

Whately Conservation Commission
Wednesday, August 4, 2021
Via Zoom

Commissioners present: Andrew Ostrowski, Ann Barker, George Owens, Montserrat Archbald, and Scott Jackson (chair)

Commissioners absent:

Others present: Todd Cellura (Sovereign Builders), Christopher Karney (R. Levesque Associates, Inc.), Peter Westover and Dick O'Brien (Conservation Works, LLC)

Meeting convened at 7:00 p.m.

1. Public Hearing for a Notice of Intent submitted by Sovereign Builders, Inc., to construct a self-storage facility on State Road, across from Tom's Hot Dog stand. The public hearing was reconvened at 7:05 pm. Christopher Karney presented a revised set of plans and a revised letter responding to comments from MassDEP. The new plans show the location of measures for bankfull width and plans for a constructed channel inside the stream crossing. Q&A and discussion followed. The Commission voted unanimously to close the hearing and issue an Order of Conditions permitting the project with the following special conditions.
 - Prior to construction, the applicant shall submit a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) for review by the Conservation Commission. No work can begin until the SWPPP has been approved by the Conservation Commission.
 - Prior to construction, the applicant shall submit more detailed plans for the stream crossing, including additional detail on the dimensions of the constructed channel within the crossing.
 - The stream crossing and wetlands replication work shall be supervised by an Environmental Coordinator/Monitor with experience with construction of road-stream crossings to meet the MA River and Stream Crossing Standards, and who is acceptable to the Commission. The Environmental Coordinator/Monitor will be responsible for ensuring compliance with these Orders and other environmental permitting requirements. The name(s) and contact information for the Environmental Coordinator/Monitor shall be provided to the Commission prior to the beginning of construction.
 - After erosion control is in place but prior to the start of any construction on the site, the applicants shall request a pre-construction meeting with the Conservation Commission and/or its representative, the environmental coordinator/monitor, project supervisor, and the contractor responsible for the work, to review the conditions of this order and ensure that they are understood. Arrangements for this meeting will be made at least two (2) weeks prior to any activity on the site other than the installation of erosion control.
 - The stream crossing shall be installed during a period when the stream is dry and substantial rain is not expected.
 - All fill brought to the site from off-site sources shall be free of contamination by invasive plant species.
 - With permission from the applicant, the Commission voted unanimously (4-0) to continue the hearing until August 4, 2021 at 7:00 pm.
2. Kestrel Land Trust informal consultation about a possible amended Order of Conditions for trail and boardwalk work at the Whately Woods property. Peter Westover and Dick O'Brien discussed proposed changes to trail improvements previously approved by the Commission. Changes included 440 feet of new bog bridges, replacement of two footbridges on small streams, relocation of a trail and construction of a

stairway within the buffer zone of an intermittent stream. The Commission expressed their collective opinion that the additional work would require the filing of a new Notice of Intent.

3. The Commission voted unanimously (5-0) to accept the minutes from the July 17th meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Scott Jackson