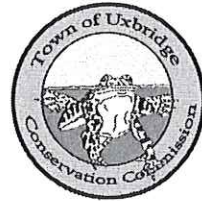




Town of Uxbridge
Conservation Commission
21 South Main Street
Uxbridge, MA 01569
508-278-8600 x 2020



**Conservation Commission Meeting Minutes
November 4, 2019**

Board of Selectmen Room, Uxbridge Town Hall

REC'D UXB TOWN CLERK
2020 JAN 23 AM 9:06

Present: Chair Andrew Gorman, Members Dale Bangma, Lauren Steele, Mark Richardson and Conservation Agent Holly Jones

Absent: Vice Chair Jim Hogan, Clerk Jeff Shaw, and Treasurer Russell Holden

CALL TO ORDER

It being approximately 6:30pm, the meeting being properly posted, duly called, and a quorum being present, the meeting was called to order by the Chair, who led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Chair welcomed new member Mark Richardson to the Conservation Commission.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

1. Request for Determination of Applicability: 99 Hartford Ave East. (01:10 – 12:26)

Applicant: Uxbridge-Millville Regional Housing Association Representative: Michael Potaski
Project Description: Repair and/or replace an existing driveway and parking lot within a riverfront area associated with a historic mill complex.

Discussion: Mike Potaski, 24 Church St., attended on behalf of Uxbridge-Millville Regional Housing Association to present plans to repair the driveway and parking lot. He explained that the goal is to provide a flat, well-draining surface and that the current parking area has frost heaves and potholes, making it dangerous for residents. They are planning to replace approximately 15,500 sq. ft. of asphalt and replace what is there with a 4" deck. The repaving will also include rebuilding a drain that empties into the river. There is an existing granite curbing and a vegetated area between the parking lot and the river providing protection in most areas. The asphalt removed will be ground up and re-used to pave a stone dust driveway (4100 sq. ft. – 3" thick) on the westerly side of the river. Timbers, lawn, and straw wattles will be used to protect the canal and river. There was a review of the provided plan. Based on his familiarity with the site after a recent site visit, Mr. Gorman believed the project could be completed through the RDA process. He said it was allowable within a riverfront area partly because it is minor exemption for already disturbed area and because it is part of a Historic Mill Complex. Conditions discussed included that the ECB's be installed prior to start of work and that there be an inspection of the drain as a protective measure.

Motion: Ms. Steele moved to issue a negative determination of applicability with the following two conditions (i) straw wattles be installed prior to the start of earth work activities and (ii) the inlet protection shall be installed in the drain if it is determined necessary by the Commission or its agent. Mr. Bangma seconded, and the motion passed unanimously by vote of 4-0-0.

REPORTED/ONGOING VIOLATIONS

1. Medline (DEP No. 312-1066) (13:12 – 14:54)
 - On 10/30/19 the seed was delivered and spread. The level spreader had yet not been moved. David Mackwell, Kelly Engineering, is recommending installing a wall on the downgrade side and indicated they are developing a plan.
2. Cobbler's Knoll Development (DEP No. 312-1013) (14:55 – 15:26)
 - No new updates from DEP.
3. 32 Church Street (15:27 – 22:21)
 - Ms. Jones, Mr. Gorman, Mr. Shaw and Uxbridge Police Sergeant Stuczynski attempted to act on the Administrative Search Warrant. The warrant was sought for fact finding to determine whether there is or was previously a bordering vegetated wetland associated with the stream and if so if the BVW or its buffer zone have been altered or filled. There was some ambiguity about whether the Commissioners had to vacate the area and the atmosphere felt heated so they left w/o gathering any evidence. Some observations were made from the public way. Going forward Ms. Jones will act on the search warrant in the coming week. If Mr. Hogan is available he may join as well.
 - It was mentioned that there is a small triangle between 32 and 42 (its 36 Church Street – no structures – Assessors verified it was obtained by the town in 2009 so it may be used as a vantage point. No Trespassing Signs may also be placed on the town owned parcel. Aerial photographs were reviewed.

Conservation Commission Meeting Minutes continued – Monday, November 4, 2019

WETLAND UPDATES/ISSUES

1. Discussion of site compliance regarding active and expired Orders of Conditions (22:21 – 23:24)
 - Passed over: there was one property, Forest Glen, which was brought up but in order to be discussed Mr. Gorman would have needed to recuse himself and the meeting would have lost quorum
2. Discussion of Catalog of Town Owned Property (23:24 – 32:37)
 - Town Planner has researched various properties and compiled a catalogue listing them along with recommendations for their best potential uses. Mr. Gorman encouraged members to review the list and identify any sites with conservation potential, and consider planning site visits to some. Mr. Gorman mentioned that the Town Forest on the Uxbridge Douglas line may be worth as site visit as it has some mapped potential vernal pools and is also commonly utilized by hunters.
 - There was discussion about how this ties into the Open Space Plan (Draft) and whether some of the properties could be added to the draft Open Space Plan.

PROCESSING

1. 10/21/19 Meeting Minutes (32:41 – 32:49)
 - Meeting minutes were passed over due to lack of quorum.
2. 2020 meeting schedule (32:49 – 33:49)
 - **Motion:** Ms. Steele moved to accept the 2020 Conservation Commission Meeting Schedule. Mr. Bangma seconded, and the motion passed unanimously by vote of 4-0-0.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS, WHICH MAY LAWFULLY COME BEFORE THE CONSERVATION COMMISSION

1. Pout Pond General Discussion (33:49 – 37:50)
 - Ms. Jones was able to remove some of the trees off the Blue Trail but there are still some there. Mr. Shaw had previously volunteered to help move them, so Ms. Jones will reach out to him.
2. Members thanked Ms. Jones for all her work put in to the Wetland Bylaw. (37:50 – 38:34)

ADJOURNMENT-NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED FOR MONDAY, November 4th, 2019 (38:34 – 39:42)

Motion: Mr. Bangma moved to adjourn the November 4th, 2019 Meeting of the Conservation Commission. Ms. Steele seconded and the motion passed unanimously by vote of 4-0-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Melissa Shelley

Andrew Gorman, Chairman

Jim Hogan, Vice Chair

Lauren Steele, Member

Mark Richardson, Member

Jeffrey Shaw, Clerk

Russell Holden, Treasurer

Dale Bangma, Member

Date