ACTON CONSERVATION COMMISSION
AGENDA

MARCH 20, 2013

7:15 PM

TOWN HALL – 472 MAIN STREET
ROOM 204

7:15 Notice of Intent - 54 Flint Road - Andrew Heald *(010)*

Removal & replacement of an existing seasonal porch within 100' of wetland located at (town atlas plate G-2, parcel 61).

7:30 Notice of Intent - 19 Musket Drive - ABC Cesspool, Inc. *(020)*

Replacement of an existing failed septic system within 100' of wetlands located (town atlas plate E-3, parcel 87-63).

MINUTES

March 6 *reviewed by* AG, TM, FP, AM signature

ACTON CONSERVATION COMMISSION
MINUTES

MARCH 20, 2013

7:15 PM

TOWN HALL – 472 MAIN STREET
ROOM 204

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Terry Maitland, Andrew Magee, Amy Green, William Froberg

RECORDING SECRETARY: Bettina D. Abe, Natural Resources Asst.

VISITORS: Andrew and Pam Heald, Frank Panetta, Henry Doherty, Stan Sosnicki

7:15 Notice of Intent - 54 Flint Road - Andrew Heald *(010)*

Frank Panetta from of Panetta Construction Co., Inc. presented plans for the proposed removal & replacement of an existing seasonal porch within 100' of wetland. Existing freestanding screen porch within buffer zone is indicated on the plans in red. Tom Tidman flagged the wetlands. Current porch is located at the wetland line and is on concrete piers which are leaning and about to fall down. He plans to remove old structure by hand and build a new 16'X14' screen porch with a set of stairs attached to the house. The new location is approximately 17 feet from the wetland.

Ms. Green asked if it's lawn up to the wetland. Mr. Panetta showed where lawn ends on map and reported the topography is sloped. There is a fence around top of slope.

Mr. Maitland asked if the shaded area on map could be naturalized. Mr. Panetta replied yes, that's what Tom Tidman had asked as well. There are some outcroppings of asphalt in the ground, which will be removed from the slope.

Commissioners looked at photos; a red maple was growing next to the porch, Ms. Green noticed.

Mr. Magee thinks the area will naturalize by itself after the work is completed, and maybe some blueberries could be added. A plant list was supplied.

Ms. Green noted footings are in the wetland. Mr. Panetta stated that the structure can be removed without significantly touching the topography. Earth will be a bit disturbed to remove exposed asphalt. They will only affect three feet around perimeter of porch.

Mr. Heald stated they may put a new picket fence up around it to keep continuity.

Mr. Magee requested five bushes from the list be planted. Mr. Panetta requests species that would not be too high.

Ms. Green stated if you put them in the low area, they will grow three feet before you even see them from the new porch.

Mr. Maitland said it is 17' to the wetland at the closest point.

Mr. Froberg asked about the type of construction. Answer was pressure treated lumber on sono-tubes, manmade lumber for the decking with removable glass windows; like a three-season porch with a roof.

Mr. Panetta says they may bring a small excavator to dig footings, but he will confine the area.

Mr. Froberg asked if there was a need for sanitation protection. Mr. Panetta does not expect a lot of disturbance of the ground.

Ms. Green requests they keep an eye on it in case storms come up so the pile of excavated fill does not run into wetlands.

Since there were no further questions, Mr. Maitland closed the hearing 7:26 pm.

DECISION - 54 Flint Road

Mr. Magee moved that the Commission issue a standard Order of Conditions with a special condition that the applicant will place five shrubs within the footprint of the former porch area from the list of recommended plantings. The Commission also amends standard Bylaw Conditions #18 & 19 to reflect the approved plans pertaining to the 50' no-disturbance and 75' no-build setback.

Mr. Froberg 2nd, unanimous

7:30 Notice of Intent - 19 Musket Drive - ABC Cesspool, Inc. *(020)*

Stan Sosnicki from ABC Cesspool presented plans for the proposed replacement of an existing failed septic system within 100' of wetlands. There were limited areas to choose from for suitable location on this property. This new system will take up a smaller footprint than a traditional system and will be located in the same spot as the prior system, but with a slightly smaller footprint. Mr. Sosnicki is requesting it to be within 50-feet of the wetland.

Mr. Maitland asked if he had obtained the required waivers from the Board of Health for locating a septic system within 75-feet.

Mr. Magee asked why the smaller system. Mr. Sosnicki answered that the usual stone bed footprint is larger than this new chambered tank and pump. The entire height of the new system is only 8.5 inches (shown on drawing).

Ms. Green asked if the area is lawn now. Mr. Sosnicki replied, yes and there is a berm; this low profile system makes final grades the same with no change in drainage patterns.

Mr. Magee asked about a breakout barrier and if old system was on a standard stone bed. Mr. Sosnicki replied yes, and it must be removed. They do not need to add fill to create final grading; they will bring in septic sand to fill the void.

Ms. Green asked how they will access the site. Mr. Sosnicki replied, along the side of the property. Siltation barrier will be provided.

Mr. Froberg asked about the nature of the wetland and if there is a stream. Mr. Sosnicki replied the wetland is in the middle of the development, draining into an isolated ditch that's gravity fed. Mr. Sosnicki noted that the existing 1,000 gallon tank will be replaced by two tanks, and that the second tank will have a filter at the outlet. This filter product has been on the market 10 years. When the tank is pumped, the filter is washed. The filter reduces suspended solids and adds to longevity of absorption system. Mr. Sosnicki is a health agent in Concord.

Mr. Maitland asked if there are further questions.

Mr. Maitland will stipulate the Commission's approval is contingent upon Board of Health approval. Wattle will be used instead of hay bales.

Abutter Mr. Henry Doherty from 17 Musket Drive inquired about the distance of this project's site to the trees on the map. Mr. Sosnicki said there are 14-feet to the property line.

Mr. Doherty stated that the trees are on his property, not the applicant's, that there is a series of rocks which delineate the property line; and that he is concerned there does not appear to be a lot of room for trucks. The shrubbery is on his property and the location of the trees drawn on the map does not accurately depict their location. Mr. Doherty has recently surveyed his property. He was informed that a septic system is permitted 10-feet from the property line. In this case there will be 14-feet.

Mr. Doherty explained that previously the applicants had playground equipment and sheds on his property by mistake. That's why he had a survey done and planted trees to delineate the property line better.

Mr. Doherty is concerned about encroachment and damage on his property during construction, and wants it noted.

Mr. Magee suggested that Mr. Doherty stake and brightly identify his property line with tape so contractors know the boundary. Mr. Sosnicki said the excavator is 12' wide. Mr. Doherty expressed concern that his mature Norway spruces on the berm were expensive, so he does not want machines to bump them.

Hearing no further questions, Mr. Maitland closed the hearing at 7:58 pm.

DECISION - 19 Musket Drive

Mr. Magee moved that the Commission issue a standard Order of Conditions with a special condition that a siltation barrier be placed as shown on the plans; the Commission also amends standard Bylaw Conditions #18 & 19 waiving the 50' no-disturbance and 75' no-build setbacks.

Mr. Froberg 2nd, unanimous.

MINUTES

Mr. Magee moved that the Commission approve the minutes of March 6, 2013; Ms. Green 2nd, unanimous.

8:00 Meeting adjourned.

Terry Maitland

Terry Maitland
Chair

BA:ahr
ahr.concom.minutes.2013.03-20-2013

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