



**Environmental Stewardship Department/
Conservation Commission**

**City of New Bedford
Jonathan F. Mitchell, Mayor**

**Meeting Minutes of the Conservation Meeting of
July 21, 2015
Brooklawn Senior Center**

Members Present

John Radcliffe, Chairman
Craig Dixon Vice Chairman
Dennis Audette
Paul Pacheco
Jacob Pacheco

Members Absent

Staff Present

Agent Sarah Porter
Sandy Douglas, Admin. Specialist

Chairman Radcliffe called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

OLD BUSINESS:

- 1. Draft Sassaquin Pond Watershed Ordinance**
- 2. Update on 897 Barnum Street**

Agent Porter advised that the pool and platform have been removed together with four to five truck loads of loam. The bobcat broke down and she has not heard from him since but they are going to remove the remainder of the soil. Agent Porter is going to call Mr. Rodriques to check on the status.

CONTINUED HEARINGS:

- 1. (Continued from 7/7/15) - A request to Amend Order of Conditions SE49-0702 as filed by Eric DeCosta of Logal, LLC for property identified as 100 Duchaine Boulevard (a.k.a. a portion of 50 Phillips Rd) Map 133, Lot 15. Applicant proposes to maintain stockpiles in the Buffer Zone to Bordering Vegetated Wetland and extend a rip rap apron associated with Wet Basin Number Two. Representative is Richard Riccio of Field Engineering.**

CONTINUED PER APPLICANT'S REQUEST.

Agent Porter stated that there is a laundry list of items that need to be addressed and inquired whether the Commission would like to place the applicant on a schedule to address the items. Chairman Radcliffe

replied that he would like to speak with the Engineer to get a full understanding of what the intent is before moving on.

NEW HEARINGS:

None.

OLD BUSINESS:

Cardinal Place (SE49-692). Commission to review drainage as-built plan and calculations.

Agent Porter advised that the as-built and calculations was sent to Scott Turner at Nitsch Engineering and he has found that in general it conforms to the approved plans. Mr. Turner addressed the following items in his correspondence dated July 16, 2015, that the infiltration basin has been re-graded and the emergency overflow has been relocated consistent with discussions held during previous site observations and this was taken care of. The discharge pipe into the sediment forebay for the infiltration basin requires additional rip-rap. The rip-rap was added and Mr. Rowlett took pictures once it was done and said pictures were forwarded to Mr. Turner. The shoulders to the road appeared very stable and significant grass has grown to help stabilize the site. All catch basins have been lowered to be flush with the binder pavement. The conveyance swale located near the project entrance has been regraded and seeded consistent with the discussions at previous site observation. The catch basin proposed near the telephone pole has been installed. There wasn't any erosion and sedimentation control around the catch basins. However, the site did appear to be adequately stabilized. There was some minor evidence of sand in the sediment forebay which has been removed.

Agent Porter added that she received an e-mail today from Mr. Turner after he reviewed the rim elevations and photographs and he had minimal comments based on his last site observation. He does not have an issue with the applicant applying for construction of the house lots but would hold the issuance on a Certificate of Compliance until some of the vegetation comes in a little more.

Chairman Radcliffe inquired whether there was anything that could be done to nudge the vegetation along since it's not a great growing season so far. Mr. Hugh Rowlett was present and replied that the grass is growing very well and showed pictures to the Commission that were taken on Monday. Agent Porter agreed that it is growing well. Mr. Rowlette stated that he took a picture of the pipe to show that there was no sediment coming out of the pipe. The sand that was found in the forebay was before the rip-rap was placed. Mr. Rowlett also showed pictures of the swale to the Commissioners. Mr. Rowlett stated that he will continue to work with Agent Porter to make sure they don't compromise anything.

Chairman Radcliffe inquired if the Commission had to take any action on this matter today. Agent Porter replied that there is no action to be taken today and they are moving onto the next phase because Condition #51 has been satisfied and a Certificate of Compliance will not be issued until the whole project is done and ready for street acceptance.

Chairman Radcliffe inquired whether anyone present had any comments with regard to this matter. None heard.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. David Fredette from DPI to appear before Commission with regard to future filings.

Mr. David Fredette from DPI was present and advised that the City DPI has been looking to put in a salt shed on Jones Street and he is here today to get some guidance from the Commission. Mr. Fredette advised that the flagging was done by Agent Porter. Agent Porter inquired if the grading was within the 25'. Mr. Fredette replied that the area has not been surveyed yet and they do not have sufficient topo to do a decent job of putting good elevations. Mr. Fredette added that he is proposing a draining system that would collect run off from the roof and the pad and go through cultex type system and then overflow back into the wetland.

Chairman Radcliffe inquired as to what is in road salt. Mr. Fredette replied that it consists of sodium chloride salt. Chairman Radcliffe explained that this is an extremely sensitive area and this Commission's activity is that no activity on this property can ever impinge on the water quality. The Commission wants to know what stuff is going in there and need a thorough explanation because road salt does not consist of just sodium chloride. The other thing the Commission would need to know is how is this salt going to be contained and protected against whatever might damage it so it doesn't ever spill into the resource area. The Commission would also like to see how this will minimize any impact on the resource area during construction.

Commissioner Pacheco inquired as to what happens to the excess salt that falls out off of the trucks. Mr. Fredette replied that is a concern of his too and he doesn't know what the best management practice is at this time to avoid the excess salt from draining into the water.

Mr. Fredette stated that this is not DPI's first choice site. The preferable site would be immediately adjacent to the existing salt shed on King's Highway that is owned by the State. The City has applied to use that site but there is a six month waiting period.

Commissioner Audette suggested maybe looking into a grid system like they had at Sullivan's Ledge so you could hose the trucks down before they took off and it would be pumped into a trailer.

Commissioner Pacheco inquired as to how long the salt shed usually lasts. Stephanie Dupras from DPI responded that she doesn't have an actual number but it's not temporary. Chairman Radcliffe inquired as to what the roof is made of. Mr. Fredette replied that the frame is either aluminum or galvanized steel. Ms. Dupras replied that the roof is steel. Chairman Radcliffe advised that this Commission would like to see the specs with regard to the building.

Mr. Fredette stated that he will take all of the Commission's concerns and address them with Ron Labelle.

Commissioner Pacheco inquired as to why DPI is looking to build another salt shed. Mr. Fredette replied that as of right now they do not have enough capacity for storage because there is only one right now on Liberty Street and that is going to require some work in the near future.

2. Stephanie Dupras from DPI to appear before Commission with regard to future filing.

Ms. Stephanie Dupras with City of New Bedford DPI presented to the Commission a proposed plan for a salt shed at Airport Road. They are proposing to demolish the existing buildings and place a 60' x 100'

salt shed with a stone driveway to help with drainage. It has been flagged by Agent Porter. It is also proposed to have stone placed 4' wide & 1' deep around the building to help with runoff from the structure. There are also a few trees that will have to be removed because of placement of the shed.

Chairman Radcliffe suggested that the City will need to file a Notice of Intent.

Ms. Dupras stated that this road already sees a heavy amount of salt now, they are proposing extra stone to help with the infiltration and catch any salt and a drainage sock in between the two layers of stone.

Chairman Radcliffe inquired as to the status of the current buildings and how it might impact the improvement to the resource area.

Mr. Fredette replied that the 3 existing buildings are old army barracks and are in dilapidated condition and are on concrete blocks. DPI would be doing the work to demolish, remove the building and dispose of the materials at ABC.

Agent Porter suggested that they file an RDA for the demolition. The Commissioners agreed.

Mr. Fredette advised that the airport commission wants to demolish the buildings regardless of whether the salt shed is built on this site or not.

Chairman Radcliffe advised Mr. Fredette and Ms. Dupras that if they want to demolish the building, the next step is to bring an RDA before this Commission.

Agent Porter advised that they will also have to submit calculations because of stormwater management standards for the salt storage shed.

Commissioner Audette inquired as to how big a piece of land is required for the salt shed. Ms. Dupras replied approximately 80' x 120'.

DAVID FREDETTE ADDRESSED THE COMMISSION WITH REGARD TO ANOTHER FUTURE FILING AT SASSAQUIN POND

Mr. Fredette advised that the future filing would be to remove all the phragmites and debris with an excavator. The intent is to perform this work when there is a drought and the water edge is approximately 10' off of where the excavating work is to be done. They are proposing to place a silt fence in at the edge of the water.

Agent Porter advised that she spoke with DEP today with regard to this proposed work and they advised that this cannot be done because it would be considered an inland dredging project removing the vegetation from the pond. It is also considered an alteration of the wetland without any compensation. The proposed work cannot be done under the regulations.

3. Agent Updates (Bartlett Street)

Agent Porter advised the Commission that a wetland consultant is requesting permission to take a bush hog and go through an area that is all multiflora rose or whether it should be done by hand. Agent Porter explained that under the Wetlands Protection Act you can do a certain amount of limited clearing activity in order to accomplish a survey activity if the vegetation is extremely dense and they cannot get through.

The wetland consultant needs to flag the wetlands for Mr. Norman Nichols who owns a piece of property at the end of Bartlett Street is trying to develop it.

The Commission agreed that Agent Porter will need to conduct a site visit when the consultant wishes to clear the vegetation.

4. General Correspondence

Agent Porter advised that she received an email today from DPI regarding a request from City Councilors that the areas along the bike path on East and West Rodney French Boulevard have the vegetation trimmed.

Chairman Radcliffe stated that DPI can be notified that this Commission does not have any objection to their trimming the poison ivy and bittersweet back to the edge of the bike path but that they cannot remove any of this vegetation because it is in the coastal zone. The Commissioners agreed.

5. Meeting Minutes of 6/2/2015 for approval.

There being no additions, corrections or deletions of substance, a motion to approve the Meeting Minutes of June 2, 2015 was made by Commissioner Audette. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Dixon.

A motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Dixon at approximately 8:00 pm. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Pacheco. All in favor. Motion carries.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandy Douglas
Administrative Specialist