Town of Newbury
Conservation Commission Meeting
Town Hall – 12 Kent Way
Tuesday, July 29, 2019 – 5:00 pm

Present: Doug Packer; Kevin Stromski, Dan Streeter, Bill Lord
Excused: Brian Colleran, Ben Gahagan, Rachel McManus

Meeting opened at 5:21 pm.

Minutes:

None

Public Hearings:

MA Division of Fish & Wildlife (Pat Huckery) – an RDA for the herbicide treatment of invasive species at Kent’s Island Road off Hay Street. Pat Huckery and Ann Gagnon were present to discuss the project. They informed the Commission that they would flag any wetlands prior to treatment and reviewed the treatment process and location of the work. Ms. Huckery described the work that has been going on in the area and noted that the bridge work was completed the previous week. They identified areas of the site where invasive species are a problem and explained that coverage is spotty so the work won’t take place over the entire 155 acre parcel. The intent is to create duck breeding and nesting habitat on Kent’s Island, and they need to complete this for the grant. Contractors will do that work with supervision. There will be no aerial spraying and they will utilize trucks and backpack sprayers, as well as the cut and swab method. Ms. Huckery reviewed the plant types to be removed. Chairman Packer asked Ms. Huckery what the plans were to repopulate the vegetation. Ms. Huckery replied that they will not be replanting and the native species will colonize the area. Chairman Packer asked who would dictate what chemical would be used and Ms. Huckery replied that the Habitat Section of Fish and Wildlife would. Ms. Huckery then reviewed some problem areas and identified spot in which some controlled burns may take place, and acknowledged that an NOI may need to be filed for the burn. The truck tires will be sprayed as they come on and off the site. Work in the wetlands is almost non-existent, but work will take place in the buffer zone. Mr. Streeter suggested adding a condition that limits the chemicals to be used to those for use in an aquatic environment. Ms. Huckery added that signs will be posted advising the public that spraying is taking place. Mr. Streeter made the first motion to issue a negative determination, and Mr. Lord made the second. All in favor.

Certificates of Compliance: None

Extension Permit: None

Emergency Certificates: None

Re-Issuance: None

Mr. Lord made the first motion to adjourn and Mr. Stromski made the second. All in favor.

Adjourned at 5:44 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Jennifer Goodwin