

Brookline Conservation Commission Meeting
Tuesday, October 15, 2019, 7:00 PM
Room 111, Brookline Town Hall

Commissioners Present: Marcus Quigley (Chair), Roberta Schnoor (Vice Chair), Pamela Harvey, Benjamin Wish

Commissioners Absent: Werner Lohe, Pallavi Kalia Mande, Deborah Myers

Staff Present: Tom Brady (Conservation Administrator), Katie Weatherseed (Conservation Assistant)

Guests: See attached.

AGENDA REVIEW/MINUTES

M. Quigley called the meeting to order. No amendments were made to the agenda. The Commission reviewed the minutes from October 1, 2019.

R. Schnoor made a motion to approve the minutes. B. Wish seconded. All in favor.

NOTICE OF INTENT FOR 143 Laurel Rd

S. Carvalho of Farland Corp. introduced himself and the architect of the project, B. Worthington. He described the existing conditions at 143 Laurel Road and the scope of the proposed work, including the construction of a patio, retaining wall, and steps. A portion of the proposed patio and associated grading work will be located within the 100 foot buffer zone. To account for the increase in impervious surface, the project also includes the installation of a new infiltration system on the roof. S. Carvalho stated that the wetland delineated on the plan set was identified using a handheld GPS by a wetland scientist.

R. Schnoor asked the applicant to describe the existing elevations for the site and the proposed elevation changes. S. Carvalho identified the existing elevations on the plan and clarified where minor grading will take place. P. Harvey asked for clarification on the scope of the work. B. Worthington stated that they plan on replacing an older addition with a patio that measures approximately 900 square feet. As a result of this work, approximately 670 square feet of existing lawn will be transformed into impervious surface, which will be addressed with the installation of a new recharge system.

R. Schnoor and M. Quigley inquired about the drainage plan and how the applicant sized the system. S. Carvalho stated that they sized the system to accommodate the increase in impervious area. B. Worthington stated that the applicant might consider using permeable pavers for the proposed patio. M. Quigley stated that the Commission does prefer the use of porous surfaces where possible. T. Brady commented that instead of pervious pavers, the

applicant could install an infiltration trench behind the shrubs. The Commission agreed.

R. Schnoor asked about the number of trees that will be removed as part of the proposed work. S. Carvalho reviewed the trees marked for removal and clarified that the applicant is interested in maintaining as many trees as possible. He continued that the applicant has gone through the stormwater bylaw review process.

T. Brady asked if test pits were done where the proposed infiltration system is going. S. Carvalho stated that he can check with the wetland scientist and see if they have any information. If not, the applicant can do some test pits.

R. Schnoor asked about the size of the trees that the applicant plans on removing. S. Carvalho stated that he has the DBH of each tree and would be happy to put it on the plan.

The Commission discussed the function of the existing retaining walls with S. Carvalho. S. Carvalho stated that it is holding back 3-4 feet of soil.

R. Schnoor asked for a description of the existing fish pond. B. Worthington stated that the existing koi pond is in disrepair and there has been dialogue about restoring it.

P. Harvey made a motion to continue the hearing to October 29th at 7:05 PM. R. Schnoor seconded. All in favor.

PERENNIAL STREAMS

T. Brady stated that there are no updates.

MUDDY RIVER REVIEW

T. Brady stated that there are no updates.

STAFF UPDATE

T. Brady stated that a Hall's Pond Sanctuary cleanup event will take place on Sunday from 11 AM-2 PM.

T. Brady stated that hydro-raking will take place at Larz Anderson Park.

T. Brady stated that the Brookline Reservoir is slowly filling back in.

T. Brady mentioned that the Town is working on a Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness action grant for an Urban Forest Climate Resiliency Master Plan.

ADJOURN

R. Schnoor made a motion to adjourn. P. Harvey seconded. All in favor.

Minutes prepared by K. Weatherseed