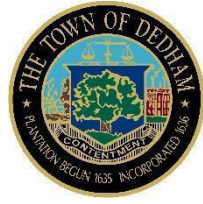


Stephanie Radner, Chair
Nathan Gauthier, Vice Chair
Nick Garlick, Associate
Leigh Hafrey, Associate
Eliot Foulds, Associate
Bob Holmes, Associate
Erik DeAvila, Associate
Tim Puopolo, Alternate
Elissa Brown, Agent
Patrick Hogan, Asst. Agent



Dedham Town Hall
450 Washington Street
Dedham, MA 02026

Tel (781) 751-9210
Fax (781) 751-9109

TOWN OF DEDHAM CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Website
www.dedham-ma.gov

Minutes of April 21, 2022

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic and given the current prohibitions on gatherings imposed by Governor Baker's March 23, 2020 "Order Assuring Continued Operation of Essential Services in the Commonwealth, Closing Workplaces, and Prohibiting Gatherings of More than 10 People," this public hearing was conducted virtually, as allowed by Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 "Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law," G.L. c. 30A, §20.

The following Commissioners were present:

Stephanie Radner, Chair
Erik DeAvila
Leigh Hafrey
Bob Holmes

The following staff were also present:

Elissa Brown, Agent
Patrick Hogan, Assistant Agent

The following Commissioners were absent:

Nathan Gauthier, Vice Chair
Tim Puopolo, Alternate

The following Applicants and/or Representatives were present:

Dennis Martens, Applicant – 80 Bullard Street
Shawn Smith, Applicant – 180 Rustcraft Road
Fadi Fares, Applicant – 105 Rustcraft Road

Commissioner Radner called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm in accordance with the Wetlands Protection Act, M.G.L. Chapter 131, Section 40, the Dedham Wetlands Bylaw, and the Dedham Stormwater Management Bylaw.

1. Continued Applications (Applications Previously Opened to be Discussed Tonight)

1.1. 80 Bullard Street – RDA 2022-03 – Tree Replacement Plantings

Applicant: Allin Church

Dennis Martens, a member of the church, stated two dead trees near the residence were deemed hazardous and removed. At the time, church officials were unaware of approval requirements for tree removal near the river. They have submitted this application proposing to plant 4 replacement trees.

Originally, 4 different species were proposed, but they would like to amend the application to plant 2 river birch and 2 red bud trees, as they have only been able to find these two species in non-cultivar varieties.

Commissioner Radner confirmed that non-cultivar native plants are preferred. She particularly mentioned the applicant should ensure the river birch trees are not “heritage” river birch. She and Commissioner DeAvila suggested some potential resources for locating native tree retailers.

Commissioner Radner opened the floor to other commissioners for questions and comments. She received no responses.

Agent Brown stated a draft Negative Determination of Applicability had been prepared.

Commissioner Radner opened the floor to the public for questions and comments. She received no responses.

Commissioner Radner **motioned to close the hearing for this item and issue the Negative Determination of Applicability as drafted.** Commissioner Hafrey seconded. Commissioner Radner led a roll call vote. All attending commissioners voted “aye.” The motion carried 4-0.

2. Request for Certificate of Compliance

2.1. 180 Rustcraft Road – DEP #141-0282

Shawn Smith, representative from RJ Kelly (owner and manager of the property), stated the project approved by this permit never commenced. Agent Brown confirmed that site conditions were unchanged.

Commissioner Radner opened the floor to the public for questions and comments. She received no responses.

Commissioner Radner **motioned to issue a Certificate of Compliance for DEP #141-0282 marked as “invalid” and indicating no work occurred.** Commissioner Hafrey seconded. Commissioner Radner led a roll call vote. All attending commissioners voted “aye.” The motion carried 4-0.

3. Request for Extension

3.1. 105 Rustcraft Road – DEP #141-0526

Fadi Fares, the applicant, stated COVID-related issues had delayed construction. He is requesting the permit be extended 2 years in order to complete the project.

Agent Brown stated the contractor had completed excavation for the subsurface infiltration system and encountered high groundwater that would interfere with the operation of the system. She stated the applicant must determine an alternative design for the stormwater system and request a modification to the plans. Mr. Fares stated his project engineer (Paul Lindholm) was working on the change and would submit a request for modification to the Commission once complete.

Commissioner Radner **motioned to extend DEP #141-0526 for 2 additional years.** Commissioner DeAvila seconded. Commissioner Radner led a roll call vote. All attending commissioners voted “aye.” The motion carried 4-0.

4. Mill Pond Park Planting

Commissioner Radner stated a group is seeking to plant a memorial tree in Mill Pond Park and is working with the Parks and Rec Commission for their approval. She presented 3 potential planting locations and asked if the Commission felt the activity would require a Request for Determination of Applicability.

Agent Brown stated all 3 planting locations appeared to be more than 50' from Mother Brook, which means this project would typically require an Administrative Approval rather than a Request for Determination of Applicability.

Commissioner Radner asked if any other Commissioners had thoughts or concerns. She received no responses.

Commissioner Radner stated she would let the project group and the Parks and Rec Commission know this project would need to seek an Administrative Approval from Agent Brown.

5. Minutes – 4/7/22

Assistant Agent Hogan stated review of the minutes had not yet been completed. These minutes will be prepared for the following meeting.

6. Agent's Report

- One of Dedham Civic Pride's flowerpots has been funded on behalf of the Conservation Commission.
- A violation has occurred at 414 Westfield Street. A drainage project has resulted in a new discharge point and some filling of the wetlands. Agent Brown has asked for erosion and sediment controls to be installed immediately and will issue an enforcement order. The owner will be required to submit a Notice of Intent with a restoration plan.
- A violation has occurred at 225 Meadowbrook Road. An Order of Conditions was issued for replacement of an existing septic system, but extensive regrading for an access road on the site has also occurred. Agent Brown will issue an enforcement letter and require the area be returned to natural grades and revegetated.
- Litigation regarding 530 Providence Highway has progressed. Agent Brown has not yet reviewed the most recent update.
- Agent Brown is working with the Planning Department to prepare a Request for Proposals for a watershed management study of Wigwam Pond in preparation for a future access study for the pond.
- Agent Brown stated, in response to a question from Commissioner Radner, that an Order of Conditions had been issued for a stormwater feature at the end of Greensboro Road. The Department of Public Works (DPW) has installed a retention basin that seems to be providing better drainage to the neighborhood. Green algae is floating on the water, but the reason is unknown. The DPW is currently waiting for drier conditions to finish the work.

Commissioner Hafrey **motioned to adjourn**. Commissioner DeAvila seconded. All attending commissioners voted "aye." The motion carried 4-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:38 PM.