



TOWN OF NORTHBRIDGE

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

7 MAIN STREET

WHITINSVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS 01588

Telephone: (508) 234-0817

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24 APR -4 PM 2:31

NORTHBRIDGE TOWN CLERK
LOUIS E. CYRIL

Meeting Minutes February 21, 2024

Justine Carroll, Cindee Cummiskey, Justin Arbuckle, Marcella Regal and Barbara McNamee were present. Rich Chiras and Chloe Mawn were absent. Barbara Kinney, Conservation Commission (NCC) Administrative Assistant and David Pickart, NCC Agent, were present.

J. Carroll opened the meeting at 7:00PM.

Citizen's Forum

None

(02-RDA-2024) 0 Mendon Road (Lot 1) (Map 29, Parcel 41)

Proposed preliminary lot clearing to allow access to the lot for site engineering. The applicant is Jason Lucas & Evelyne Cardella represented by HarperELM General Contractor, 53 School Street, Acton, MA 01720.

The legal requirements have been satisfied including publication of the legal ad. The applicant is proposing rough clearing of the lot for a single-family dwelling so they can access the site. There are wetlands located across the road so some of the work will be within the 100-foot buffer zone. The lot appears to have been cleared 20+ years ago because there is fairly young growth on the property. The dwelling will be set pretty far back onto the property and there will be some vegetation between the dwelling and the road. Erosion controls such as staked wattles should be installed along the base of the steep slopes and around the roadway drop inlet. Additionally, areas of exposed soil should be covered with a layer of wood chips or straw mulch after the work is completed.

Motion made by B. McNamee and seconded by J. Arbuckle. The NCC voted 5-0 to issue a negative #3 and a positive #5 determination with the conditions stated above.

(NCCP202301) 0 Emond Street (Map 22A, Parcels 251, 252)

Proposed construction of two (2) duplexes within the buffer zone of an isolated vegetated wetland with a vernal pool. The applicant is Bruno Orlandi, BD Homes, LLC represented by Goddard Consulting, LLC, 291 Main Street, Suite 8, Northborough, MA 01532.

The applicant has requested a continuance to the March 20, 2024 meeting.

Motion made by C. Cummiskey and seconded by J. Arbuckle. The NCC voted 5-0 to continue the Public Hearing to March 20, 2024.

Minutes

February 07, 2024

Motion made by B. McNamee and seconded by C. Cummiskey. The NCC voted 5-0 to accept the minutes of February 07, 2024 as written.

Other**Providence Road**

Point of information. Zoning changes of the property are needed. They will be filing with the Conservation Commission in the future.

Castle Hill

There is some maintenance being done. Invasive species are being removed by a resident who lives near the golf course on Fletcher Street. He would like to continue to do maintenance and he noticed that there are +/-11 trees that are dead or dying that will fall onto Huckleberry Trail. He has a small off-road vehicle with a cart and will do the cutting and haul out the trees. Alex Vanderbaan is doing work on the town property and D. Pickart is addressing this with the contractor. D. Pickart mentioned that he has seen mountain bike tracks at Castle Hill and J. Arbuckle will reach out to the mountain bikers' club reminding them that there is no mountain biking there in case it was one of the members. The NCC discussed posting metal signs prohibiting mountain biking. The prohibition of mountain bikes is mentioned on the kiosk, but the bikers may not be stopping at the kiosk to read what is allowed. *Motion made by J. Arbuckle and seconded by C. Cummiskey. The Conservation Commission voted 5-0 to allocate funds for signs prohibiting mountain biking.*

Pollinator Garden(s)

B. McNamee explained that she spoke with someone from UniBank that is mainly representing the Blackstone Valley Rotary Club but thinks UniBank may get involved too. They are looking to start a pollinator garden. B. McNamee made several suggestions for possible locations and this representative is scouting out place(s) for these pollinator gardens. It could be used as an educational tool as well. She has reached out to the library but is not sure if the garden could be located there. The library was privately owned and is now town owned but funded with money from the Whittin family. She is waiting to hear back from the library. The community center was also suggested, and she will investigate that as well. Pollinator gardens need plants that will bloom from spring to fall. Rue King, a high school student, is very interested in pollinator gardens. The high school applied for a grant, but they have not heard back yet. R. King is doing work in the greenhouse at the high school now and will look for native plants.

The NCC members present performed administrative tasks (signed Orders, etc.) that were needed.

M. Regal submitted an email to D. Pickart that has some good information on forest farms, and he will forward the information to the NCC. This may be discussed at a future meeting.

Adjournment

Motion made by J. Arbuckle and seconded by C. Cummiskey. The NCC voted 5-0 to adjourn the meeting at about 7:46PM.

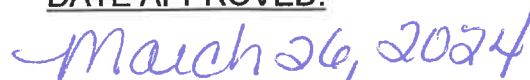
Respectfully submitted,

DATE APPROVED:



Barbara A. Kinney

Conservation Administrative Assistant



February 21, 2024

CONSERVATION MAIL LIST

FROM	DATE	SUBJECT
NCC Agent	02/21/2024	Agent Review 0 Mendon Road
NCC Agent	02/21/2024	Email – Conceptual Development Plan Providence Road
NCC Agent	02/21/2024	Email – Castle Hill Tree Cutting

ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTS SUBMITTED AT MEETING