



# TOWN OF WEST NEWBURY

## CONSERVATION COMMISSION

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### West Newbury Conservation Commission

#### Meeting Minutes

**Monday, January 9, 2017**

Meeting begins at 7:30pm.

**Members Present:** Dawne Fusco (chair), Richard Spieler, Tom Atwood, Judy Mizner and Wendy Reed. Conservation Agent Jay Smith also present. Mizner and Atwood arrived at meeting during the Moulton St. discussion.

**Discussion:** Lot 2, Turkey Hill St. --- Plan change request. A new plan was presented that moved the driveway entrance to the center of the lot allowing for better visibility to traffic and did not adversely impact any resource area. Spieler moved to accept the plan change to replace the plan dated 7/5/2016 for plan 12/12/2016. Fusco seconded the motion. Motion passed (3, 0).

**Discussion: Stewart Smith, 45 Moulton St.** --- To talk about the possibility of installing a geothermal system within wetlands. Additional information was requested about how much heat would be removed from and returned to the ground, the system's effect on plant life growing over the system and the extent of any impact to plant life and wetlands outside the footprint of the system.

**Cont. Public Hearing ---Request for Determination of Applicability --- Todd Newman, 80 Garden St.** --- Applicant would like to demolish a garage and reconstruct it with a room above. The work proposed would be within the buffer zone to a bordering vegetated wetland. The Commission discussed the proposed addition (a reconstruction of a garage into a garage with a room above) which will extend seven feet closer to the wetlands than the current structure, and the report of the site walk. The structure remains 48 feet from the edge of wetlands and the slope will not change. Given the distance of the work from the wetlands and the lack of impact on the wetlands from the proposed project, Mizner moved to issue a negative determination of applicability conditioned upon: 1) no work to begin before April 15, 2017 unless, upon request of the applicant, the Commission determines that site conditions are appropriate; 2) there shall be no application of fertilizers, pesticides, herbicides, insecticides or other chemicals in the wetlands. 3) pesticides, insecticides and herbicides shall not be used on site within 100

feet of a resource area. 4) fertilizer used for landscaping and lawn care shall be low in nitrogen content and shall be used in moderation.

5) the installation of erosion control as shown on the plan and its inspection by the Conservation agent prior to the commencement of any other work; 6) permanent monumentation selected by the applicant and approved by the Commission to be installed three feet off the delineated wetlands line; 7) no expansion of the existing elevated planted area located in the wetlands; 8) any excavated material to be stockpiled more than 100 feet from the wetlands and either used in the construction or disposed of off-site. Spieler seconded motion; vote in favor (5-0).

**Public Hearing ---Notice of Intent --- Donald Kale, 340 Main St. ---** Applicant would like to replace a septic system. The work proposed would be within the buffer zone to a bordering vegetated wetland. The Commission reviewed and discussed the notice of intent for installation of a replacement septic system with grading to 58 feet from the wetlands. Mizner moved to issue an order with the standard conditions and standard special conditions including: 1) a natural vegetation zone extending 25 feet from the wetlands with permanent monumentation selected by the applicant and approved by the Commission to be installed twenty-five feet off the delineated wetlands line opposite flags A-1, A-3, and A-5. 2) there shall be no application of fertilizers, pesticides, herbicides, insecticides or other chemicals in the wetlands. 3) pesticides, insecticides and herbicides shall not be used on site within 100 feet of a resource area. 4) fertilizer used for landscaping and lawn care shall be low in nitrogen content and shall be used in moderation. 5) no work to begin before April 15, 2017 unless, upon request of the applicant, the Commission determines that site conditions are appropriate; 6) submission of a construction schedule at least 72 hours before commencement of any work; 7) installation of erosion control as shown on the plan and its inspection by the Conservation agent prior to the commencement of any other work; 8) the stockpiling of any material used for the project to be at least 75 feet from the wetlands; 9) clean fill. Fusco seconded motion; vote in favor (5-0).

**Cont. Discussion:** ECTA for Atherton trail and changes to the trail management plan. The Commission reviewed a copy of the management plan containing changes discussed by the Commission at earlier meetings and approved those changes, (5-0). Mizner will contact Carol Lloyd to convey the results of the Commission's review.

**Discussion:** Budget review. The Agent, at the request of the Commission, drafted the budget. The Commission reviewed and modified the draft, including proposing a salary increase to \$27.00 per/hour bringing up the salary to the midrange of level 6. The Commission voted unanimously (5-0) to accept the budget as modified.

**Discussion:** New minutes taker. Minutes taken previously by Reed will be taken by the agent.

The next scheduled Con Com meeting Monday, January 30, 2017 if needed.