



Town of Ayer Conservation Commission

Town Hall * One Main Street * Ayer, MA01432 * 978-772-8249 * 978-772-8208 (fax)

Minutes for **05/14/09** – **Approved 06/11/09**

Location: Ayer Town Hall, 1st Floor

Members present: Bill Daniels (BD, Chair), George Bacon (GB), Takashi Tada (TT, Clerk), Jessica Gugino (JG), Becky DaSilva-Conde (CA, Conservation Administrator)

Not present: Dave Bodurtha (Vice-Chair)

APAC taped: No

7:15 PM

- **Public Meeting: RDA – Temporary Dock License (Ch. 91), 229 Snake Hill Road**
 - David Salter presented an RDA application for two temporary docks, a float, and beach nourishment.
 - The two aluminum docks measure 4x16 feet and 3x16 feet.
 - The wood float is 8x8 feet.
 - Beach dimensions and distances are not shown on the plan.
 - Mr. Salter will revise plans and provide to CA.
 - GB moved to issue Positive Determination with Special Conditions for prohibited activities and Ch. 91 reference guidelines for materials and maintenance; JG 2nd.
 - Motion approved unanimously.

- **Public Meeting: RDA – Temporary Dock License (Ch. 91), 1 Sandy Way**
 - Julie Murray presented an RDA application for a temporary dock, float, small beach area, and loose-laid rock wall.
 - The existing dock is made of wood and the proposed float will be wood/plastic.
 - GB moved to issue Positive Determination with Special Conditions for prohibited activities and Ch. 91 reference guidelines for materials and maintenance; JG 2nd.
 - Motion approved unanimously.

- **Public Hearing (cont'd): NOI – Twin Valley Homes, 52 Nashua Street**
 - DEP #100-0328 (Lot 1)
 - An abutting resident, Mr. Carlson, expressed concern about construction of a new foundation behind the former Fletcher home.
 - Commissioners viewed the site and determined the foundation is for a home located outside of the NOI lots.
 - The foundation had standing water and it appeared as if the developer had been pumping water directly to the sewer.
 - Outstanding items for the engineer, Jack Visniewski of Cornerstone Land Consultants, to address:
 - Add drip trenches around houses.
 - Add granite markers to delineate the limit of disturbance.
 - Add dewatering area on Lot 2.
 - Add soil management area.
 - Provide stormwater management plan.
 - Specify native seed mix for vegetation in drainage basin/swale.



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- JG moved to approve NOI and issue OOC for 100-0328, pending receipt of revised plans from engineer; GB 2nd.
 - Motion approved unanimously.
- GB moved to close the public hearing; JG 2nd.
 - Motion approved unanimously.

- **Public Hearing (cont'd): NOI – Twin Valley Homes, 50 Nashua Street**
 - DEP #100-0327 (Lot 2)
 - See previous agenda item.
 - GB moved to approve NOI and issue OOC for 100-0328, pending receipt of revised plans from engineer; JG 2nd.
 - Motion approved unanimously.
 - JG moved to close the hearing; GB 2nd.
 - Motion approved unanimously.

- **Site Visits**
 - Ridgeview Heights/Pingry Hill
 - CA received a status report from Steve Mullaney, engineer, on the various repair/restoration issues discussed during the recent site walk.
 - BD suggested conditioning the sequence of construction events in future OOCs: erosion controls first, followed by stormwater facilities, then roadways.
 - Erosion issues along Rt. 110 have not been addressed (not discussed at site walk).

- **CA Time Sheet**
 - Procedure for approval of time sheet: CA signs, fax/email to BD for signature, email to Melisa Doig, Assistant Treasurer.

- **Accounts Payable**
 - Lowell Sun: \$62.90 for Twin Valley Homes legal notice.
 - CA received check from Twin Valley Homes.
 - GB moved to approve payment; JG 2nd.
 - Motion approved unanimously.

- **Announcements**
 - Application for keeping of animals/fowl (Board of Health)
 - Sue-Tordella Williams of Hedgeway Street has applied to BOH to keep chickens within 100 feet of Sandy Pond.
 - Commission agreed that an RDA filing would be needed for keeping of animals within resource area buffer zones.
 - JG asked about tree removal near Sandy Pond shoreline.
 - Also would require an RDA filing.
 - BOH also provided an application and regulations to Mark Velarde, Sandy Pond Rd., for the chickens in his back yard.



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- BD suggested arranging a site walk with Mr. Velarde.
- MassBay Commuter Rail (MBCR) – 2009 Vegetation Control Plan (TEC Associates).
 - MBCR plans to spray herbicide along the railroad track/right-of-way, beginning in June with follow up in August/September.
 - The 45-day public comment period ends June 19.
 - CA will ask TEC Associates for maps of the herbicide application areas (not included in plan).
- **Meeting Minutes Approval**
 - 04/23/09: minor revision on page 2, Twin Valley Homes – dewatering basin details to be added to the plan.
 - GB moved to approve 04/23/09 meeting minutes, with revision; JG 2nd.
 - Motion approved unanimously.
- **Updates**
 - DPW Issue – Spill Management
 - DB visited the DPW facility on Brook Street and did not observe any measures in place to contain oil spills or other hazards.
 - Beaver flooding at Pondview Estates
 - Residents and developer (Hicks) have expressed concern about flooding due to beaver activity in Long Pond.
 - The walking trail has been under water this spring.
 - CA to contact DFW and DEP (J. Gensel) for explanation of beaver control policy and recommended actions.
 - Policies & Procedures
 - GB forwarded a draft Table of Contents listing policies and procedures to be defined.
 - Commissioners divided up some of the tasks amongst themselves.
 - CA will be responsible for those items pertaining to filing applications.
 - Stormwater
 - CA had first stormwater meeting with DPW, Planning Board, Building Inspector, and Commission (DB).
 - Draft regulations are under review.
 - Next meeting is 6/5/09, at 10:00 AM.
 - Special Conditions Template
 - CA emailed a draft to Commissioners for review.
 - Enforcement Order – Ridgeview Heights (Pingry Hill)
 - CA will contact Rick Roper and ask him to come before the Commission.
 - 82 Groton School Road
 - Brent Routhier placed hay bales, spread loam and seed in the restoration area, and began moving the dewatering area as specified during the site walk.
 - JG provided photos of the work at the site.
 - Ridgeview Heights (Pingry Hill) Wetlands Review
 - Scheduled on Friday, with Army Corps of Engineers.
 - GB will attend.



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- Consultant Bylaw
 - BD said the consultant bylaw could be used to help fill the gap during CA's maternity absence.
 - BD has already met with one candidate, Allison McKay. She is the former Conservation Agent in North Andover.
- Resident Complaint
 - GB asked if BD had responded to resident Martha Craft. Ms. Craft apparently has some issues.
 - BD has not contacted Ms. Craft.
- **10:30 PM – Adjourn**