

Town of Southbridge
Conservation Commission Minutes
Meeting of August 3, 2023
6:30 p.m.

Present: E. Rumsey, Conservation Agent, Maureen Doyle, Co-Chair, N. Nowick, Co-Chair, K. Buxton

1. The meeting was opened at 6:39 p.m. A motion was made by N. Nowick to accept the minutes of the July 19th meeting. M. Doyle seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. M. Doyle YES, N. Nowick YES, K. Buxton ABSTAINED. The motion passed.

2. It was unanimously decided to skip to agenda item 6, commissioners' announcements. M. Doyle stated that there was discussion at a PPP meeting about putting a dog kennel on Charlton Street or at the DPW. She said there was also discussion about the mill on Mill Street falling apart near the river. There is an exhibition of bird houses at the library currently. Also, it is check your tree month and people should report any disease or issues to the DCR or the Conservation Commission. She asked if we have a BVW Handbook in the office from MACC. Eric will check. She asked if the website could be updated. Eric said he will try before his last day, which is next week, as he has taken another job.

3. The dates for the next meetings were decided to be August and Thursday, August 17th at 6:30 p.m. and Wednesday, September 6th at 4:30 p.m.

4. 6:45 p.m. – Continuation of Public Hearing – Notice of Intent – Bohler for McDonald's – 505 East Main Street – raze and rebuild restaurant within the flood plain.

The notice of public hearing was read, and the hearing was reopened. Dan Allen was present to discuss the project. A Stormwater Operation and Maintenance plan has been prepared. A previous plan for the shopping center was not able to be located by the engineer or our agent. Approximately the same amount of stormwater will leave the site but will be cleaner. There is an older type of system in the shopping center.

A motion was made by M. Doyle to close the public hearing. N. Nowick seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. M. Doyle YES, N. Nowick YES, K. Buxton YES. The motion passed. A motion was made by N. Nowick to issue the standard Order of Conditions with the following additional conditions.

a. Disturbed soil must be removed off site and the Conservation Commission must be notified of the location of the spoils. They must also be covered at night.

b. The Conservation Commission must be notified promptly of any illicit discharge.

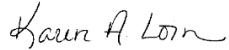
c. Landscaping must use native plants and prohibit invasive species as noted in C-701 #1 of the plan.

d. A copy of the yearly maintenance log must be sent to the Commission care of the current agent or commission chair by December 31st of each year. (508-764-5402 – Department of Economic Development and Planning)

M. Doyle seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken, M. Doyle YES, N. Nowick YES, K. Buxton ABSTAINED. The motion passed.

5. E. Rumsey had no news regarding 87 Golf Street. He has told Scott Lazo that the remediation work needs to be completed by the time the trail work begins. He has not been able to connect with VHB to see who they used for soil testing.
6. E. Rumsey mentioned that our order of pamphlets from MACC has arrived, as well as the 5 copies of the Runoff, Erosion and Sediment Control Field Guide. One will be given to each commissioner, and we will keep one copy in the office.
7. Peg Dean stopped in and mentioned that there have been concerns about noise and contamination from dirt bikes using the property at 381 Morris Street. E. Rumsey and M. Doyle both agreed that they have not seen substantial contaminations issues.
8. E. Rumsey confirmed that he has taken a new job with the Town of Oxford. Everyone thanked him for his work over the last few years and wished him well in his new position.
9. The next meeting will be held on Thursday, August 17th at 6:30 p.m. in the McCann Room. A motion to adjourn was made by N. Nowick and seconded by M. Doyle. A roll call vote was taken. M. Doyle YES, N. Nowick YES, K. Buxton YES. The motion passed unanimously. It was approximately 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Karen A. Loin
Administrative Assistant