

Southampton Conservation Commission
Meeting – August 3, 2020
Via Zoom - Meeting ID: 821 2131 5935

Present via Zoom: Marla Hanc, Art Lawrence, Joy Piper, Brittany Taylor (joined 6:24pm), Dan LaValley, Mike Reed

Absent: Anna Breen

Public Present via Zoom:

Chris Fowles, Select Board
Diana Federman, Associate ConCom Member
Charlie McDonald, Associate ConCom Member
Daniel Cannata, VHB
Meredith Avery, VHB
Edward Gibson, Town Administrator
Greg Felton, 32 High St
Cheryl Fletcher, 22 Gunn Rd

6:00pm Meeting called to order

Open Time to the Public

No members of the public spoke.

Old Business

6:00pm Notice of Intent, East St Bridge, DEP# 289-0226 – Order Of Conditions, Applicant: Edward Gibson, Town Administrator, Representative: VHB, Inc.

The Commission did not receive updated plans reflecting all of the proposed conditions discussed during the July 20 public hearing. M. Hanc, D. Cannata, and M. Avery discussed the wording on the most current plans and the proposed conditions as it related to dates on the pages and the use of riprap.

6:14pm Enforcement Order update – 32 High St

The Enforcement Order issued on August 19, 2019 included the requirement that a NOI be filed and a replanting plan be created. The Enforcement Order issued on April 23, 2020, included a requirement that a plan to address the culvert be filed with the Conservation Commission on or before August 1, 2020. As of August 3, 2020, the culvert plan and NOI have not been received. On July 30, an email reminder including copies of the two open Enforcement Orders for the site had been sent to Greg Felton, Bucky Sparkle, and Ward Smith. An email was received from Bucky Sparkle that he was working on the plan for the stream crossing. An email was received from Ward Smith with a planting plan and request that someone meet with him at the site for further direction. The project has not yet gone before the Planning Board for review of a stormwater management plan which was to be combined with the plans for the Conservation Commission.

New Business

6:21pm MDAR Co-Holder Approval Forms (2) - Cheryl & Robert Fletcher for 8 acres drainage work and excavating for silo foundation

Agencies involved are Natural Resources Conservation Services (NRCS) and Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources (MDAR)

Southampton Conservation Commission
Meeting – August 3, 2020
Via Zoom - Meeting ID: 821 2131 5935

Co-Holder Approval request – Construction of a heavy use pad for feed storage to be located parallel to current bunker silo. The Fletchers have run out of room for feed storage. The new bunker silo will be adjacent to the current one. Since it requires excavating, they need a COA for MDAR. The "floor" will be concrete and the walls are similar to jersey barriers.

6:25pm Motion to sign Co-Holder Approval Form for Construction of a heavy use pad for feed storage made by A. Lawrence, seconded by D. LaValley.
Lawrence (aye), Piper (aye), Taylor (aye), LaValley (aye), Reed (aye), Hanc (aye).

Co-Holder Approval request – 93 College Highway Drainage Project. This COA like the others is to indicate that the Commission does not feel that the project will be detrimental to the agricultural interests of the farm. NRCS is very knowledgeable about the land and the longstanding soil erosion problem, however the Fletchers have not been able to consult with them until very recently about this parcel because they did not own it. The week before last the Fletchers contacted NRCS and informed them that they were the successful bidder on acquiring the property. The grant proposal that they submitted and have a conditional award from was developed with consulting from NRCS. They understand the Commission is going to need to be consulted and permits received but they are not at the technical design phase yet. There will be site visits to this property in the near future. The purpose of this project is to remediate and slow down the water flow to minimize the ongoing soil erosion. The proposed work is along the frontage of Rte. 10 where they currently cut the hay and where the most serious washouts currently exist. They want to keep that strip productive in hay. They will not be adding water; they want to fill in the washouts.

6:41pm Motion to sign Co-Holder Approval Form for 93 College Hwy Drainage Project made by A. Lawrence, seconded by D. LaValley
Lawrence (aye), Piper (aye), Taylor (aye), LaValley (aye), Reed (aye), Hanc (aye).

6:42pm Stewardship Projects

Manhan Meadows Sanctuary – RTP Grant status

The Commission received emails on July 29 from MassTrails with notification of a \$50,000 grant award along with the caveat that no financial actions should be taken yet since the RTP grants are still awaiting federal review. The awarded grant is \$16,260 less than the amount requested in the application for the grant.

D. Federman has been reviewing the grant application plans to determine what can possibly be cut and/or where alternate sources of funding might be found. Conservation Works recommended focusing on the East St loop of the trail. The Commission can apply for grant money to replace the bridge across the Manhan as had been discussed earlier in the year and finish the second trail loop next year.

Conservation Commission members also discussed paring down the list of tasks needing to be done in order to work within the funds allotted to Southampton and trying to get money elsewhere to finish the project at a later date.

7:05pm Forest Management

Pomeroy Mt/Durell's Path

Southampton Conservation Commission
Meeting – August 3, 2020
Via Zoom - Meeting ID: 821 2131 5935

Updated contract was signed by M Hanc and given to forester T. Jenkins on July 31. The logger, Don Culver, will send proof of insurance to the Commission. T. Jenkins will hold the \$1,000 Performance Bond.

7:09pm Trail work/signs/geocaching

A camp site at Clearwater Woodland Conservation Area was cleared out. The Southampton Police Department posted signs that camping and atvs are not allowed there. M. Hanc will ask Chief Illingsworth about adding “Police take notice” to Commission signs in the future.

D. LaValley - geocaching - mentioned using wooden nickels related to each conservation property hidden at various sites on town land. Still a work in process.

7:17pm Property for sale on Leadmine Road

The owners of 19 Leadmine Rd live in Jacksonville, FL. The parcel consists of about 34 acres in Southampton and about 56 acres in Westhampton. The property is part of a wildlife corridor. D. LaValley inquired if the Open Space Committee has prioritized parcels in town. Aside from Leadmine, what are the other parcels of interest in town? M. Hanc suggested referring the matter to the OSC and perhaps they could touch base with Mark Wamsley at Kestrel Land Trust who had previously viewed the property.

7:27pm Volunteers

D. LaValley removed some of the Black swallow-wort from the bridge on Brittney Ln. This highly invasive, toxic milkweed is spreading over Southampton. R. Kemp noted that it is growing around Conant Park and on Strong Rd at the Manhan Meadows Sanctuary property.

7:33pm Regular Business

Updates from Other Boards

Stormwater Code Review - Representative A. Lawrence – Waiting for August 12 Planning Board meeting for review.

OSRP Update - Representative B. Gutermuth – The draft of the table of the 5 main goals that came out of the OSRP committee should be reviewed. PVPC is working on the timeline suggestions. Next meeting is August 12.

Open Space Update - Representative C. McDonald – no update.

MPIC Update - Representative B. Taylor – some preliminary results are in, still available to fill out the survey until the end of the month.

CPC Update - Representative J. Piper – There have been no CPC meetings since April.

Review minutes from July 20, 2020

7:37pm Motion to accept July 20 minutes as presented made by A. Lawrence, seconded by M. Reed.

Lawrence (aye), Piper (aye), Taylor (aye), LaValley (aye), Reed (aye), Hanc (aye).

Southampton Conservation Commission
Meeting – August 3, 2020
Via Zoom - Meeting ID: 821 2131 5935

7:39pm Treasurer's Report

A. Lawrence - the latest Treasurer's Report is pending. The Certificate of Compliance fee from Christ Community of Hampshire County was the only funding that came in.

Signatures

- Conservation General Fund (Act #015171.70, SCC-FY21-P2)
 - Payable to Joy Piper for recording EO at Registry of Deeds, \$105.00

7:43pm Correspondence

Email

- July 20, 2020, from Emily Stockman to D. Cannata – East Street Bridge NOI Draft Special Conditions
- July 20, 2020, from Dan Cannata, VHB – regarding East Street Bridge NOI Draft Special Conditions
- July 22, 2020, from MACC – regarding Massachusetts Association of Conservation Commissions - Your Payment Has Been Received
- July 22, 2020, from MACC – regarding Massachusetts Association of Conservation Commissions - Your membership dues have been processed
- July 24, 2020, from Michele Grzenda – regarding MSMCP August zoom brown bag and more great stuff
- July 27, 2020, from Joey Wigglesworth – regarding MACC: Back by popular demand – Greg McGregor's Environmental Law 2020
- July 27, 2020, from Janet Brown – regarding Tree in Potash Brook
- July 27, 2020, from Cheryl Fletcher – regarding Szczypta Farm Conservation Land
- July 28, 2020, from Paul Catanzaro, UMass – regarding UMass Land Protection Class Offered Online
- July 29, 2020, from Joy Duperrault (DCR) – regarding Helpful toolkits from Georgetown Climate Center
- July 29, 2020, from John Furman, VHB – regarding Southampton East St Bridge
- July 29, 2020, from Rick Truehart – regarding Silt Fence 10 Birchwood Drive
- July 29, 2020, from Antioch University – regarding Registration is now open for the first webinar in the 2020-21 Weathering Change Webinar series
- July 29, 2020, from Glenn West - regarding Unsafe tree
- July 29, 2020, from Elizabeth Knott (DCR) – regarding 2020 MassTrails Grant Application Follow Up
- July 29, 2020, from Amanda Lewis (DCR) – regarding 2020 MassTrails Grant Status
- July 30, 2020, to Greg Felton, Bucky Sparkle, and Ward Smith – regarding Follow up on 32 High Street Enforcement Orders
- July 30, 2020, from Melissa Kaplan, BSC Group – regarding 1657 OPGW project - Work Start Notification
- July 30, 2020, from Ed Gibson, Town Administrator – regarding ATM warrant and SB Recommended FY21 Budget
- July 31, 2020, from Randall Kemp, Highway Superintendent – regarding Status of Glendale Road Project, DEP# 289-0212?

Southampton Conservation Commission
Meeting – August 3, 2020
Via Zoom - Meeting ID: 821 2131 5935

- July 31, 2020, from Cheryl Fletcher – regarding Fletcher - Certificate of Approval - 93 College Highway - Drainage project
- July 31, 2020, from Cheryl Fletcher – regarding Fletcher - Certificate of Approval - Heavy Use Pad
- July 31, 2020, from Amanda Lewis (DCR) – regarding FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Baker-Polito Administration Announces \$4 Million in MassTrails Grants
- August 1, 2020, from Emily Stockman, Stockman Associates – regarding East St Bridge NOI 289-0226
- August 1, 2020, from Virginia Ahart, CPC – regarding arrant Article
- August 2, 2020, from Cheryl Fletcher – regarding Drainage COA
- August 3, 2020, from Joy Duperault (DCR) – regarding Now Available: Equitable Adaptation Legal & Policy Toolkit for states and communities
- August 3, 2020, from Bucky Sparkle – regarding 32 High St Stream Crossing Design Work
- August 3, 2020, from Ward Smith – regarding Draft Planting Plan, 32 High Street
- August 3, 2020, from Mark Stinson (DEP) – regarding Potential for Emergency Declaration

Hard Copy

None received.

Any other necessary business that cannot await the August 17, 2020 regular Conservation Commission meeting.

None.

7:44pm Other Site Visits

07/30/2020 – Pre-construction meeting, NOI #289-0193, 10 Birchwood Dr attended by A. Lawrence, M. Hanc, P. Truehart, and R. Truehart. The erosion control barriers were in place except for a small section which will be added.

08/01/2020 – Pre-construction meeting, NOI #289-0224, 61 Gunn Rd by A. Lawrence, M. Hanc, A. Breen, D. LaValley, M. Reed, P. Truehart, and K. Piper. The erosion control barriers needed repair work in several sections. The DEP # sign was not yet up at the site and the OOC had not yet been recorded. The Commission was told that the DEP #sign would be put in place and once the ANR to officially create the lot has been approved by the Planning Board on August 12, the new deed and the OOC will be recorded.

To be scheduled

08/07/2020 COC completion review, NOI# 289-0212 Glendale Rd

08/??/2020 Pre-construction meeting, RDA, Eversource ROW on Middle Rd.

Upcoming Meeting Dates (subject to change)

8/17/2020, 9/21/2020, 10/5/2020, 10/19/2020, 11/2/2020, 11/16/2020, 12/7/2020, 12/21/2020

Adjournment

7:53pm Motion to adjourn made by A. Lawrence , seconded by J. Piper

Lawrence (aye), Piper (aye), Taylor (aye), LaValley (aye), Reed (aye), Hanc (aye).