it will not be pushed over it. J. Keeley explained the applicant is looking for a temporary occupancy permit. He stated there were some issues. There was no DEP sign on site, but one has since been put up. The detention structure was not included in the Operation and Maintenance plan. L. Cohen asked F. DiPietro if the applicant switched from Vortech water quality unit to another manufacturer and F. DiPietro told him yes. L. Cohen then stated if the work in the buffer zone was more major, he would ask for an amendment instead of a minor engineering change.

**MOTION TO ISSUE A MINOR ENGINEERING CHANGE FOR HERB CHAMBERS – DEP FILE NO. 122-376 SINCE MOST OF THE WORK IS ONT IN CONSERVATION’S JURISDICTION – GL/ID 4-0-0**

J. Keeley referred to the legal notices which were passed out to the Commission regarding the right of way spraying herbicides for poison ivy.

J. Keeley then mentioned the letter the staff received from the Gutierrez Company asking to use calcium chloride and sand since it has been such a bad winter due to ice.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 P.M. – GL/ID 4-0-0

Minutes respectfully submitted by:

Ellen Longo, Principal Clerk  
Conservation Department