CONSERVATION COMMISSION

AMENDED AGENDA

SEPTEMBER 7, 2011

7:15 PM

TOWN HALL - 472 MAIN STREET - ROOM 204

7:15 Request for Determination - 8 Spencer Road - Andrew Munro *(010)*

Foresite Engineering - proposed replacement of an existing sewage disposal system within 100' of wetlands (town atlas plate F-2, parcel 143).

7:30 Notice of Intent - Mass Bay Transportation Authority - 4-8 Central Street *(020)*

Jacobs Engineering Group - proposed construction of a double track system, signal system improvements, two 800-foot long high level platforms, two head-houses containing stairways, elevators and a pedestrian bridge within 100' of wetlands located at the South Acton Train Station, (town atlas plate H-2A, parcel 9). *EXEMPT FROM BYLAW.*

7:45 Abb. Notice of Resource Area Delineation - 263 & 265 Great Road - Acton Management, Inc. *(030)*

Stamski & McNary - 198 linear feet of Isolated Wetland (town atlas plate E-5, parcels 18 & 18-1).

Open to continue until 9/21 at 7:30 PM

MINUTES

January 20 OSRP	forthcoming	
March 3 OSRP	forthcoming	
**March 23 CC & OSRP	forthcoming	
August 5	comments rec'd by	TT
August 17	comments rec'd by	TT
August 31	comments rec'd by	TT

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

MINUTES

SEPTEMBER 7, 2011

7:15 PM

TOWN HALL - 472 MAIN STREET - ROOM 204

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Terry Maitland, Andrew Magee, Bill Froberg, Tom Arnold, Fran Portante, Amy Green, Jim Colman

CONSERVATION ADMINISTRATOR & RECORDING SECRETARY: Tom Tidman

VISITORS: Frank Flowers, Mike Turgeon, Scott Hayes, Mr. Ekhart

7:15 CITIZEN'S CONCERN

Frank Flowers stated that he has been an Acton resident for 30+ years. He stated that there is a catch and release issue at NARA Pond and is concerned that there are people catching fish and taking all the fish caught, leaving the pond unbalanced in terms of larger fish. He feels that a catch and release policy should be established.

Upon query by Mr. Magee, Mr. Tidman stated that he would research catch limit and size on bass.

Mr. Magee stated that the Commission regulates wetlands and would be very interested in preserving a healthy fish population at NARA.

Mr. Froberg suggested a management plan be created and implemented.

Mr. Tidman stated that he would have his assistant, Ms. Abe contact the State and find out what they and other communities are doing about implementing 'catch and release' policies.

7:25 Request for Determination - 8 Spencer Road - Andrew Munro *(010)*

Scott Hayes from Foresite Engineering presented plans for the proposed replacement of an existing sewage disposal system within 100' of wetlands (town atlas plate F-2, parcel 143). Mr. Hayes reported that Mr. Tidman delineated the wetlands on this site in 2010. The property is very limited in terms of what can be done to replace the existing septic system which is behind the house. The system is in failure and will be abandoned, crushed and filled in accordance with DEP requirements under 310 CMR 15.354. The proposed replacement system will be a pump system with Cultec® chambers. The design plan does have approval from the Board of Health.

Upon query by Mr. Arnold, Mr. Hayes reported that there are no private water wells on the property and that this area is supplied by town water.

Mr. Hayes reported that the project should take three to five days and installation of silt fence is proposed.

7:35 Hearing no further comments or questions, Mr. Maitland closed the meeting.

[See file in the Conservation Office also located in DocuShare: Conservation Commission - 2011 Meetings 09-07-2011 - (010) - Request for Determination – 8 Spencer Road].

Determination of Applicability - 8 Spencer Road

Mr. Magee moved that the Commission find that the work described in the Request is within the Buffer Zone, as defined in the regulations, but will not alter an Area subject to protection under the Act. Therefore, said work does not require the filing of a Notice of Intent (negative three). Mr. Arnold 2nd; motion passed unanimously.

7:38 Notice of Intent - Mass Bay Transportation Authority - 4-8 Central Street *(020)*

Mike Turgeon from Jacobs Engineering Group presented plans for the proposed construction of a double track system, signal system improvements, two 800-foot long high level platforms, two head-houses containing stairways, elevators and a pedestrian bridge within 100' of wetlands located at the South Acton Train Station, (town atlas plate H-2A, parcel 9).

Mr. Turgeon presented an overview of Resource Map 1 which has been modified to include fiber optic installation (amended plan to be submitted). The proposed project includes improvements to the South Acton Train Station, continuation of the double track, fiber optic installation (not shown on the plan) and grade crossing improvements at Martin Street. The double track and fiber optic installation will be extended to the South Acton Station from Martin Street (inbound). This NOI filing covers work ending at Main Street with the exception of a sub-drain for the tracks will be included to Fort Pond Brook near (east of) Main Street which empties into surface-basin within the right-of-way (ROW).

Upon query by Mr. Arnold, Mr. Turgeon reported that there is no proposed filling of Bordering Vegetated Wetland (BVW); Conservation Commission jurisdictional work is in Riverfront Area or buffer zone. Proposed work is on land owned by the MBTA ROW and an area privately owned near Maple Street.

Upon query by Mr. Colman, Mr. Turgeon reported that work will occur very close to wetlands: specifically, within 15' of an isolated wetland on the north side of tracks and near the BVW adjacent to Maple Street (west end of the Station's platform) on the south side of the tracks.

Upon query by Mr. Magee, Mr. Turgeon confirmed that construction of the platform will occur within 15' of wetlands on the south side of the tracks. The existing platforms will be removed and a new elevator platform will be constructed with a proposed ramp on the south side(existing) and a new ramp, platform and station will be constructed on the south side.

Mr. Magee stated that he would like more information regarding how the disturbed area buffer zone on the south side of the tracks will be stabilized near the wetlands west of the station. He suggested that the Commission may need to condition the work in this area requiring the applicant to provide shrubs since the work will be occurring 15' from the edge of wetlands.

Upon query by Mr. Ekhart from Martin Street, Mr. Turgeon stated that this proposal does not include a walkway from Martin Street along the tracks to the train station.

Upon query by Ms. Green, Mr. Turgeon confirmed that the proposed project meets stormwater standards; one location falls short of the 100-year storm requirements. The sub-drains have a pervious bottom, allowing some infiltration; the outfall structure is just for overflow.

Mr. Magee stated that he wants a planting plan for any disturbed area next to the platform and within the buffer zone; this proposal will significantly impact the narrow strip of remaining buffer zone.

Mr. Turgeon stated that the applicant could introduce a wildlife-friendly seed mix. Mr. Turgeon will submit a detail sheet highlighting the length of the structural design of the under-drain, which will also include the sub-drain invert elevations and platform pilings.

Ms. Green stated that she would like to make it clear in the findings of fact that the wetland on the south side of the tracks is BVW since it is not shown that way on the aerial photo.

8:35 Hearing no further comments or questions, Mr. Maitland closed the hearing.

[See file in the Conservation Office also located in DocuShare: Conservation Commission - 2011 Meetings 09-07-2011 - (020) - Notice of Intent – MBTA South Acton Train Station – Fitchburg Commuter Rail Line Improvement Project – July 2011].

Decision - Mass Bay Transportation Authority - 4-8 Central Street

Mr. Magee moved that the Commission issue an Order of Conditions for the plans as presented with the following findings of fact and special conditions:

FINDINGS OF FACT:

1. The Commission finds that the wetland area located on the south side of the tracks, adjacent to the west end of the south-side platform is Bordering Vegetated Wetland (BVW) (approximate plan location – 1337+00 to 1339+00).
2. The Commission finds that the wetland north of the track at approximate plan location 1335+00 is an isolated wetland that may be Isolated Land Subject to Flooding (ILSF) and does not have a buffer zone.

   SPECIAL CONDITION: A planting plan shall be prepared and submitted for Conservation Commission approval prior to construction. The plan shall consist of native shrub species, planted ten feet on center, and an uplands seed mix. The plan will include the buffer zone impacted by the construction of the south-side platform between approximate plan location 1337+/-30 and 1338+/-70.

Mr. Arnold 2nd; the motion passed unanimously.

8:56 Abb. Notice of Resource Area Delineation - 263 & 265 Great Road - Acton Management, Inc. *(030)*

Stamski & McNary - 198 linear feet of Isolated Wetland (town atlas plate E-5, parcels 18 & 18-1).

Upon request by the applicant, Mr. Maitland opened and continued the hearing until September 21, 2011 at 7:30PM.

[See file in the Conservation Office also located in DocuShare: Conservation Commission - 2011 Meetings 09-07-2011 - (030-031) – Abb. Notice of Resource Area Delineation – 263 – 265 Great Road].

9:00 Meeting adjourned.

Terry Maitland

Terry Maitland,
Chair

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ahr.concom.minutes.2011.09-07-2011

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	0001 - September 7 Agenda	naturalres	09/01/11	14 KB	
	010 - Request for Determination - 8 Spencer Road	naturalres	09/01/11	1 MB	
	020 - Notice of Intent - MBTA South Acton Train Station - Fitchburg Commuter Rail Line Improvement Project - July 2011	naturalres	09/01/11	53 MB	
	030 - Abb. Notice of Resource Area Delineatin - 263-265 Great Road	naturalres	09/01/11	4 MB	
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