

CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEETING
September 21, 2005

Present: Charlie Schmitt, Jeff Liquori, Pat Cote and Bonnie Geromini

Meeting opened at 7:00 PM by Charlie Schmitt.

Selectman John Flynn came into the meeting to present concerns regarding the dam and lack of a water supply at the Chapin Road bridge. Charlie has looked into options available to the Town in order to correct the problems. John Flynn stated that in years past the Town has periodically dredged the silt out of the river in that area as this is where the Fire Dept. fills their pumper. Charlie stated that we are looking for an expeditious mechanism to allow dredging to happen and how to fund it. The ability to do it would involve a Notice of Intent that would delay the ability to dredge until the winter months. However, in the Notice of Intent, it states that if it is an emergency situation with regard to health and safety of the Commonwealth than the Notice of Intent may be able to be deferred. Emergency certification may be prepared by Mike Gorski, a member of the Fire dept. and an officer of DEP will be asked to give some guidance as to the best way to proceed. John Flynn, stated that the Selectmen feel that this is a public safety issue as it could cripple the Fire Department to fight fires. If an Emergency Certification is prepared, there is a 30-day time period involved, so everything would have to be ready to do the work within that time frame. The Fire Dept. will be asked to write letter stating the urgent need to have this work completed. Bonnie Geromini suggested that when the work is done in the river, the dam could be fixed at the same time. Charlie Schmitt to contact the DEP and John Flynn to contact Peter Hatch and Mike Gorski.

7:20 pm – Charlie Arment came in and provided an Assessors map showing the boundaries of the Conservation property. He was asked to leave the maps so they could be looked at and come back at another time for determination.

7:25 pm – Troop 653- Debbie Joy and Olivia from Troop 653 presented a proposal for repair of footbridge and a new roof on pavilion at Memorial Park. The troop is working of a badge and part of the requirements for a service project. Bridge repair to be done around existing bridge so nothing will be disturbed. Bridge originally built in the 1950's. Discussion as to what products would be used for the bridge construction ensued. There are a variety of products to use that will fill the environmental concerns as well as lasting for a long time. Girl Scouts to be responsible for taking care of disposing of old materials. Troop 653 will need to file a Request for Determination because project will take place around the brook. Debbie Joy to ask Gary Weiner to do Request.

7:42 pm – PUBLIC HEARING – Gleason Realty, Lot 27, Spring House Rd. – Meeting opened by Charlie Schmitt. Keith Morris, for Sherman and Woods presented the project. The project is to build a single-family home on the $\frac{3}{4}$ acre parcel. Bonnie Geromini states that they will have to file with Hillside/Ridgeline. Keith Morris was asked to expand and enhance on review of property. Pat Cote stated that she has two concerns. They are: (1) what affect drainage will have on wells of neighbors and (2) affect of runoff. Meeting to be continued until October 19, 2005.

8:00 pm – PUBLIC HEARING – Susan Rauscher – Memorial Park – Charlie Schmitt opened meeting. Susan Rauscher, Mark Feeney and Beth DeSousa presented project. The project involves installing a Spray Park at the site of the pool at Memorial Park. Charlie Schmitt stated that Commission is concerned that the pool had been spring fed. Susan Rauscher states that is was partially fed by a small spring, but that there are also 2 wells. Pool area getting a lot of growth of cattails and was given approval to remove them. There was considerable discussion as to whether or not there is a spring. Proponents also stated that there are concrete sides and asphalt on the bottom. Charlie Schmitt stated that if there is asphalt and concrete, the area would not be a sacred wetland but it is in wetland review.

Mark Feeney stated that the Spray Park uses water that is re-circulated through a filter and purification system. It will be professionally opened in spring and closed in fall. Charlie Schmitt asked what the eventual treatment for the water would be. Mark Feeney stated that when closed in the fall, the water would be discharged into the playing fields. There is very little chlorine or other chemicals so it will not hurt the brook or kill the grass. Charlie Schmitt said that more information is needed as to exactly how the water will be discharged and what chemicals are being used.

Charlie Schmitt asked whether the Parks and Rec has given approval for this project. Susan Rauscher said they support her in this project. She is able to fund and raise monies as a non-profit to build the Spray Park and once

built, it will be donated to the Town. Charlie Schmitt states that they need Parks and Rec to approve this before they can begin to build. Susan Rauscher stated that doing the RFP was the first step in process, then the DEP and once they have approval to go ahead the Parks and Rec will give their approval.

Bonnie Geromini asked if everyone is comfortable with the status that the pool is a manmade structure. All were in agreement with this status. Susan Rauscher asked that a letter be sent to the Parks and Rec stating that it is not a wetland area.

Bonnie Geromini recommends a positive determination on Request for Proposal because it will be within 200 feet of a riverfront area and they will have to file a Notice of Intent. Motion made by Charlie Schmitt as follows: "While the Conservation Commission does not believe the immediate pool area constitutes a wetland, the project does fall within our jurisdiction because of its proximity to a stream area. Second by Bonnie Geromini. All approved.

Voting YES: Charlie Schmitt, Bonnie Geromini, Pat Cote and Jeff Liqouri. Voting NO: none

Susan Rauscher would like letter written to Parks and Rec informing them of decision of Commission. Charlie Schmitt to write letter. Meeting closed.

8:30 pm – PUBLIC HEARING – Continuation of Hearing – 131 Stony Hill Road – Charlie Schmitt reopened the hearing. Pete Levesque and Mike Cimmino were present. Mass. Natural Heritage has sent a response with a determination that the project does not adversely affect the actual habitat of state listed rare wildlife species. They will protect the 25' buffer. Charlie Schmitt made motion to accept the Notice of Intent per exhibit by Ecotec, revised plan dated 8/16/05 with conditions as determined. Second by Bonnie Geromini. Motion approved. 3-0. Voting YES: Charlie Schmitt, Bonnie Geromini and Pat Cote. Voting NO: none

ORDER OF CONDITIONS: (1) Subject to submitted plans revised 8/16/05; (2) permanent markers to be placed; (3) plans to be onsite at all times during construction.

Meeting closed.

Pat Cote suggested having a meeting to set up standards for Order of Conditions. Everyone agreed and a ½ hour will be set aside at a future meeting.

Minutes for the month of August's meetings were read and approved with correction to August 3rd. Insert that Pat Cote suggested an enforcement order be placed on the Persauds.

Revolving Fund – Pat Cote did some research to see if MACC dues and educational conference expenses may be taken from this account. She found that some ConComs pay for these expenses from Town funds but others take it from the Revolving Fund. It was voted to take the MACC dues out of the Revolving Fund.

Septic System design, 312 Main Street- design for septic system was given by Board of Health agent for review. Charlie Schmitt to review design and what the requirements would be.

Echo Valley Dr. – a complaint regarding dumping of garbage in a brook was received. A letter will be written to resident informing them that it has been reported and the Commission requests that they be aware that this is a serious offense and could result in fines. If they wish to come and discuss it with the Commission they may do so.

Meeting adjourned at 9:55 pm.

Submitted by Judy Mikkola

MINUTES APPROVED ON 10/19/05