

**ACTON CONSERVATION COMMISSION  
MINUTES  
February 4, 2015  
7:15 PM  
TOWN HALL - 472 MAIN STREET  
ROOM 204**

**COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:** Terry Maitland, William Froberg, Tom Arnold, Andrew Magee, Amy Green, Jim Colman, Paula Goodwin

**NATURAL RESOURCES DIRECTOR & RECORDING SECRETARY:** Tom Tidman

**VISITORS:** Janet Adachi, Jim Snyder-Grant, Rachel Watsky, Dan Wells, Larry Smith, Fran Portante

**7:20 Request for Determination of Applicability- 1 Deacon Hunt Drive**

*Applicant Larry Smith, Minuteman Ridge Homeowners Association president, presenting. Work will occur at the front entrance to the neighborhood, 1 Deacon Hunt Lane, town atlas plate F2, parcel 104. This project is to remove invasive plant species that are overtaking the natural flora immediately around the pond inside the fenced area. Work will be conducted within a wetlands resource area.*

Larry Smith and Fran Portante presented plans to remove invasive species from the wetlands and buffer zone around the "Frog Pond" at the intersection of Deacon Hunt Drive and Route 111. Amy Green announced to the Commission that she is a neighbor and member of the neighborhood association and would like to be recused from the meeting. Mr. Maitland accepted Ms. Green's recusal from the proceedings.

Mr. Smith explained that the work would be planned for winter, with all removed invasives run through a chipper and loaded into a truck to be hauled away. Mr. Magee raised the concern that chipped material could sprout from cut stems or germinate if the material wasn't composted for a sufficient period of time.

Mr. Smith noted that part of the plan was to install Wood Duck nesting boxes at the rear of the pond. Mr. Arnold inquired about the size of the area under discussion, and was told it was about 100 feet by 80 feet. All work would be hand done, and roots would be removed where possible, as well. Plans are to complete the work in one day using 5 or 6 neighborhood volunteers.

Ms. Goodwin asked if native plants would be introduced, and Ms. Portante responded that there was sufficient native growth in the area which was expected to rebound once the competing invasive populations were removed.

The Meeting was closed at 7:45 PM.

**Decision:** Mr. Magee moved to issue a negative 3 determination, that is, 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. Mr. Colman seconded the motion, vote unanimous.

The Commission noted the following:

1. Chipped material containing invasive species will be composted or disposed of in a manner appropriate for the disposition of invasive species.
2. The Conservation Commission did not make a determination regarding the delineation of the wetlands boundary associated with this Request for Determination.

7:45 **Notice of Intent:** 12 Summer St. Continuation

Rachel Watsky and Dan Wells from Goddard Consulting, representing the applicant, W.D. Chisholm, Mt. Laurel Realty, presented the modifications to the plans, specifically the Replication Plan as recommended by Paul McManus, Environmental Consultant from Eco Tec Inc. Many of the replication area changes are documented in the revised "Wetlands Replication Plan" dated May 22, 2013 and revised February 2, 2015. Additional plan changes to accommodate the recommendations made by Mr. McManus are included in the "Notice of Intent Plans" dated April 24, 2014 and revised February 2, 2015. A wooden guard rail has been added to the plan, between the paved driveway and the sidewalk. Mr. Magee noted that the guardrail would help to ensure snow removal would not end up in the wetlands. He also noted that the Conservation Restriction was presented to the Commission as a component of the Project, and not as mitigation.

The Commission requested further information on the following topics:

- An oversight plan for construction, and an environmental monitor to be on-site during road construction
- Three year monitoring of the wetlands replication area
- Table showing buffer zone impacts
- Schedule for construction
- Determination of the need to pave the sidewalk
- Determination of responsibility for maintenance of the sidewalk/trail easement: does it become the Town's responsibility?
- Indication of establishment of Neighborhood Association or similar means for assigning responsibility for maintenance of the road and associated stormwater structures
- A draft of a Conservation Restriction on the 9 plus/minus acres proposed for preservation advanced to a point where it is specific to this property
- Preparation of a narrative of the Conservation Restriction noting the holder of the restriction (Grantee), the money to be set aside for future monitoring and responsibility for maintenance.
- Site plan showing the boundaries of the Conservation Restriction.

**The hearing was continued to March 4, 7:15 PM.**

**MINUTES:**

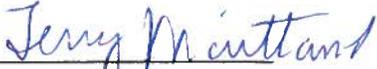
January 7, 2015, reviewed by TM, AM, AG

Ms. Green moved to accept the minutes, Mr. Magee seconded, vote unanimous.

January 21, 2015, reviewed by TM, AM, AG

Mr. Magee moved to accept the minutes, Ms. Green seconded, vote unanimous.

**Meeting adjourned: 9:25 PM**

  
Terry Maitland  
Chairperson

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January 7, 2015, reviewed by TM, AM, AG

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<input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">010 - 1 Deacon Hunt MMR Frog Pond RDA</a>	naturalres	01/29/15	3 MB		
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<input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">021 - 12 Summer catalogue seeds</a>	naturalres	02/03/15	56 KB		
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