

Newbury Conservation Commission - Public Meeting Minutes
February 21, 2023

Members Present:

- ☒ Bob Connors (Chair)
- ☒ Mary Rimmer (Vice Chair)
- ☐ Peter Paicos (Planning Board Liaison)
- ☒ Brad Duffin
- ☒ Dianne O'Brien
- ☒ TJ Conte
- ☒ Samantha Holt (Agent)

7:01 p.m. Meeting Called to Order

- Opening remarks from Conservation Agent Samantha Holt
- Minutes Review: Commission members reviewed minutes from 2/7/2023. Brad Duffin recused himself from the vote and discussion. Motion by TJ Conte to approve the 2/7/2023 minutes as drafted; seconded by Dianne O'Brien; vote 4:0:1.

ADMINISTRATION

Samantha Holt advised that the 2023 MACC Spring Conference will be held from 2/28/2023 through 3/9/2023. During a session on 3/4/2023, Ms. Holt will be participating as a panelist for a discussion on dam removal, culvert upgrades, and wetland restoration that is being facilitated by the director of the MA Division of Ecological Restoration.

Commission members held a discussion about possibly changing the meeting schedule and frequency. Additional discussions will be held in the future, however members agreed that switching to a three-week meeting rotation and possibly switching to Monday night meetings would work.

REQUESTS FOR DETERMINATION OF APPLICABILITY

19 Exeter Way (File #NCC-417) Maurice Cassidy (Applicant)

- Exhibits: Request for Determination of Applicability for 19 Exeter Way with attachments
- Samantha Holt presents a continued RDA for work to maintain the existing driveway and install propane tanks and a generator. Mr. Cassidy is also present to discuss the project. Commission members had an opportunity to discuss the project. Concerns were raised regarding the proposed use of SonoTube footings for the generator platform, the maintenance plans for the driveway area, and the proposed concrete pad and grading for the propane tanks. Members proposed conditions that the propane tanks and generators shall be installed on platforms raised a minimum of 24" above grade, the platforms shall be constructed on helical piles or diamond pier footings (no SonoTubes), and there shall be no fill or grading completed – Mr. Cassidy agreed to the conditions. Motion by Mary Rimmer to issue a negative determination with the conditions as discussed; seconded by TJ Conte; vote 5:0:0.

1 Elm Street (File #NCC-420) The Governor's Academy (Applicant)

- Exhibits: Request for Determination of Applicability for 1 Elm Street with attachments
- Samantha Holt presents an RDA for work to replace/repair of existing pipe system serving the irrigation system for the athletic fields. Wendy Reed and Tom Woodruff (representatives) are also present to discuss the project. Commission members had an opportunity to discuss the project. Motion by Brad Duffin to issue a negative Determination of Applicability; seconded by Dianne O'Brien; vote 5:0:0.

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PUBLIC HEARINGS

68 Green Street (DEP File #050-1327)

Crane Properties, LLC (Applicant)

- Exhibits: Order of Conditions for 68 Green Street, amendment request with attachments

Samantha Holt presents a request to amend the Order of Conditions issued 12/9/2020 to include the management of invasive species in a pocket of isolated wetland. Mike Dos Santos and Matt Wilson (representatives) are also present to discuss the work. Commission members had an opportunity to discuss the amendment. Questions were raised regarding the methods of removal, need for erosion controls, and vegetation restoration. Members proposed conditions that the Applicant shall provide photos of the area before/during/after restoration, provide 48 hours advanced notice prior to commencement of work, the area shall be monitored for two full growing seasons and shall retain 75% survivability of restoration plantings, the limit of work shall be staked/flagged prior to commencement of work, and any vegetation to be saved shall be flagged using a different color. Motion by Brad Duffin to approve the amendment with the conditions as discussed; seconded by Dianne O'Brien; vote 5:0:0.

Meeting adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Samantha Holt, Conservation Agent