

BURLINGTON CONSERVATION COMMISSION
MINUTES OF JUNE 25, 2009
BURLINGTON TOWN HALL
29 CENTER STREET, BURLINGTON, MA 01803

Approved August 13, 2009

Members present: G. Lima, K. Melanson, A. McNamara, G. Carey, I. Deb
Absent: L. Cohen, N. Celik

Also present: J. Keeley, Conservation Administrator and R. Newell, Conservation Assistant

The meeting was called to order by G. Lima, Vice-Chair at 7:00 P.M.

1. Citizen's Time – Gregory Smith of 36 College Road was present. He stated he has concerns with the beaver pond on A Street. R. Newell commented he was aware of a dam there months ago but it seems to be OK now. G. Smith said there seems to be blockage downstream from Middlesex Turnpike. Mr. Smith also stated he is concerned with a possible mosquito problem this summer.

2. Minutes – The minutes of May 28, 2009 were approved – AM/ID 5-0-0
The minutes of June 11, 2009 were approved – KM/GC 4-0

3. Request for Determination of Applicability – 220 Winn Street – Backyard Grading
David Fisher, the applicant and property owner was present. D. Fisher stated there is an area approximately twenty feet from his house which is overgrown with weeds, etc. He said he wants to clear the area, remove some small trees and create a lawn area. J. Keeley said the bordering vegetated wetland is at the rear of the property and was flagged previously for the project at 220R Winn Street. He said that R. Newell went to the site and verified that the wetland line is still accurate. The limit of work is approximately 50 ft. from the wetland. K. Melanson asked if any large trees are coming down and D. Fisher said that one tree which is dead will be removed and one that is located at the center of the yard will be removed. I. Deb asked how much soil would be used and D. Fisher said he is not sure what the total amount would be. He said that he would spread about six inches of loam over the yard. He said it would be just enough to grow grass. G. Lima asked if vegetation will be removed using an excavator, and she was told yes. No one was in the audience for this project. G. Lima asked if herbicides are being used and D. Fisher said no. R. Newell reviewed the draft Negative Determination of Applicability.

**MOTION TO APPROVE A NEGATIVE DETERMINATION OF
APPLICABILITY UNDER BURLINGTON BY-LAW ARTICLE 14 AND THE MA
WETLANDS PROTECTION ACT FOR THE PROJECT AT 220 WINN STREET -
KM/ID 5-0-0**

4. Informal Discussion – Middlesex Turnpike and Northwest Park Development

T. Hayes, Burlington's Town Engineer; Gene Crouch, John Stephenson and Devleena Ghosh of VHB were present. T. Hayes gave a quick overview of this future roadway expansion project. T. Hayes said there will be one new intersection and one new set of signals. Road improvement will be done on Middlesex Turnpike from Burlington Mall Road to Fourth Ave. He further stated Fourth Ave. will be connected to Network Drive with islands, lights, etc. being installed. T. Hayes said there will be water, drainage, storm water quality and possible sewer improvements in Northwest Park. D. Ghosh talked about the wetland areas. She stated the wetlands have been delineated. There were three Orders of Resource Area Delineation that verify this. She said that the proposed work is strictly within in the 100-foot Buffer Zone, except for the work near the stream and wetland by the Border Café. She state the wetland line was delineated again at the Border Café site. The bank and bordering vegetated wetland will be impacted in that area. She showed the proposed mitigation plan. Approximately 315 linear feet of bank and 1,100 square feet of Bordering Vegetated Wetland will be impacted when the roadway is widened. Taylor Doughty of VHB explained the new stream channel design further. K. Melanson had several questions about the widening on Second Avenue and the number of trees that may be removed. T. Hayes said all the islands will have grass and shrubs. He stated the catch basins will be upgraded. J. Keeley said there are issues of mitigating runoff of additional pavement and floodplain issues on Fourth Avenue. J. Stephenson described the size of the roadway expansion and the new drainage system. J. Stephenson stated there will be no impact on flood plain, but they will include an analysis in the Notice of Intent that they will file in tie for the August 13, 2009 Conservation Commission meeting..

5. Planning Board Comments – There were none.

6. Administration

a. Meeting Schedule – July 9, 2009, August 13, 2009 and September 10, 2009

G. Carey will be absent on July 9, 2009

b. Subcommittee Reports – There were none.

c. Other – J. Keeley said that MassHighway has filed for a Certificate of Compliance for the widening of Route 3.

Ratify Emergency Certification for the removal of a beaver dam at 3 Old Concord Road. J. Keeley said Mike Callahan of Beaver Solutions has done two partial breechings and next week will do the final breeching. Motion to ratify Emergency Certification of beaver dam at 3 Old Concord Road – ID/KM 5-0-0

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 P.M.

Minutes respectfully submitted by:

Ellen F. Longo, Principal Clerk
Conservation Department