CONSERVATION COMMISSION AGENDA

Date: Thursday, Sept 22, 2022

Time: 7:00pm

Place: This meeting will be held as a virtual meeting via Zoom.

The Conservation Commission will hold this meeting as a virtual meeting; no in-person meeting will take place at City Hall.

Zoom access information for the meeting will be posted 48 hours in advance of the meeting at: https://www.newtonma.gov/government/planning/boards-commissions/conservation-commission

Contact <u>jsteel@newtonma.gov</u> or 617-796-1134 with any questions.

NOTE: In addition to the documents presented in the Commission's packet (available on the Commission's website), full application plans and narratives are available on the Commission's website.

NOTE: Times listed are estimates. Items may be taken out of order at the Chair's discretion. Discussion may be limited by the Chair.

DECISIONS

A. WETLANDS DECISIONS

1. 7:00 - 21 Albemarle Rd - continued NOI - driveway expansion - DEP #239-932

- Owner/Applicant. Devanshu Mehta
- Representatives. Ryan Roseen, Goddard Consulting
- Request. Issue OOC.
- Documents in packets. None
- Additional documents presented at meeting. TBD
- Jurisdiction. RFA
- Performance Standards.

RFA: Redevelopment in Previously Developed Riverfront Areas; Restoration & Mitigation: 10.58(5)

- ... work improves existing conditions.
- Work to redevelop previously developed riverfront areas shall ...:
 - (a) At a minimum, work shall result in an improvement over existing conditions ...
 - (c) Proposed work shall not be closer to the river than existing conditions or 100', whichever is less
 - (d) Proposed work...shall be located... away from the river, except in accordance with 10.58(5)(f) or (g).
 - (e) proposed work shall not exceed the ... degraded area ... except in accordance with 10.58(5)(f) or (g).
 - (f) despite what it says in 310 CMR 10.58(5)(c), (d), and (e), more alteration at the RFA outer boundary may be allowed if an applicant proposes restoration ... of at least 1:1 ...
 - (g) despite what it says in 310 CMR 10.58(5)(c), (d), or (e), more alteration at the RFA outer boundary may be allowed if an applicant proposes mitigation ... of at least 2:1
 - (h) The issuing authority shall include a continuing condition in the COC ...under 10.58(5)(f) or (g) prohibiting further alteration within the restoration or mitigation area....
- Proposed Project Summary.
 - o Enlarge paved driveway by 310 sf to allow two cars to be parked side by side.
 - o Install a mitigation planting area
- Staff Notes.
 - Staff have not received any revised plans from the applicant.



Mayor Ruthanne Fuller

> Director Planning & Development Barney Heath

Chief Environmental Planner Jennifer Steel

Assistant
Environmental
Planner
Ellen Menounos

Conservation

Commission
Members
Kathy Cade
Dan Green
Judy Hepburn
Ellen Katz
Susan Lunin
Jeff Zabel

Leigh Gilligan

Associate Member Sonya McKnight

Contact Information 1000 Comm. Ave. Newton, MA 02459

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- o The mitigation planting area is now planned to be on the subject parcel, not on City land along Cheese Cake Brook, but new planting plans have not yet been submitted for staff review.
- o Under 10.58(5)(h), the planting area must be 2:1 and must be bounded to ensure permanent protection.
- <u>Staff Recommendation</u>: If an appropriate restoration or mitigation plan is received, illustrating an appropriate area, plant species, and plant sizes, vote to close the hearing and issue an OOC with the state's required conditions, Newton's special conditions, and the following site-specific special conditions:
 - o The roots, trunks, and branches of street trees and ????? must be protected during construction.
 - If street trees and other mature trees in the proximity of the driveway expansion or mitigation planting area die or are demonstrably harmed as a result of this project, they must be replaced as per the Commission's Tree Replacement Guidelines.

| 0 | The | mitigation | planting | area | must: |
|---------|------|-------------|-----------|-------|-------|
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| a. | Be | installed | on or | before | |
|----|----|-----------|-------|--------|--|
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- b. Be installed in compliance with the approved plans (desired changes must be approved by the Conservation office in advance)
- c. Be installed and maintained in such a manner as to replicate to the maximum extent practical a diverse ecological system, provide habitat for native species, and keep invasive species in check. Mulch applications, if any, shall diminish over time and eventually cease as ground cover species and shrubs spread.
- d. Stabilize all exposed areas
- e. Include _____ native trees and have a survival rate of _____ % of total number of trees (after 2 growing seasons)
- f. Include _____ native shrubs and have a survival rate of _____ % of total number of shrubs (after 2 growing seasons)
- g. Include _____ native spreading herbaceous/groundcover plants and have a survival rate of _____ % aerial coverage of such plants (after 2 growing seasons)
- h. Include organic leaf-litter mulch to minimize aggressive weed growth but not impede spread of groundcover.
- i. Be bounded, as shown on the plans, with bounds that: (1) are 4"x4"x36" stone or concrete post, (2) have instructive language regarding the required protection, (3) have at least 6" maintained above grade, and (4) are placed at every boundary corner and never more than 20 feet apart.

2. 7:25 – 423 Albemarle Rd – NOI – addition and porch extension -- DEP #239-???

- Owner/Applicant. Burt Granofsky
- Representative. Timothy Burke, Architect
- Request. Issue OOC.
- Documents in packets. Highlighted plan
- Additional documents presented at meeting. Locus map, site photos, planting plan?
- Jurisdiction. RFA
- Performance Standards.

RFA: Redevelopment in Previously Developed Riverfront Areas; Restoration & Mitigation: 10.58(5)

- ... work improves existing conditions.
- Work to redevelop previously developed riverfront areas shall ...:
 - (a) At a minimum, work shall result in an improvement over existing conditions ...
 - (c) Proposed work shall not be closer to the river than existing conditions or 100', whichever is less
 - (d) Proposed work...shall be located... away from the river, except in accordance with 10.58(5)(f) or (g).
 - (e) proposed work shall not exceed the ... degraded area ... except in accordance with 10.58(5)(f) or (g).
 - (f) despite what it says in 310 CMR 10.58(5)(c), (d), and (e), more alteration at the RFA outer boundary may be allowed if an applicant proposes restoration ... of at least 1:1 ...
 - (g) despite what it says in 310 CMR 10.58(5)(c), (d), or (e), more alteration at the RFA outer boundary may be allowed if an applicant proposes mitigation ... of at least 2:1
 - (h) The issuing authority shall include a continuing condition in the COC ...under 10.58(5)(f) or (g) prohibiting further alteration within the restoration or mitigation area ...

• Proposed Project Summary.

- o Build an addition with a footprint of 85 sf and extend an existing covered porch, for a total increase in 205 sf impervious
- o Limited excavation amounts to five piers with footings.
- o New gutters and downspouts will connect to existing infiltration system.
- Work site is fairly level, so low risk of erosion.

• Staff Notes.

Expansion of the deck is exempt under the Commission's guidance regarding "Interpretation of 310CMR 10.02(2)(b)(2)(e) "Minor Exempt Activities".

- The 85 sf addition is not exempt and should be addressed through a mitigation plan (of at least 170 sf) or a restoration plan (of at least 85 sf). Options include, for example, removal/restoration of a portion of the driveway or planting and bounding a mitigation planting area per the Commissions guidelines.
- <u>Staff Recommendation</u>. If an appropriate restoration or mitigation plan has been received, illustrating an appropriate area, plant species, and plant sizes, vote to close the hearing and issue an OOC with the state's required conditions, Newton's special conditions, and the following site-specific special conditions:
 - <u>Driveway removal must be at least 85 sf</u> and must be followed with the approved planting plan of "herbaceous and woody species appropriate to the site"
 - o The mitigation planting area must:
 - a. Be installed on or before _____
 - b. Be installed in compliance with the approved plans (desired changes must be approved by the Conservation office in advance)
 - c. Be installed and maintained in such a manner as to replicate to the maximum extent practical a diverse ecological system, provide habitat for native species, and keep invasive species in check. Mulch applications, if any, shall diminish over time and eventually cease as ground cover species and shrubs spread.
 - d. Stabilize all exposed areas
 - e. Include _____ native trees and have a survival rate of _____ % of total number of trees (after 2 growing seasons)
 - f. Include _____ native shrubs and have a survival rate of _____ % of total number of shrubs (after 2 growing seasons)
 - g. Include _____ native spreading herbaceous/groundcover plants and have a survival rate of _____ % aerial coverage of such plants (after 2 growing seasons)
 - h. Include organic leaf-litter mulch to minimize aggressive weed growth but not impede spread of groundcover.
 - i. Be bounded, as shown on the plans, with bounds that: (1) are 4"x4"x36" stone or concrete post, (2) have instructive language regarding the required protection, (3) have at least 6" maintained above grade, and (4) are placed at every boundary corner and never more than 20 feet apart.

3. 7:50 - 71 Harwich - continued NOI - single-family home demo and construction - DEP #239-933

- Owner/Applicant. Vlad Vilkomir, GS Harwich 71 LLC
- Representatives. Debbie Anderson
- Request. Continue to 10/3/22 to allow time for receipt of modified materials.
- <u>Documents in packets.</u> none
- Additional documents presented at meeting. none
- Jurisdiction. BZ only
- <u>Staff Recommendation</u>: Vote to accept request to continue to 10/3/22 at _____ (with revised materials due by _____) to address the following application deficiencies:
 - o Soil tests should be conducted to determine the extent of BVW (in this disturbed site).
 - o Plans should be augmented to show the size and species of each existing trees and the existing lawn line.
 - o Mitigation should be proposed for the proposed tree cutting and footprint expansion.
 - o Plans for the stormwater management system should revised, adding a proper site plan, test pit data, and an O&M plan.

4. 7:55 – 43 River Ave – continued NOI – demo single family home/rebuild 2 family home – DEP #239-931

- Owner/Applicant. Dina Onur
- Representatives. John Rockwood, Eco-Tec
- Request. Continue to 10/3/22 to allow time for receipt of modified materials.
- Documents in packets. none
- Additional documents presented at meeting, none
- <u>Jurisdiction.</u> RFA, BLSF, Buffer Zone
- <u>Staff Recommendation</u>: Vote to accept request to continue to 10/3/22 at _____ (with revised materials due by _____) to address the following application deficiencies:
 - o On-site stormwater management and an accompanying long-term O&M plan
 - Clarification of how the project meets the state's minimum standards for restoration and mitigation or modification of the mitigation plan to address the following concern: The proposed mitigation planting area mitigates for the expansion of degraded area, however, there is no mitigation proposed for the cutting of the trees near the river.

5. 8:00 - 326 Fuller St - NOI - course-wide drainage improvements at Brae Burn Country Club - DEP #239-937

- Owner/Applicant. Sean McLaughlin, Brae Burn Country Club
- Representatives. Sarah Stearns & Andrew Gorman, Beals and Thomas

- Request. Issue OOC.
- <u>Documents in packets.</u> Highlighted plans. Memo (with illustrations) from Beals and Thomas. Compilation of illustrations by staff.
- Additional documents presented at meeting. Site photos
- Jurisdiction. Buffer Zone only (to BVW and Bank of Cheesecake Brook.)
- <u>Performance Standards.</u> Buffer Zone 10.53(1): General Provisions: "... the Issuing Authority shall impose conditions to protect the interests of the Act identified for the adjacent Resource Area.
- Proposed Project Summary.
 - Overview
 - The Club is the low point and takes (and infiltrates) runoff from surrounding developed areas.
 - Work will occur in 3 areas of ConCom jurisdiction.
 - Work is a replacement and upgrade of the existing subsurface drainage system to remedy a pattern of slow infiltration/flooding in the fairways which results in golf course closure.
 - The project will address both subsurface saturation ("seepage water") and surficial runoff (stormwater).
 - More precipitation will percolate before it reaches the pipes, resulting in a more consistent volume of flow to Cheesecake Brook.
 - Methods: Using a trencher (or excavator if ledge is found), trenches will be 2-4' deep; turf will be removed with a sod-cutter and reinstalled; trenches will be backfilled with sand. Existing drain lines will be abandoned in place.
 - There will be temporary work on bank, as part of the work.
 - Total linear feet of trenching within the buffer zone is approximately 6665 lf.

Drainage improvements

- The full-time pump-and-gravity system is designed to provide infiltration capacity in advance of rain events, thereby promoting infiltration in the fairways and filtration of stormwater. Thus, less over-land flows and cleaner, more consistent base flows reach the streams. Additionally, aerobic conditions are promoted, encouraging biological activity and reducing soil compaction.
- The proposed project, "industry-standard system", addresses both subsurface saturation ("seepage water") and surficial runoff (stormwater) and will improve conditions of the turf and the streams by reducing direct discharge to the stream.
 - The seepage system is made up of sand, waffle drains geotextile fabric wrapped around an inner core) that collect water that has filtered through the sand/soil), and collection pipes which transport to the streams whatever water doesn't remain in the soil.
 - New surface water drains (perma basins and channel basins) will be installed in the fairways to address overland flow.
 - o Cart paths will be curbed to direct water to catch basins.

Mitigation

- Create ±26,000 natural meadow (no maintenance area) in Drainage Area 1 (> 0.6 acres) in the buffer zone
- Create ±5 feet wide (where possible) no-mow strip (to be seeded with an appropriate seed mix) on both sides of the channel in the Highlands Course in Drainage Area 4.
- Avoid and protect trees with matting or fencing where trenching is proposed close to tree roots.

• Staff Notes.

- o Staff feel that this project represents a win-win situation: improving golf play and improving the ecological health of the headwaters of Cheese Cake Brook.
- o Staff would like a clearer understanding of the anticipated impacts to bank and plans to ensure long term bank stability.
- <u>Staff Recommendation:</u> Vote to close the hearing and issue an OOC with the state's required conditions, Newton's special conditions, and site-specific special conditions.
 - o Once the subsurface system had been designed, a plan showing the proposed installation must be provided to the Conservation Office for their files.
 - o Following the installation of new discharge pipes, stream banks must be stable and fully vegetated.
 - Mitigation areas (the no-mow strip and the expanded wet meadow) must be provided as outlined in the attached narrative and must be maintained in their predominantly natural state.

6. 8:30 - 115 Elinor Rd - NOI - single-family home demo and construction - DEP #239-936

- Owner/Applicant. Alan Mayer Architects
- Representatives. Ryan Roseen, Goddard Consulting
- Request. Issue OOC.

- Documents in packets. Highlighted revised plans
- Additional documents presented at meeting. Aerial photo, site photos
- Jurisdiction. BLSF
- Performance Standards.

Bordering Land Subject to Flooding: 10.57

- 1. Compensatory storage shall be provided for all flood storage volume that will be lost...
- 2. Work shall not restrict flows so as to cause an increase in flood stage or velocity.
- 3. Work in those portions of bordering land subject to flooding found to be significant to the protection of wildlife habitat shall not impair its capacity to provide important wildlife habitat functions.
- Proposed Project Summary: Demo single-family home, construct new single-family home. Pool will not be demolished.
- Proposed Project within ConCom jurisdiction:
 - o Demo
 - Site grading to provide compensatory flood storage
 - Minor alteration of pool deck, construction of corner of deck and stairs

Staff Notes.

- Sheet 1: Construction plan: erosion control line is beyond the area due to be altered and so trees are not protected by the erosion control, so either the erosion control line should move or extra tree protection should be provided on the plans.
- Sheet 1. Construction plan: 5 cuts are shown but only 4 are properly annotated with volume calculations. It would be
 easiest if all the cut and fill numbers (including the new deck and stairs) appeared in one table.
- o Sheet 1. Construction plan: The changes from existing to proposed pool deck area are not clear.
- o Sheet 2: Existing conditions plan: doesn't label fence, and shows apparent erosion control line (why?)
- o The 14" tree near the garage on the existing conditions plan has been removed and should possibly be mitigated for.
- o Plans showing property lines are supposed to be stamped by a PLS.
- <u>Staff Recommendation.</u> Once all plan concerns have been addressed, vote to close the hearing and issue an OOC with the state's required conditions, Newton's special conditions, and site-specific special conditions.
 - o No trees within BLSF may be damaged or removed.
 - o Finished grades may not deviate from the approved plans, even if high groundwater is encountered.
 - o No concrete washout may take place in BLSF
 - o No discharge from dewatering shall take place in BLSF
 - o No skirting, other than that minimal skirting which comports with the Commission's policy shall be permitted on the deck and stairs within the flood zone
 - Adequate protection must be installed for the trees within the limit of work/erosion controls. This may include the
 addition of orange snow fencing near the drip line, boards tied to the trunk, and/or mulch and plywood placed over the
 roots.
 - o If any trees intended to be protected within the project area die within 2 years of the start of construction as a result of the construction or have been demonstrably harmed by construction activities, they shall be replaced at a ratio of 2:1 with native canopy saplings (of roughly 2 caliper inches).
 - o The plans do not call for any fill in the yard within the BLSF. No new loam may be brought into the BLSF without a compensatory amount (of at least 110%) of prior removal.
 - o No <u>Certificate of Occupancy</u> shall be approved by Conservation unless a Certificate of Compliance has been issued or the request receives the written approval of the Chief Environmental Planner.
 - No skirting, other than that minimal skirting which comports with the Commission's policy shall be permitted on the deck and stairs within the flood zone
 - o To protect the water quality of area wetlands, fertilizers shall be of low-nitrogen content and be used in moderation
 - To protect the full suite of benefits of area wetlands, wildlife, and native insects and pollinators, no herbicides and pesticides shall be used.
 - o To protect wetland wildlife, <u>exterior lighting</u> shall be limited to "dark sky", focused lighting. No spotlights or floodlights shall be directed within the BLSF.

7. 8:50 – 230 Lake Ave – NOI – sewer line connection – DEP #239-938

- Owner/Applicant. Karen Ayas
- Representative. Karen Ayas
- Request. Issue OOC.
- Documents in packets. Highlighted plan

- Additional documents presented at meeting. Aerial photo, site photos
- Jurisdiction. Buffer Zone to Bank of Crystal Lake
- <u>Performance Standards</u>. Buffer Zone 10.53(1): General Provisions: "... the Issuing Authority shall impose conditions to protect the interests of the Act identified for the adjacent Resource Area.
- Proposed Project Summary.
 - Install sewer line to connect a new bathroom.
 - Line will avoid tree in front of house.

Staff Notes.

- o This is a simple project that will have minimal impact on the wetland resource area (the bank of Crystal Lake).
- The base plan is inaccurate (e.g., grade lines are incomplete, grading annotations are incorrect and the wetland boundary is not accurately shown, and the 100-foot buffer line is not shown). The homeowner has sought revisions, but to no avail. Staff do not want the homeowner to suffer; the work is minimal and the disturbance will be temporary.
- <u>Staff Recommendation</u>. Vote to close the hearing and issue an OOC with the state's required conditions, Newton's special conditions, and the following site-specific special conditions:
 - o The tree in the front yard may not be damaged or removed.
 - If the <u>tree in the front yard intended to be protected dies within 2 years</u> of the start of construction as a result of the
 construction or has been demonstrably harmed by construction activities, it shall be replaced with 2 native understory
 saplings (of roughly 2 caliper inches).
 - o This order does not approve the wetland line or grading shown on the approved plan.
 - o <u>Dewatering</u> must occur on the subject parcel, away from Crystal Lake (i.e., in the front of the house).

8. 9:05 - 100 Boulder Road - continued informal discussion re Minor Plan Change - DEP #239-908

- Owner/Applicant. Amir Nashat
- Representative. Chris McDonnell and Brian Timm, RJ O'Connell
- Request. Determine if proposed design changes constitute a Minor Plan Change, or if applicant needs to seek an amended OOC.
- Jurisdiction. Flood Zone (114' NAVD88), Riverfront Area, Buffer Zone to Bank
- Performance Standards.

RFA: Redevelopment in Previously Developed Riverfront Areas; Restoration & Mitigation: 10.58(5)

- ... work improves existing conditions.
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 - (c) Proposed work shall not be closer to the river than existing conditions or 100', whichever is less
 - (d) Proposed work...shall be located... away from the river, except in accordance with 10.58(5)(f) or (g).
 - (e) proposed work shall not exceed the ... degraded area ... except in accordance with 10.58(5)(f) or (g).
 - (f) despite what it says in 310 CMR 10.58(5)(c), (d), and (e), more alteration at the RFA outer boundary may be allowed if an applicant proposes restoration ... of at least 1:1 ...
 - (g) despite what it says in 310 CMR 10.58(5)(c), (d), or (e), more alteration at the RFA outer boundary may be allowed if an applicant proposes mitigation ... of at least 2:1
 - (h) The issuing authority shall include a continuing condition in the COC ...under 10.58(5)(f) or (g) prohibiting further alteration within the restoration or mitigation area ...

Proposed Project Summary.

- o Existing OOC
 - Was issued Jan 10, 2022 for the following "Reasons for Approval (Impact Analysis)".

Riverfront Area: 580 sf of addition, 26 sf of cantilevered overhang, 213 sf of open deck and 80 sf of patio have been permitted because:

- o The scale of construction was significantly reduced and pulled back way from the stream.
- o No work is occurring closer to the stream than the current structure.
- The enhancement planting plan will expand the area of natural native vegetation and provide greater protection for the wetland and stream.
- o Stormwater will be managed through a new infiltration system under the driveway.
- RFA enhancement planting area A (converting lawn to natural area) was to be 1,054 sf.
- RFA enhancement planting area B (the 1,155 sf natural area beyond the drainage channel) was to have plants added
- Proposed changes include:
 - Expand first level decking and tiered steps.
 - Replace previously-approved pervious deck with an at-grade pervious paver patio.

- Reduce area of mitigation plantings 1,054 sf to 900 sf.
- Applicant states that the stormwater system under the driveway can accommodate the proposed increased impervious area
- Applicant's materials indicate that the proposed revisions would result in an additional 155 sf of <u>impervious</u> area (488 sf of expansion proposed compared to 243 sf of expansion previously approved).
- The applicant's materials indicate that the proposed revisions would result in an increase in degraded area of 765 sf.
- Documents Presented. Revised plans
- Staff Notes.
 - A minor plan change must be within the scope of the original OOC or reduce the impact on the protected wetland resources. An amended OOC requires abutter notification and can allow for an expanded scope, if it remains in compliance with the regulations.
 - o Clarity is needed on extent of original expansion (it seems as if more than 243 sf of expansion of impervious area was originally approved, see above) and extent of proposed expansion.
 - A revised planting plan is needed that meets the RFA requirements for mitigation (i.e., at least 1,530 sf of conversion of lawn to fully natural area). Note: Plantings in lawn are not "restoration" as defined in the regulations.
- Staff Recommendations. Staff feel that the request, as submitted, is not approvable as a minor plan change.

9. 9:20 – 27 Cross St – NOI – demo and construction of two-family house -- DEP #239-???

- Owner/Applicant. Gabriel Askarinam
- Representative. Chris Lucas, Lucas Environmental
- Request. Issue OOC.
- <u>Documents in packets</u>. Locus map, plans
- Additional documents presented at meeting. Site photos
- <u>Jurisdiction.</u> Bank (won't be altered), Land Under Water Bodies and Waterways (won't be altered), RFA, BLSF (39' NAVD88 or 45.5' CNVD)
- Performance Standards.

RFA: Redevelopment in Previously Developed Riverfront Areas; Restoration & Mitigation: 10.58(5)

- ... work improves existing conditions.
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 - (c) Proposed work shall not be closer to the river than existing conditions or 100', whichever is less
 - (d) Proposed work...shall be located... away from the river, except in accordance with 10.58(5)(f) or (g).
 - (e) proposed work shall not exceed the ... degraded area ... except in accordance with 10.58(5)(f) or (g).
 - (f) despite what it says in 310 CMR 10.58(5)(c), (d), and (e), more alteration at the RFA outer boundary may be allowed if an applicant proposes restoration ... of at least 1:1 ...
 - (g) despite what it says in 310 CMR 10.58(5)(c), (d), or (e), more alteration at the RFA outer boundary may be allowed if an applicant proposes mitigation ... of at least 2:1
 - (h) The issuing authority shall include a continuing condition in the COC ...under 10.58(5)(f) or (g) prohibiting further alteration within the restoration or mitigation area....

Bordering Land Subject to Flooding: 10.57

- 1. Compensatory storage shall be provided for all flood storage volume that will be lost...
- 2. Work shall not restrict flows so as to cause an increase in flood stage or velocity.
- 3. Work in those portions of bordering land subject to flooding found to be significant to the protection of wildlife habitat shall not impair its capacity to provide important wildlife habitat functions.

Proposed Project Summary.

- Demolition of the existing single-family residence, shed, and driveway and construction of a two-family residential dwelling, driveway, stormwater infiltration system (6 StormTech units), and resource mitigation area (a 1,111 sf naturalized wildflower area).
- o The proposed project will result in an overall increase in impervious area on the lot of approximately 1,805 square feet.
- o The proposed project will result in an increase in the flood storage capacity on the site of approximately 3,041 cubic feet
- o The applicant proposes to install a 1,111 sf naturalized wildflower area at the rear of the lot.

Staff Notes

- Staff do not feel that the project as proposed meet the Riverfront Area performance standards of 10.58(5)(a):
 Improvement, or 10.58(5)(e) that requires restoration or mitigation for the expansion of degraded area at a ratio of at least 1:1 or 2:1 respectively. The performance standards of 10.58(4) are not relevant to this lot/project.
- o The increase in impervious area was noted to be 1,805 sf. What is the total increase in degraded area?

- Staff feel that adequate compensatory flood storage has been provided and don't understand why an additional 14 cu
 ft of excavation is proposed in the back yard.
- Staff feel that the mitigation area proposed (1,111 sf) is too small to meet state requirements (over 3,610 sf), and without shrubs or understory tress is insufficiently robust to meet state requirements of "plantings of herbaceous and woody species appropriate to the site".
- Based on a site visit, staff feel that a robust mitigation planting area of 3,300 sf could be installed at the rear of the lot.
 Additional mitigation area could be provided along the stream.
- o Any restoration or mitigation area must be permanently bounded.
- Staff Recommendation. Seek resolutions and modified plans that address all questions posed.

10.9:50 - 12 Hollywood Rd - COC's - MWRA exploratory borings for sewer line -- DEP # 239-469

- Owner/Applicant. Yitshak Ashkenazi
- Representative. Avi Liss, Attorney
- Request. Issue COC.
- Documents in packets. None
- Additional documents presented at meeting. Site photos
- <u>Staff Notes.</u> This very old OOC was for MWRA to conduct exploratory borings for a sewer line. The borings and the sewer line work were completed. Staff note that this release should be recorded on all other encumbered parcels.
- Staff Recommendation. Vote to issue a complete COC.

11.9:55 - 1 Quinobequin Rd - 2-year extension - gas line replacement across the Charles River-- DEP # 239-810

- Owner: Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (Patrice Kish)
- Applicant: Andrew Shelby (Boston Gas Company d/b/a National Grid)
- Representative: Jon Novak (Coneco Engineering)
- Request. 1-year extension.
- <u>Staff Notes.</u> This project is proceeding very well, but there was a temporary halt to the work, causing an unexpected delay. The required plantings will need to survive 2 growing seasons, so an extension is necessary.
- Staff Recommendation. Vote to issue a 2-year extension.

B. 10:00 – CONSERVATION AREA DECISIONS

C. 10:00 – ADMNISTRATIVE DECISIONS

12. Minutes to be approved

- Documents in packets. Draft 9/1/22 minutes as edited by Jeff Zabel.
- <u>Staff Recommendation.</u> Vote to approve the 9/1/22 minutes.
- Volunteer. Who will volunteer to review the 9/22/22 minutes?

D. 10:05 – ISSUES AROUND TOWN DECISIONS

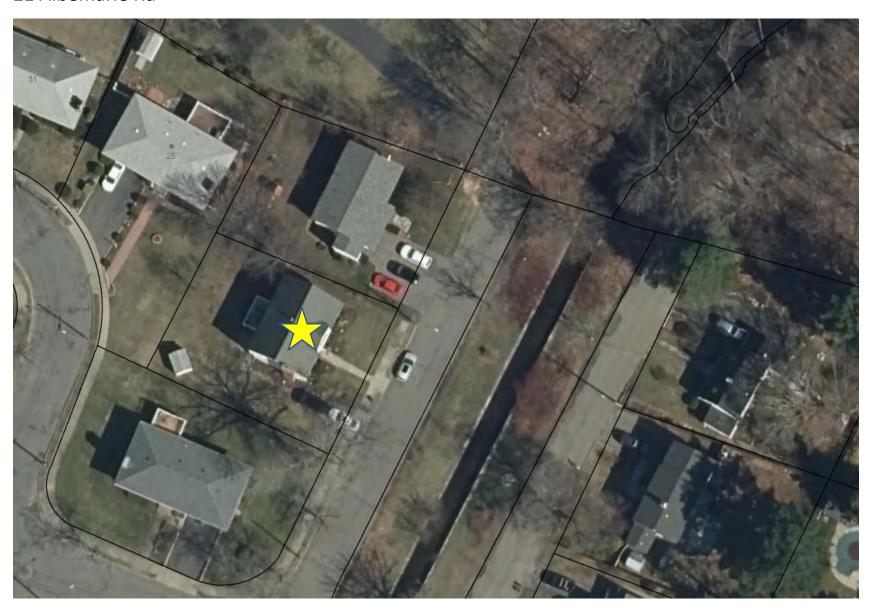
UPDATES

- E. 10:05 WETLANDS UPDATES
- F. 10:05 CONSERVATION AREA UPDATES
- G. 10:05 ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATES
- H. 10:05 ISSUES AROUND TOWN UPDATES

OTHER TOPICS NOT REASONABLY ANTICIPATED BY THE CHAIR 48 HOURS BEFORE THE MEETING

ADJOURN

21 Albemarle Rd



423 Albemarle Rd



MICHAEL P. ANTONINO

REGISTERED LAND SURVEYOR

AUGUST 26 2022

31 LEDGEBROOK AVE. STOUGHTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02072

PHONE / FAX: 781.344.4550

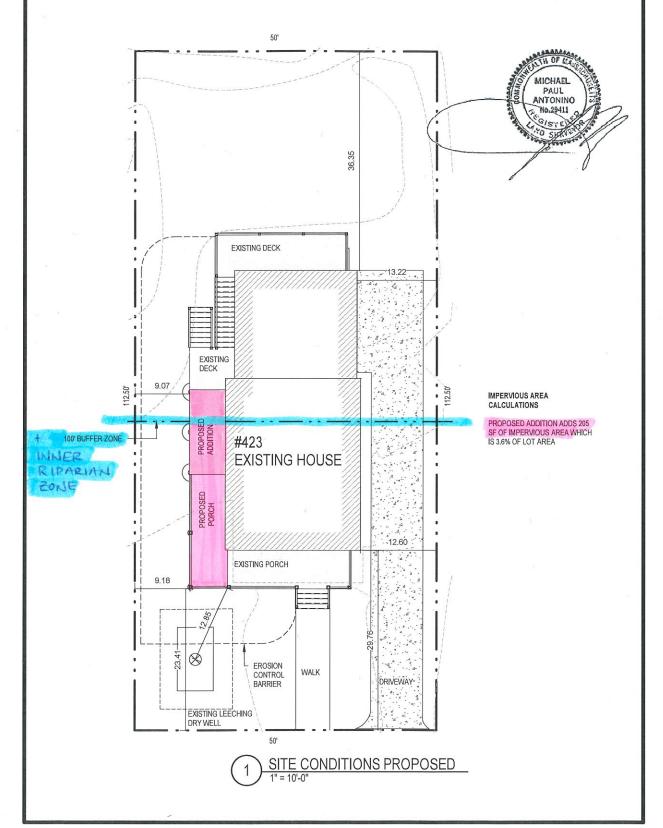


PROPERTY INFORMATION:

ADDRESS PARCEL ZONE YEAR BUILT 423 ALBEMARLE ROAD, NEWTON, MA 02460

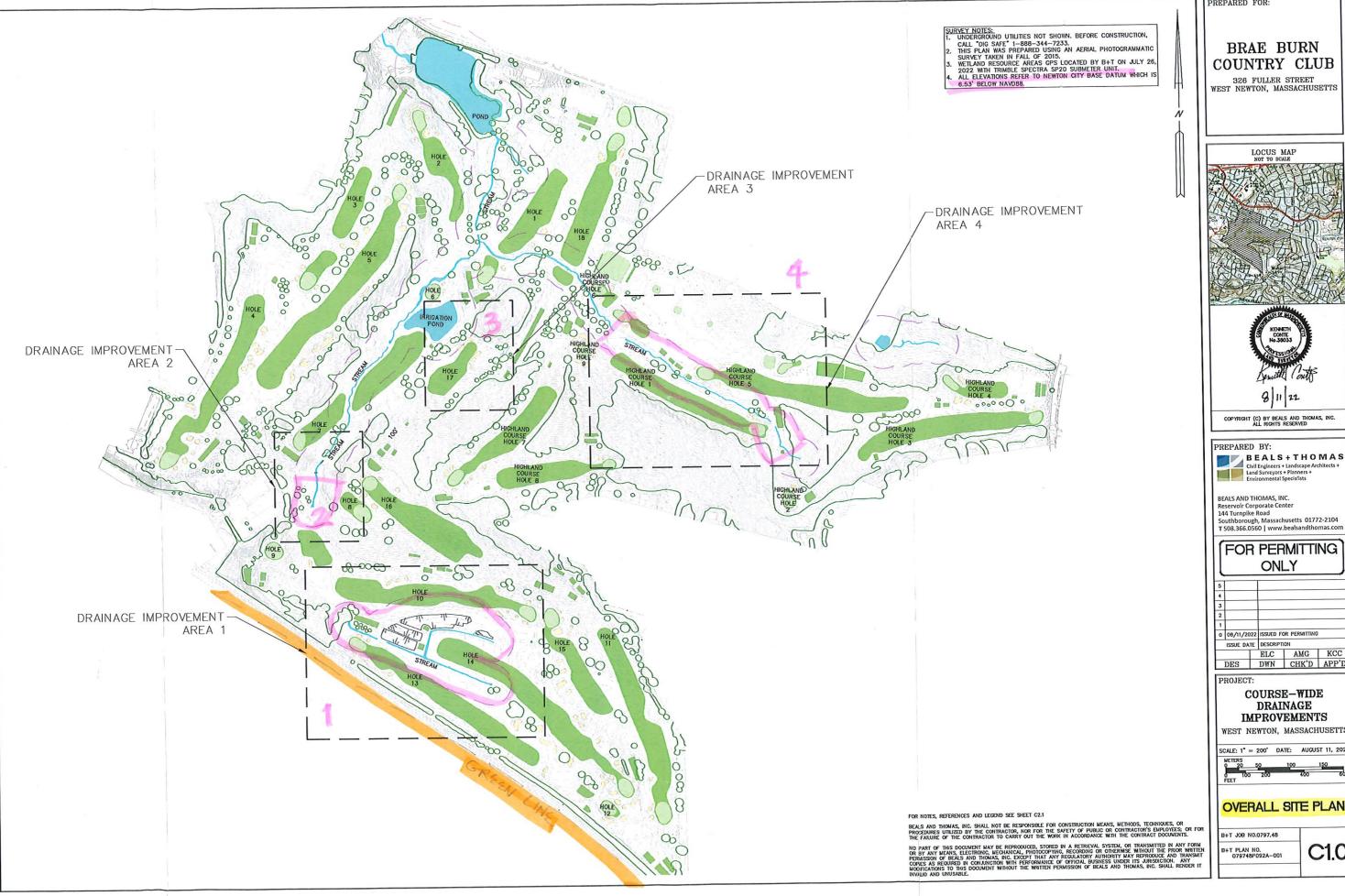
ARCEL 21036 0017 ZONE MR1

EAR BUILT 1880 LOT SIZE 5,625 FT²



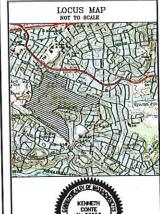
326 Fuller St





PREPARED FOR:

COUNTRY CLUB



FOR PERMITTING ONLY

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COURSE-WIDE DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS

WEST NEWTON, MASSACHUSETTS

OVERALL SITE PLAN

C1.0

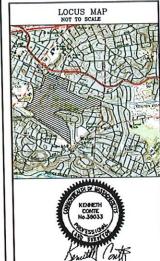




PREPARED FOR:

BRAE BURN COUNTRY CLUB

326 FULLER STREET WEST NEWTON, MASSACHUSETTS



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BEALS+THOMAS

Civil Engineers + Landscape Architects +
Land Surveyors + Planners +
Environmental Specialists

BEALS AND THOMAS, INC. Reservoir Corporate Center 144 Turnpike Road Southborough, Massachusetts 01772-2104 T 508.366.0560 | www.bealsandthomas.com

FOR PERMITTING ONLY

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COURSE-WIDE DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS

WEST NEWTON, MASSACHUSETTS



IMPROVEMENT AREA 2

AND AREA 3 B+T JOB NO.0797.48

B+T PLAN NO. 079748P092A-003

C1.2



Sarah Stearns, Beals + Thomas memo re course-wide drainage improvements at Brae Burn Golf Club, DEP # 239-937

9/13/22

Jennifer and Dan:

Thank you for your time on 9/8 and thoughts on the Club's proposed drainage replacement and upgrade project. The Club is trying to prepare a succinct summary for the Commission's next hearing and wanted to run it by you for initial feedback. It's clear that we need to address the proposed hybrid drainage system whereby the goal is to infiltrate more in the fairways (capturing more of that water in place) and help reduce what is currently running off or through surface area drains directly to the stream channels. In addition to improving drainage on the fairways, the Club believes this project will improve water quality of the stream, and provide more consistent flow, which will help avoid flooding downstream. The Club hopes that the summary below is a better representation of the intent of the system and buffer zone mitigation commitments. We also added a note about potentially pumping water to the human-made, lined irrigation pond if the Commission deems that a better alternative in Drainage Area 1.

While the Club agrees that calculations and/or a hydrograph could provide some valuable information, there simply is not enough time to provide accurate information of this nature. What the Club is focusing on is that this project will provide bona fide benefits to the ecological system, which at this point they are not able to calculate.

Please let us know what you think and thank you again.

Proposed Project Summary:

- The Club wishes to undertake this project as a replacement and upgrade as compared to current conditions, similar to the 2018 irrigation replacement project, using more innovative and customized drainage infrastructure (as compared to conventional surface area drainage only) benefitting both the fairways and the stream, while also avoiding and minimizing work in jurisdictional areas. Notably, the MA Stormwater Handbook encourages infiltrating and keeping water in the ground, which is one of the goals for the Club in this project.
- The Club is situated as the low point and Drainage Areas 1 and 4 are largely surrounded by impervious development (see attached existing topography overlayed on aerial image for clarity). The onsite wooded areas, turf and wetlands all act as a filter for stormwater runoff from various points of the surrounding higher elevations from Fuller, Pickwick, Dartmouth, Bonnybrook, Kent, Hereford, Windsor streets and roads and the MBTA. A drainage system is often required by properties like this to assist in maintaining a functional golf course. The aging, existing surface area drainage system has failed in

- certain areas and to help alleviate slow infiltration/flooding in the fairways, the Club proposes to replace and upgrade the aged system in key areas of the property.
- The Club believes that the proposed innovative, two-pronged system which addresses both subsurface saturation ("seepage water") and surficial runoff (stormwater) - will be an improvement over current conditions both for the turf and the stream as there will be less standing water on fairways, thereby reducing the runoff and direct discharge to the stream.
- The system to be replaced is the industry standard of surface area drains which has been used by Clubs, including other Clubs in Newton, for decades. The Club is pleased to be able to incorporate this customized hybrid system that is considered more beneficial through the promotion of infiltration in the fairways to help balance what is flowing directly to the stream. The introduction of a seepage system (see attached exhibit) is considered an improvement over the standard approach.
- The seepage system is made up of a combination of sand and piping with a waffle drain that collects water filtered through the soil profile. Water moves through the waffle drain into a pipe, some of which remains in the groundwater and the remainder is transported to the stream. The waffle device consists of two components; an outer geotextile fabric wrapped around an inner core. The unique core design provides a greater collection area for water to enter the flow area than is possible with perforated pipe. The Club notes that water that reaches the stream via this filtration path is a preferable improvement to overland runoff (current situation).
- The intent of this hybrid system is that by addressing the seepage water and creating more well-drained areas within the fairway, there will be less water running off (and/or traveling through surface area drains) directly to the stream during storm events.
- The outdated surface water drains in fairways are failing in many areas, contributing to ponding and increased runoff directly to the stream (even when surface area drains are functional, there is less opportunity for filtration than in the proposed hybrid design).

Proposed Mitigation:

Though the Club believes that the overall project is indeed an improvement to the current poorly drained system and surrounding resource areas, the Club understands that the Commission requests mitigation for work in jurisdictional areas, so the Club would like to specify its mitigation commitment as part of this project to include:

 Addition of natural meadow (no maintenance area) located in Drainage Area 1 to include an additional ±26,000 square feet, or over 6/10ths of an acre, in the buffer zone as depicted below:



2. Increase the previously submitted no mow strip (to be seeded with an appropriate seedmix similar to that which was approved in previous project for restroom project) from ±3 feet to ±5 feet wide (where possible) on both sides of the channel located on the Highlands Course in Drainage Area 4 as depicted below:



3. As with past projects on the property, the Club plans to avoid and protect trees as part of this project. As done in the past, matting or fencing will be applied to areas where

trenching is proposed close to tree roots to ensure equipment and subsurface infrastructure does not cause detrimental effects.

Additional Pumping Option for Consideration:

There is an opportunity to install a pipe exiting Drainage Area 1 to direct and pump a portion of the water collected into the human-made, lined irrigation storage pond on Hole 7 where it can be further filtered and used as part of the Club's irrigation supply. If the Commission would like the Club to undertake this aspect, the Club is amenable to a condition requiring this installation as part of an Order of Conditions.

Best Management Practices and Understanding of Common Goals:

The Club strives to adhere to best management practices including the US Golf Association (USGA) guidance which notes specifically that, "Ultimately, one of the best things all golf facilities can do to protect water quality is to maintain healthy turf. Not only does healthy turf require less fertilizer and plant protectants than weak turf, but a dense stand of turf is very efficient in filtering and cleansing water. A healthy stand of turf will prevent soil erosion, reduce surface water runoff and intercept pollutants in the water before reaching groundwater sources."

The Club also understands that soil plays an important role in capturing and cleaning water and continue to work toward achieving common goals of required turf maintenance and environmental responsibility. "Soil texture, structure, and land coverings all have roles in determining how easily water will move through the soil to filter, store, and distribute water to reduce runoff and flooding. The work of cleaning water is done by physical, chemical, and biological processes. Healthy soils are critical to ensure clean water for recreation, consumption, crop production, and more." (https://www.soils.org/files/sssa/iys/april-soils-overview.pdf)

Thank you, Sarah

Sarah W. Stearns, PWS

Associate



32 Court Street, Plymouth, MA 02360 508.366.0560 ext. 4863 c: 508.858.1601

sstearns@bealsandthomas.com | www.bealsandthomas.com

Illustrated Summary of Drainage Improvements Approved for Brae Burn Country Club (9-15-22)

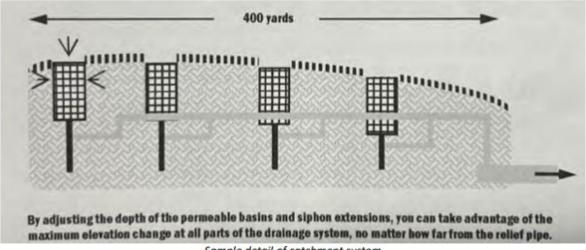
Surface Drainage System Components

We are also adding 63 Perma Basins as additional collection points, strategically placed so the collection provided by the basin will be the most effective. Like the Channel Drain, the Perma Basin's patented design also allows seepage water collection through the sidewalls.



Figure 5- Perma Basin

In some areas, where the water flow is too large for a Perma Basin (above 11 tee), we suggest a larger, 24" Special basin, and recommend building a slight berm to direct water into the basin.



Sample detail of catchment system



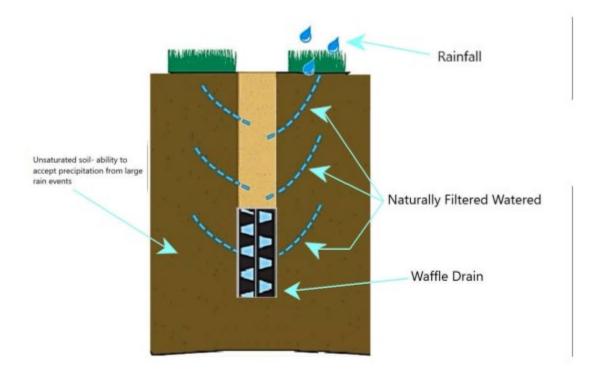
Figure 3- Channel Drain

Here is a picture of a channel drain collecting water at Valhalla Golf Club.



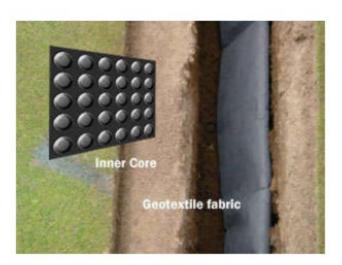
Figure 4- Channel Drain at Valhalla Golf Club

Seepage drain system components





Waffle Drain (side view)



Waffle Drain



Examples of trenching



Backfilling trenching with sand

Curbing

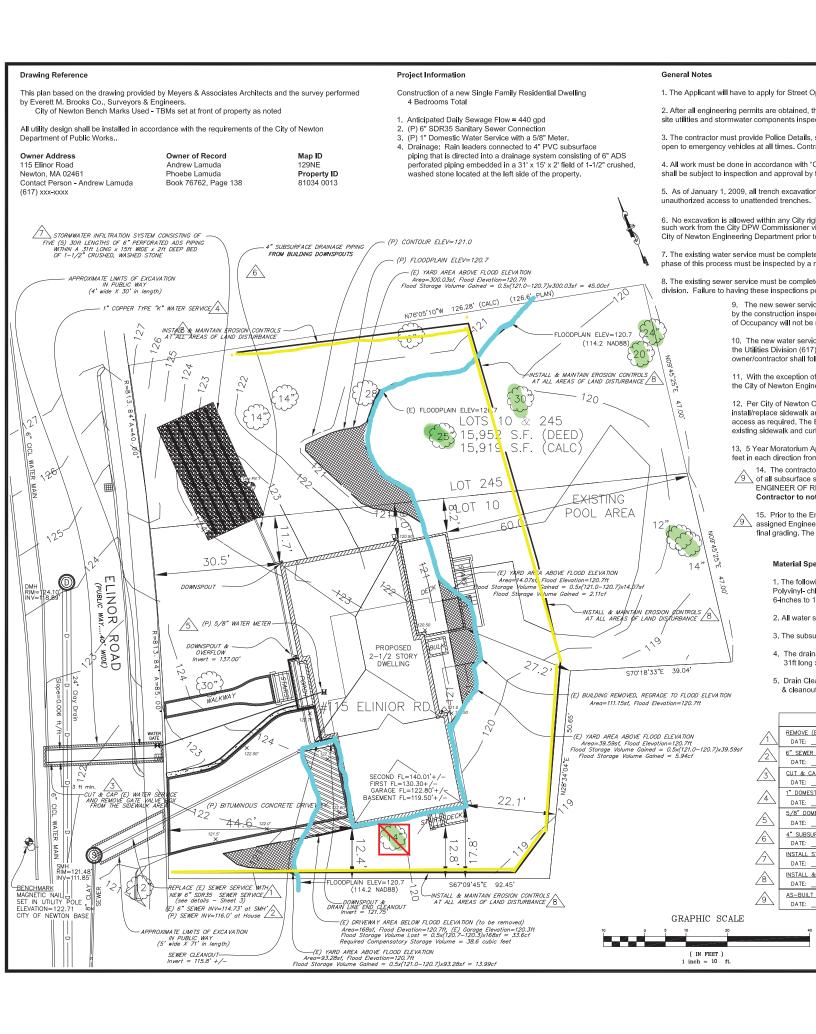
We also recommend curbing installed along the cart path at Highlands #2 to direct water on the path to a new Channel Basin installed at the edge of the cart path.



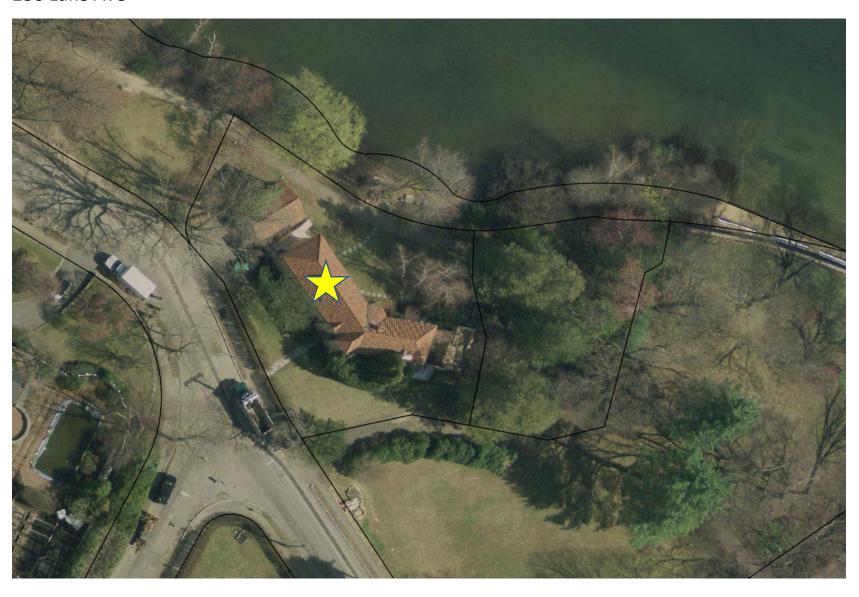
This curbing should extend all the way up to #2 green, and back approximately 40 feet toward #1 green.

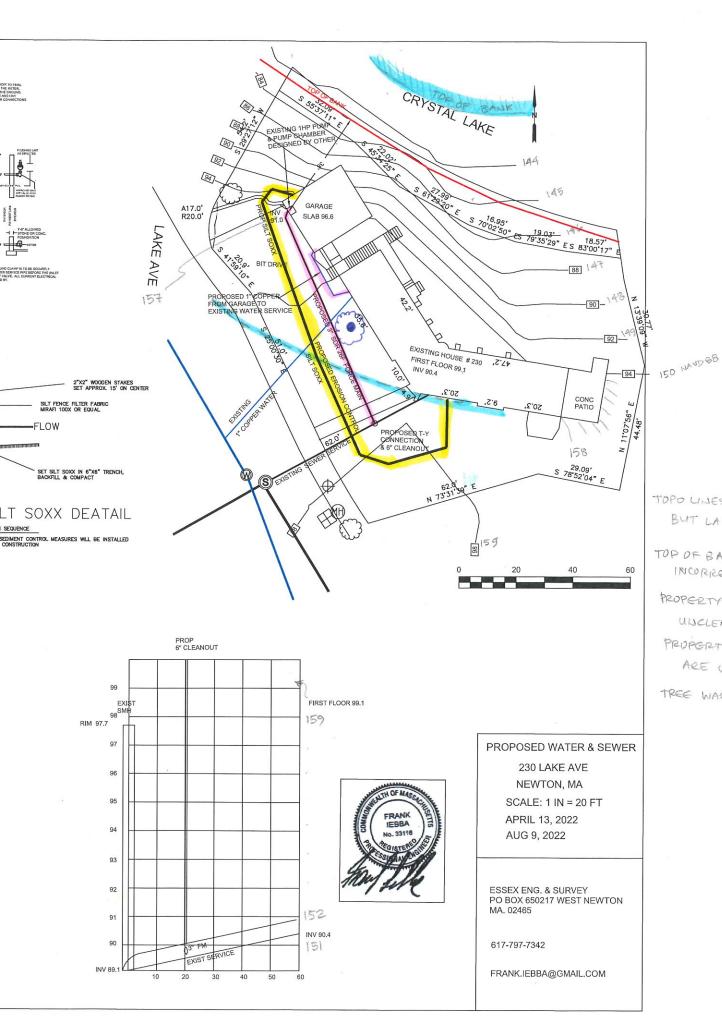
115 Elinor Rd





230 Lake Ave





TOPO LINES ARE 1' BUT LABELED AS 2'

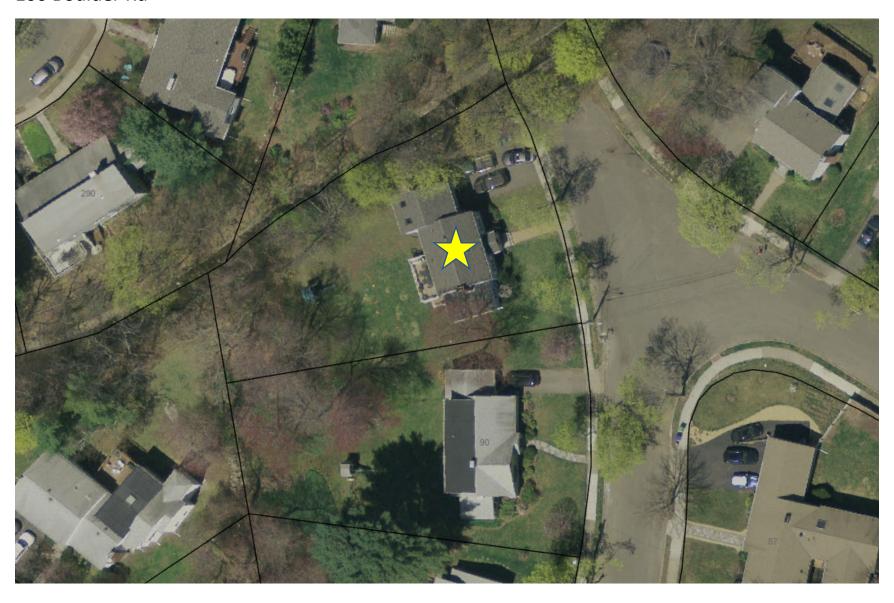
TOP OF BANK 15 INCORRECT

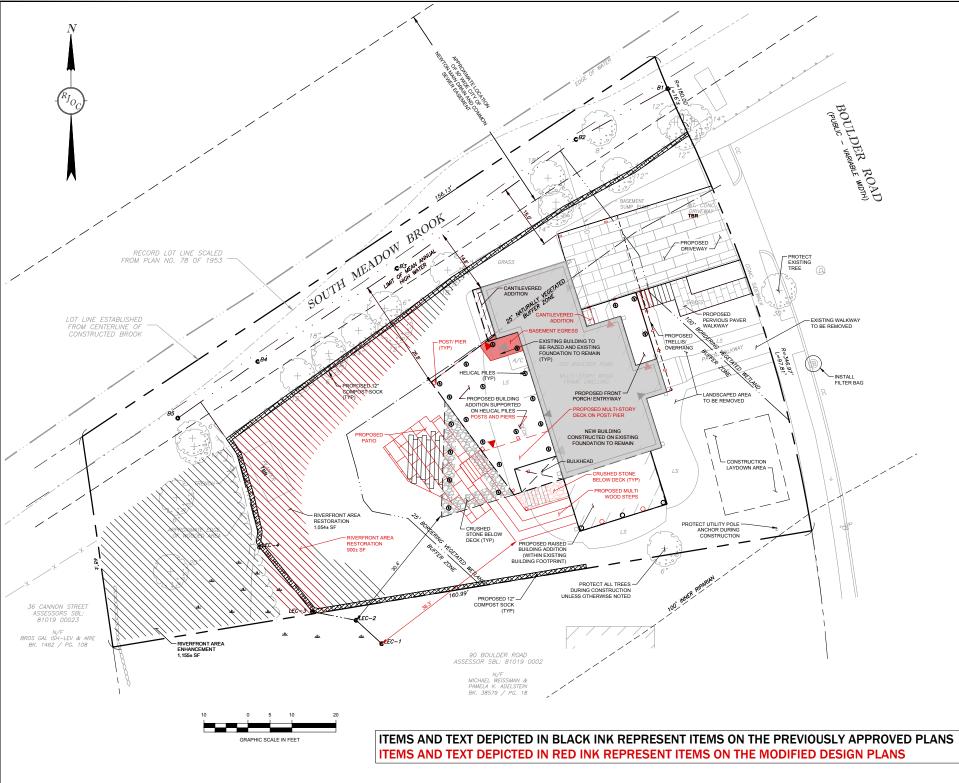
PROPERTY LINES ARE UNCLEAR

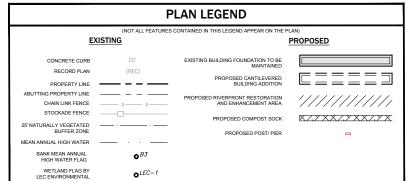
PROPERTY ANGLES ARE UNCLEAR

TREE WASN'T LOCATED

100 Boulder Rd





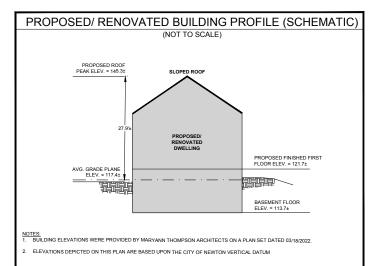


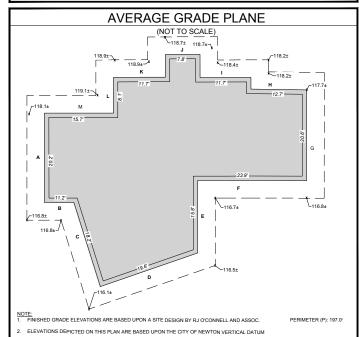
DIG SAFE

THE SOLE PURPOSE OF THIS PLAN IS TO DEPICT THE MINOR MODIFICATIONS PROPOSED TO THE SITE DESIGN FOLLOWING THE PREVIOUSLY APPROVED PLANS

NOTES

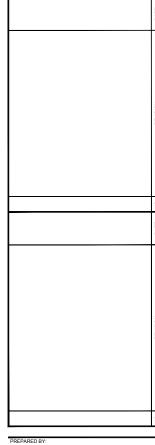
- THE PURPOSE OF THIS PLAN IS TO DEPICT THE RELATIVE LOCATIONS AND DIMENSIONS OF THE BUILDING, DECK, DRIVEWAY AND WALKWAY PROPOSED TO BE CONSTRUCTED ON SITE. THE DIMENSIONS OF THE PROPOSED BUILDING ARE BASED UPON CAD FILES PROVIDED BY MARYANN THOMPSON ARCHITECTS DATED 080/02022.
- 2. SEE PLANS PREPARED BY LEC ENVIRONMENTAL FOR DETAILS OF THE RIVERFRONT RESTORATION AND RIVERFRONT ENHANCEMENT AREA.
- 4. THE LOCATION AND ELEVATIONS OF EXISTING UTILITIES AND STRUCTURES AS SHOWN ON THESE PLANS ARE BASED ON RECORDS OF VARIOUS UTILITY COMPANIES AND PUBLIC AGENCIES AND ARE APPROXIMATE ONLY. THIS INFORMATION IS NOT TO BE RELIED UPON AS BEING EXACT OR COMPLETE. THE LOCATION OF UNDERGROUND UTILITIES AND STRUCTURES SHALL BE VERIFIED IT HE FILED BY THE CONTRACTOR PRIOR TO THE START OF CONSTRUCTION. THE CONTRACTOR MUST CONTRACT HE APPROPRIATE UTILITY COMPANY. GOVERNING FERMITING AUTHORITY AND 'DIS SAFE' AT 1-888-34-7233 AT LEAST SEVENT-TYMO (72) HOURS (EXCHING WEEKENDS AND HOLIDAYS) PRIOR TO ANY EXCAVATION WORK TO REQUEST EXACT FIELD LOCATIONS OF UTILITIES. IF ANY DISCREPANCIES OF WITH THE WORK IT SHALL BET HE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE CONTRACTOR TO RELOCATE ALL EXISTING UTILITIES WHICH CONFLICT WITH THE PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS SHOWN ON THE PLANS





| | AVERAGE GRADE PLANE CALCULATIONS | | | | | |
|---------|----------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--|--|
| SEGMENT | E1 | E2 | E2 L | | | |
| А | 118.1± | 116.8± | 20.2' | 12.03 | | |
| В | 116.8± | 116.8± | 11.2' | 6.63 | | |
| С | 116.8± | 116.1± | 18.2' | 10.75 | | |
| D | 116.1± | 116.5± | 19.6' | 11.56 | | |
| E | 116.5± | 116.7± | 15.8' | 9.34 | | |
| F | 116.7± | 116.8± | 23.9' | 14.15 | | |
| G | 116.8± | 117.7± | 20.6' | 12.25 | | |
| Н | 117.7± | 118.2± | 12.7' | 7.60 | | |
| 1 | 118.2± | 118.4± | 11.7' | 7.02 | | |
| J | 118.7± | 118.7± | 7.8' | 4.70 | | |
| К | 118.9± | 118.9± | 11.7' | 7.06 | | |
| L | 118.9± | 119.1± | 8.1' | 4.89 | | |
| М | 119.1± | 118.1± | 15.7' | 9.44 | | |
| SUM | | | 197.2' | 117.4± | | |





RJO'CONNELL & AŠSOCIATES, INC.

AMIR H. NASHAT CARMEN M. BARNES 100 BOULDER ROAD NEWTON CENTRE, MA 02459

100 BOULDER ROAD

NEWTON, MA

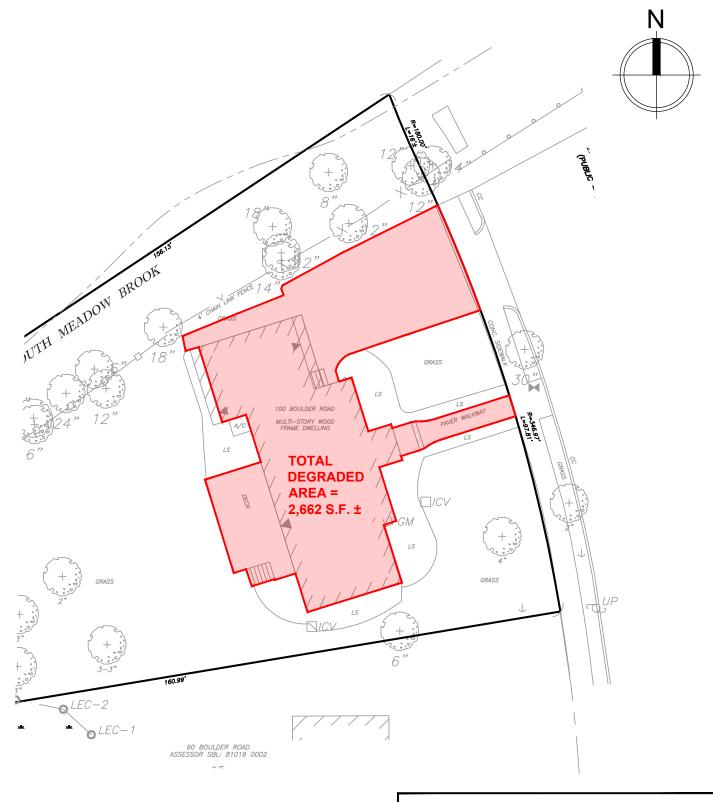
| DESIGNED BY: | CMM |
|--------------|------------|
| DRAWN BY: | CMM |
| REVIEWED BY: | BWT |
| SCALE: | 1" = 10 |
| DATE: | 09/13/2022 |

COLORED **COMPARISON OVERLAY PLAN**

COMP

20150





20 0 10 20 40 GRAPHIC SCALE IN FEET

RJO'CONNELL & ASSOCIATES, INC.

CIVIL ENGINEERS, SURVEYORS & LAND PLANNERS

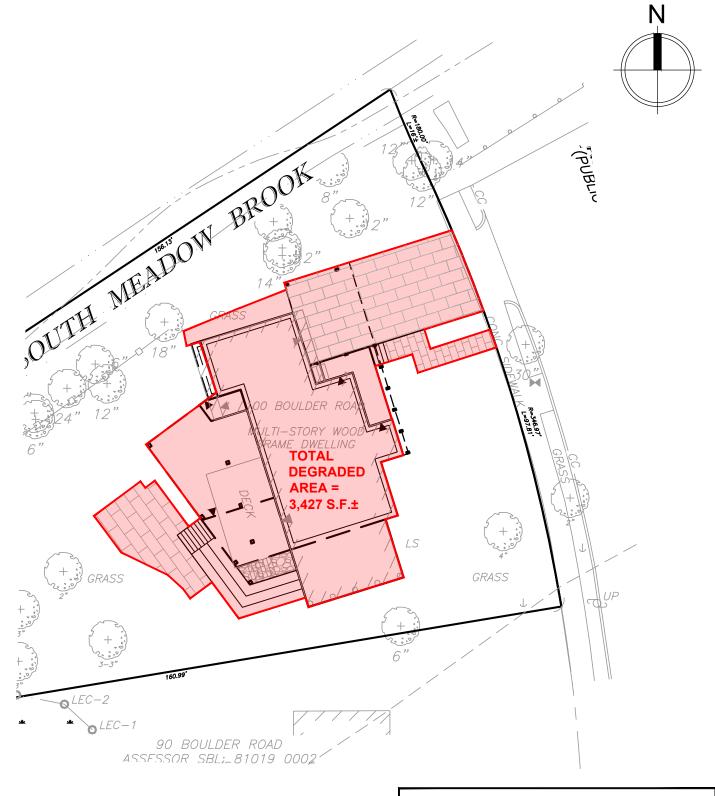
DATE: 09/13/2022

SCALE: 1"=20'

QUANTITY OF EXISTING DEGRADED AREA (SK-1)

100 BOULDER ROAD NEWTON, MA





20 0 10 20 40 GRAPHIC SCALE IN FEET

RJO'CONNELL & ASSOCIATES, INC.

CIVIL ENGINEERS, SURVEYORS & LAND PLANNERS

DATE: 09/13/2022

SCALE: 1"=20'

QUANTITY OF PROPOSED DEGRADED AREA (SK-2)

100 BOULDER ROAD NEWTON, MA

IMPERVIOUS SURFACE COMPARISON

| PREVIOUSLY APPROVED PLANS WILL | |
|---|------------|
| INCREASE ONSITE IMPERVIOUS SURFACE BY | 243 S.F.± |
| | |
| MODIFIED DESIGN PLANS WILL | |
| INCREASE ONSITE IMPERVIOUS SURFACE BY | 488 S.F. ± |
| | |
| BOTH DESIGNS INCLUDE A PROPOSED DRYWELL | |
| THAT WILL COMPLETELY INFILTRATE RUNOFF FROM | |
| THE ENTIRE NEW DRIVEWAY TOTALING | 675 S.F. ± |

THE TOTAL AREA FLOWING TO THE DRYWELL IS GREATER THAN THE INCREASE OF IMPERVIOUS SURFACE. THIS WILL RESULT IN A **DECREASE** OF OVERLAND STORMWATER RUNOFF.

RIVERFRONT RESTORATION AREA

Per Section 10.58 of the MA WPA:

Redevelopment Within Previously Developed Riverfront Areas; Restoration and Mitigation:

Degraded Area: "A previously developed area contains areas degraded prior to August 7, 1996 by impervious surface from existing structures or pavement, absence of topsoil... Work to redevelop previously developed riverfront areas shall conform to the following criteria: ...

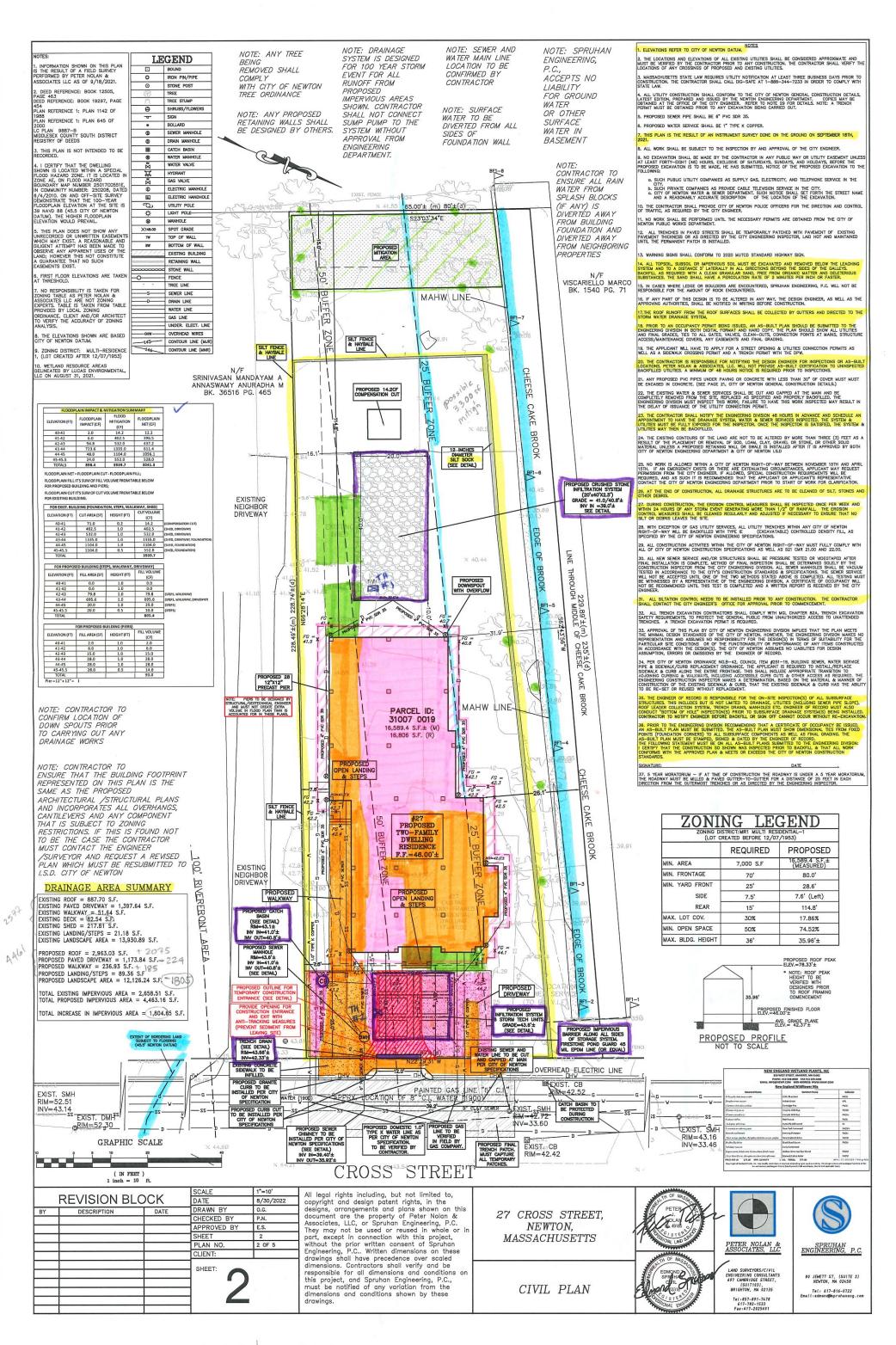
(f) When an applicant proposes restoration on-site of degraded riverfront area, alteration may be allowed notwithstanding the criteria of 310 CMR 10.58(5)(c),(d), and (e) at a ratio in square feet of at least 1:1 of restored area to area of alteration..."

| DEGRADED AREA ON EXISTING SITE | 2,662 S.F.± |
|---|-------------|
| DEGRADED AREA ON MODIFIED DESIGN PLANS | 3,427 S.F.± |
| INCREASE IN DEGRADED AREA ABOVE EXISTING CONDITIONS | 765 S.F.± |

| PROPOSED RIVERFORNT RESTORATION AREA | 900 S.F.± |
|---|-----------|
| RATIO OF RESTORATION TO INCREASE OF DEGRADED AREA | (1.2 : 1) |

27 Cross St





Proposed Conservation Commission Meeting Schedule 2023 9/12/22 by jms

| APPLICATION DEADLINE | Legal Ad DEADline | PACKETS | THURSDAY MEETING DATE | shift | NOTES |
|-----------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|------------------------------|-------|--------------------------------------|
| Tuesday, November 15, 2022 | November 25, 2022 | November 24, 2022 | Thursday, December 1, 2022 | 7 | Meet 1 week later b/c THANKSGIVING |
| Tuesday, December 6, 2022 | December 16, 2022 | December 15, 2022 | Thursday, December 22, 2022 | | |
| Tuesday, January 3, 2023 | January 13, 2023 | January 12, 2023 | Thursday, January 19, 2023 | 7 | Meet 1 week later b/c holiday season |
| Tuesday, January 24, 2023 | February 3, 2023 | February 2, 2023 | Thursday, February 9, 2023 | | |
| Tuesday, February 14, 2023 | February 24, 2023 | February 23, 2023 | Thursday, March 2, 2023 | | |
| Tuesday, March 7, 2023 | March 17, 2023 | March 16, 2023 | Thursday, March 23, 2023 | | |
| Tuesday, March 28, 2023 | April 7, 2023 | April 6, 2023 | Thursday, April 13, 2023 | | |
| Tuesday, April 18, 2023 | April 28, 2023 | April 27, 2023 | Thursday, May 4, 2023 | | |
| Tuesday, May 9, 2023 | May 19, 2023 | May 18, 2023 | Thursday, May 25, 2023 | | |
| Tuesday, May 30, 2023 | June 9, 2023 | June 8, 2023 | Thursday, June 15, 2023 | | |
| Tuesday, June 20, 2023 | June 30, 2023 | June 29, 2023 | Thursday, July 6, 2023 | | |
| Tuesday, July 11, 2023 | July 21, 2023 | July 20, 2023 | Thursday, July 27, 2023 | | |
| Tuesday, August 1, 2023 | August 11, 2023 | August 10, 2023 | Thursday, August 17, 2023 | | |
| Tuesday, August 22, 2023 | September 1, 2023 | August 31, 2023 | Thursday, September 7, 2023 | | |
| Tuesday, September 12, 2023 | September 22, 2023 | September 21, 2023 | Thursday, September 28, 2023 | | |
| Tuesday, October 3, 2023 | October 13, 2023 | October 12, 2023 | Thursday, October 19, 2023 | | |
| Tuesday, October 24, 2023 | November 3, 2023 | November 2, 2023 | Thursday, November 9, 2023 | | |
| Tuesday, November 14, 2023 | November 24, 2023 | November 23, 2023 | Thursday, November 30, 2023 | | |
| Tuesday, December 5, 2023 | December 15, 2023 | December 14, 2023 | Thursday, December 21, 2023 | | |
| Tuesday, December 26, 2023 | January 5, 2024 | January 4, 2024 | Thursday, January 11, 2024 | | |
| Tuesday, January 16, 2024 | January 26, 2024 | January 25, 2024 | Thursday, February 1, 2024 | | |

Suggestions for Increasing Conservation Commission Meeting Efficiency

jms: 9/13/22

The problems

- The Commission has lots of obligations that take time to address (Ch 40 Sec. 8C.):
 - "the promotion and development of the natural resources"
 - "the protection of watershed resources of said city or town."
 - "conduct researches into its local land areas"
 - "co-ordinate the activities of unofficial bodies organized for similar purposes"
 - "conservation and passive outdoor recreation plan"
 - "Acquisitions of interests in land"
 - "adopt rules and regulations governing the use of land and waters under its control"
- The Commission (not staff) are the decision makers and must be aware of what they are deliberation on, voting on, and signing.
- Jam-packed agendas
 - Wetland hearings -- Digesting the information (to get to a decision quickly)
 - We receive lots of applications, with lots of complicated facts/issues that must be understood and addressed through plan changes and/or conditions.
 - Currently there are generally 5 phases of every hearing undertaken for the benefit of the applicant, the Commission, and the public.
 - 1. Applicant presentation of highlighted site plans
 - 2. Staff photo tour
 - 3. Staff commentary -- questions and concerns
 - 4. Commission discussion
 - 5. Commission revision of draft conditions
 - Each public hearing usually takes 30 minutes (10 minutes of presentation, 10 minutes of discussion, 10 minutes to revise draft conditions) to an hour (for more complex cases).
 - If meetings are to be kept to 3 hours, only 3-6 hearings can be held (and still leave some time for land management, and advocacy discussions).
 - Despite staff's best efforts to summarize lengthy NOIs, compile information on a few highlighted plan sheets, provide clear assessments, coordinate with applicants before the hearing, and provide a framework for progress, continuations are common.
 - Continuations use up a lot of Commission time, fill up future agendas, and "squeeze" new applications.
 - Continuations leave little time for the creation of revised materials (see "Deadlines for Receipt of Materials Policy", below).
 - New applicants have expectations and legal rights to be heard promptly.
 - The new on-line application system makes it harder to defer new applications.
 - Land management and advocacy -- The Commission has obligations to actively engage.

 Meeting for 3 hours once every 3 weeks may not provide sufficient time to "do it all". (Many Commissions meet twice monthly to meet the 21-day requirement to hear applications and undertake other responsibilities.)

A spectrum of possible solutions

- Digesting information in advance of the hearing
 - ConCom members could vet the packets (and/or the full applications on-line) and prepare questions or suggested conditions for presentation at the hearing
 - ConCom members could go on site visits prior to the hearing.
- Deliberating more concisely at the hearing
 - o Put all continuations at the end of the following hearing.
 - The Chair could limit Phase 1 (presentation of highlighted site plans) to 10 minutes.
 - o If Commissioners have made site visits, we could skip Phase 2 (photo tour).
 - o If Commissioners have read the packets, we could skip Phase 3 (staff commentary.)
 - The Commission could decide that only the most minor changes will be allowed to continue to the next hearing, and push most continuations out 2 meeting cycles.

Meet more

- Stay late on nights with heavy agendas,
- o Change our schedule to meet twice monthly (as many ConComs do), or
- Schedule "special" meetings to address continuations in between regular meetings.

Newton Conservation Commission Deadlines for Receipt of Materials Policy

Approved: 10/28/21

To allow placement of legal ads (when necessary) and to facilitate careful review by City staff, all applicants and inquirers under the Wetlands Protection Act must submit (in hard copy and electronic form) complete materials as follows:

- New applications
 - o All materials are due by noon, Tuesday, 16 days prior to the hearing/meeting,
 - o i.e., 9 days prior to packet distribution/posting.
- Revised materials for open hearings
 - All materials are due by noon, Monday, 10 days prior to the hearing/meeting*,
 - o i.e., 3 days prior to packet distribution/posting.
 - * NOTE: For complicated sites, cases, or revisions, the Conservation Commission and/or the Chief Environmental Planner may require that materials be submitted up to 16 days prior to the hearing.

Informal discussions

- All materials are due by noon, Tuesday, 9 days prior to the hearing/meeting,
- o i.e., 2 days prior to packet distribution/posting.

Exceptions to these deadlines will be at the sole discretion of the Chief Environmental Planner.

CONSERVATION COMMISSION AGENDA

Date: Thursday, Sept 1, 2022

Time: 7:00pm

Place: This meeting was held as a virtual meeting via Zoom.

With a quorum present, the meeting opened at 7:02 pm with Susan Lunin presiding as Chair.

Members Present: Dan Green (Chair) (joined at 7:05), Susan Lunin (Vice-Chair), Kathy Cade, Jeff Zabel,

Leigh Gilligan, Associate Member Sonya McKnight.

Members Absent: Judy Hepburn, Ellen Katz, Staff present: Jennifer Steel, Ellen Menounos

Members of the Public: not recorded due to remote nature of the meeting

DECISIONS

A. WETLANDS DECISIONS

1. 7:00 – 107 Truman Rd – NOI – addition to a single-family home – DEP #239-935

- Owner/Applicant. Lev Sachakov
- Representatives. John Rockwood, Eco-tec
- Request. Issue OOC.
- Documents in packets. Locus map, highlighted plans
- Additional documents presented at meeting. Site photos
- Jurisdiction. RFA, BLSF, BZ
- Proposed Project Summary.
 - o Demo front walk, steps, and landing. Demo rear mudroom and patio.
 - Construct front and rear additions on piers. Expand deck at rear (no change to existing deck posts.) Remove concrete patio at rear and convert to lawn.
 - No trees are proposed to be removed. Mature evergreen hedge at rear of property will be pruned. Existing edge of lawn will be maintained.
 - The project will result in a reduction of degraded area of 33.7 sf.
 - o The project will result in a decrease in impervious surfaces of 33.7 s.f.
 - o Project will result in an increase in flood storage capacity of 331 cf.
 - The project is exempt from the state stormwater standards and no stormwater improvements are proposed.
 - o No restoration or planting enhancement is proposed.
- Presentation (John Rockwood) and Discussion.
 - o The Representative summarized the project (as described above).
 - o Two easements occur on the property. A sewer/drain easement and a drain easement.
 - o Property has a large driveway which was recently repaved by City.
 - o Project will require limited equipment and limited excavation.
 - o Proposed erosion on east side stops at pavement.
 - Soil stockpile and concrete washout areas are located on the plans.
 - o City Engineering has approved the project design as-is.
 - The arbor vitae hedge is not proposed to be removed at this point because it would trigger the City's Tree Ordinance.
 - Commissioners wanted to be proactive and permit the removal of the arbor vitae hedge with the submission of a robust native mitigation planting plan.
- Vote: To close the hearing and issue an OOC with the state's required conditions, Newton's special conditions, and the following site-specific special conditions [Motion: Lunin, Second: Gilligan; Roll-call vote: Cade (aye), Green (aye), Lunin (aye), Zabel (aye); Gilligan (aye). Vote: 5:0:0].
 - Prior to the removal of any or all of the arbor vitae hedge that runs along the rear of the property parallel to the stream, the owner must submit a robust native mitigation planting plan to Conservation staff for review and approval. Peer monitoring and 2 years of survival will be required.



Mayor Ruthanne Fuller

> Director Planning & Development Barney Heath

Chief Environmental Planner Jennifer Steel

Assistant Environmental Planner Ellen Menounos

Commission
Members
Kathy Cade
Dan Green
Judy Hepburn
Ellen Katz
Susan Lunin
Jeff Zabel
Leigh Gilligan

Conservation

Associate Member Sonya McKnight

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- o To maintain the approved increase in flood storage capacity, no loam or other fill may be brought on to the site.
- All debris and trash shall be removed from the site.
- o If any trees intended to be protected within the project area die within 2 years of the start of construction as a result of the construction or have been demonstrably harmed by construction activities, they shall be replaced at a ratio of 2:1 with native canopy saplings (of roughly 2 caliper inches).
- Compensatory flood storage must be provided in its entirety as per the plans, by removing 331 cubic feet of the front steps and sunroom.
- No <u>Certificate of Occupancy</u> shall be approved by the Conservation Commission unless a Certificate of Compliance has been issued or the request receives the written approval of the Chief Environmental Planner.
- o To protect the water quality of area wetlands, <u>fertilizers shall be of low-nitrogen</u> content and be used in moderation.
- o To protect the full suite of benefits of area wetlands, wildlife, and native insects and pollinators, <u>no herbicides and pesticides</u> shall be used.
- o To protect wetland wildlife, <u>exterior lighting</u> shall be limited to "dark sky", focused lighting. No spotlights or floodlights shall be directed at South Meadow or Paul Brooks.
- To maintain the flood storage capacity of the site and to ensure that flood waters can flow freely under the permitted structures to be built on piers, the area(s) under the permitted structure(s) shall not be enclosed with lattice, screen, lath or covering of any sort that:
 - a. covers more than 50% of the area of any opening, and/or
 - b. has openings/holes with any dimension less than 1 inch.

2. 7:25 - 162 Islington Rd - NOI - driveway expansion, deck, shed, landscaping - DEP #239-934

- Owner/Applicant. Daniel and Emily VanHassel
- Representatives. John Rockwood, Eco-tec
- Request. Issue OOC.
- Documents in packets. Locus map, highlighted plans
- Additional documents presented at meeting. Site photos
- <u>Jurisdiction</u>. BZ to BVW of a small pond on the abutting property to the north and west.
- <u>Performance Standards.</u> Buffer Zone 10.53(1): General Provisions: "... the Issuing Authority shall impose conditions to protect the interests of the Act identified for the adjacent Resource Area.
- Proposed Project Summary (within Commission jurisdiction).
 - o Remove rear landing, stairs, and stone patio.
 - o Repave/expand driveway and add a Cape Cod berm as required by Engineering.
 - o Construct wood deck and stairs on footings, shed, short segments of retaining walls and boulder borders.
 - o Regrade rear lawn and establish landscape beds to define the area and stabilize the slope.
 - o Install shed (an exempt activity).
 - Install lawn and plantings.
 - o Flush cut a dead tree that could fall on the garage.
 - No formal mitigation or enhancement areas are proposed.
- Presentation (John Rockwood) and Discussion.
 - o The Representative summarized the project (as described above).
 - o There is steep topography on property—retaining walls at front of property will be rebuilt for safety and longevity. Most of that work is outside of Conservation Commission jurisdiction.
 - o A combination of entrenched silt fence and compost sock will be used for erosion control.
 - A full set of landscape plans was included with application.
 - A Commissioner noted that the street catch basin down-gradient of the property overflows during heavy rains and that directing the driveway runoff to the street (via the Cape Cod berm) could exacerbate area flooding. Staff said that they would contact the Utilities Division and ask they clean the system to ensure optimal function.
 - Neighbor Peter Ezrin noted the street area flooding and his concerns about the stability of and drainage from the embankment in front of the house. Staff noted that work on the steep front embankment was outside the Commission's jurisdiction and recommended that he speak with the applicant team and the Engineering Division, if necessary.
- <u>Vote</u>: To close the hearing and issue an OOC with the state's required conditions, Newton's special conditions, and the following site-specific special conditions [Motion: Zabel, Second: Gilligan; Roll-call vote: Cade (aye), Green (aye), Lunin (aye), Zabel (aye); Gilligan (aye). Vote: 5:0:0].
 - No mature live trees may be removed or demonstrably harmed.

- o To protect the water quality of area wetlands, fertilizers shall be of low-nitrogen content and be used in moderation
- o To protect the full suite of benefits of area wetlands, wildlife, and native insects and pollinators, <u>no herbicides and pesticides shall be used.</u>
- o To protect wetland wildlife, exterior lighting shall be limited to "dark sky", focused lighting.

3. 7:50 - 518 Quinobequin Rd - NOI cont'd - demo/rebuild single family home - DEP #239-928

- Owner/Applicant. Vsevolod Vagodny
- Representatives. John Rockwood, Eco-Tec; Tom Ryder, RAV Engineering
- Request. Issue OOC.
- Documents in packets. Locus map, highlighted plans
- Additional documents presented at meeting. Site photos
- Jurisdiction. RFA
- Proposed Project Summary.
 - o Remove existing single-family house, construct new single-family house with two-car garage.
 - o Install stormwater infiltration chambers.
 - Degraded area will be increased by 99 sf.
 - o Install a 350 sf (3.5:1) mitigation planting area incorporating 14 large shrubs and 14 small shrubs.
 - o No trees will be cut.
- Presentation (John Rockwood) and Discussion.
 - The Representative summarized the project (as described above).
 - o The limit of work was adjusted to protect the large maple in the northwest corner of the site.
 - o Low bush blueberry was removed from planting plan and replaced with New Jersey tea, juniper, and bush honeysuckle.
 - o The stormwater infiltration chambers were reengineered to comply with the State/City standards.
 - o A stand-alone O&M plan has been submitted.
 - Staff is still concerned about the health/safety of the 24" tree shown inside the erosion control line.
- <u>Vote</u>: To close the hearing and issue an OOC with the state's required conditions, Newton's special conditions, and the following site-specific special conditions [Motion: Zabel, Second: Gilligan; Roll-call vote: Cade (aye), Green (aye), Lunin (aye), Zabel (aye); Gilligan (aye). Vote: 5:0:0].
 - o No damage to the large maple near the northwest corner of the proposed garage may occur during construction.
 - o Grades are not proposed to be changed and shall not be raised.
 - Adequate protection must be installed for the large maple near the northwest corner of the proposed garage. This may
 include the addition of orange snow fencing near the drip line, boards tied to the trunk, and/or mulch and plywood
 placed over the roots.
 - <u>Landscape</u> plantings within Commission jurisdiction must be installed in compliance with the approved plans (desired changes must be approved by the Conservation office in advance) and must:
 - a. Be bounded, as shown on the plans, with bounds that: (1) are 1" capped iron pipe or 4"x4"x36" stone or concrete post, (2) have instructive language regarding the required protection, (3) have at least 6" maintained above grade, and (4) are placed at every boundary corner and never more than 20 apart.
 - b. Have a survival rate of 80 % of total number of shrubs (after 2 growing seasons)
 - c. Mulch applications shall diminish over time and eventually cease as shrubs spread.
 - o <u>The stormwater infiltration system</u> must be installed as per the approved plans.
 - No <u>Certificate of Occupancy</u> shall be approved by Conservation unless a Certificate of Compliance has been issued or the request receives the written approval of the Chief Environmental Planner.
 - o To protect the water quality of area wetlands, <u>fertilizers shall be of low-nitrogen</u> content and be used in moderation.
 - o To protect the full suite of benefits of area wetlands, wildlife, and native insects and pollinators, <u>no herbicides and pesticides</u> shall be used.
 - o To protect wetland wildlife, <u>exterior lighting</u> shall be limited to "dark sky", focused lighting. No spotlights or floodlights shall be directed at Cheesecake Brook.
 - o <u>The required Riverfront restoration and/or mitigation areas shall be maintained and bounced in perpetuity</u> in its predominantly natural condition.
 - o The approved Stormwater Operations and Maintenance Plan is appended hereto and must be adhered to.

4. 8:15 - 326 Fuller St - NOI - course-wide drainage improvements at Brae Burn Country Club - DEP #239-937

• Owner/Applicant. Sean McLaughlin, General Manager of the Brae Burn Country Club

- Representatives. Sarah Stearns & Andrew Gorman, Beals and Thomas; Mike Quilter, CFO of the Brae Burn Country Club; Sean Nolan, Superintendent of the Brae Burn Country Club
- Request. Issue OOC.
- <u>Documents in packets</u>. Locus map, plans
- Additional documents presented at meeting. Site photos
- Jurisdiction. Buffer Zone to BVW and Bank of Cheesecake Brook.
- <u>Performance Standards.</u> Buffer Zone 10.53(1): General Provisions: "... the Issuing Authority shall impose conditions to protect the interests of the Act identified for the adjacent Resource Area.

• Proposed Project Summary.

- Work is proposed to remedy a pattern of flooding which results in golf course closure, inconsistent flow to Cheesecake Brook, anaerobic soils, and compaction. The goal is for precipitation to percolate before it reaches gravity pipes, resulting in a more consistent volume of flow to Cheesecake Brook.
- Work consists of trenching for channel drain lines and area drains in 4 areas of heavy surface flow. Sub-surface drain lines and their sand-filled trenches will speed conveyance of surface runoff to nearby intermittent streams and water features. System design allows for infiltration through trench sidewalls.
- o Methods: using a trencher (or excavator if ledge is found), trenches will be 2-4' deep; turf will be removed with a sod-cutter; trenches will be backfilled with sand; sod will be reinstalled. Existing drain lines will be abandoned in place.
- o There will be temporary work on bank to install the new outfalls.
- o There will be approximately 6,665 linear feet of trenching within buffer zone.
- o Mitigation will be provided in the form of a 3' wide and 850' long, no-mow strip that will revert to natural conditions.

Presentation (Sarah Stearns, Sean McLaughlin, Sean Nolan) and Discussion.

- o The Representatives summarized the project (as described above).
- o They stated that they hired a drainage consultant and received this plan for remediation.
- They noted that there is a drainage network in place, but that it is old and failing. They do not have as-builts that illustrate its age or the extent of its coverage.
- o They noted that no work within Conservation Commission jurisdiction would occur in Area 3.
- Staff and Commissioners expressed concern about speeding stormwater runoff to the streams and thereby increasing
 "flashiness" and nutrient loading. They noted that while the sand trenches may provide some additional storage and
 improved infiltration, during heavy rains, the soils will be saturated and so infiltration will not occur.
- Staff and Commissioners noted that using grading and natural wetlands and ponding areas might solve the flooding issues (the applicant's interest) and protect the wetland resources (the interests of the Wetlands Protection Act).
- One Commissioner asked if the consultant had developed any calculations for volume needing management and the
 capacity of the proposed system. The applicant team said they could get such calculations and stated that the system
 was designed to flow quickly enough to be "self-cleaning" and avoid the build-up of sludge and sediment.
- <u>Vote</u>: To continue the hearing to 9/22/22 at 8:30pm to allow for a meeting between the applicant team, their consultant, and staff [Motion: Zabel, Second: Gilligan; Roll-call vote: Cade (aye), Green (aye), Lunin (aye), Zabel (aye); Gilligan (aye). Vote: 5:0:0].

5. 8:40 - 115 Elinor Rd - NOI - single-family home demo and construction - DEP #239-936

- Owner/Applicant. Alan Mayer Architects
- Representatives. Ryan Roseen, Goddard Consulting
- Request. Issue OOC.
- Documents in packets. Locus map, highlighted plans
- Additional documents presented at meeting. Site photos
- Jurisdiction. BLSF
- Proposed Project Summary.
 - o Tear down and rebuild single family home, decks, driveway, lawn; existing pool will remain.
 - o Driveway will be filled (34 cf) to meet new higher garage slab.
 - Compensatory storage (81 cf) will be provided through 3 cut areas in the yard and the removal of some of the old foundation.

Presentation (Ryan Rosee) and Discussion.

- The Representatives summarized the project (as described above).
- Staff noted the limited jurisdictional area.
- o Staff noted concern about the inconsistencies of the plans shown on different plan sheets.

- Staff noted concern about the recent cutting of one 14" tree and the threat to the 28" tree shown within one area of proposed "cut" but suggested that simple shifting of the cut area could protect the 28" tree.
- One Commissioner noted that if the fence is replaced, it must be elevated to meet the Commission's policy for fences in a flood zone.
- Neighbor Fabian Liss asked whether area flooding would be exacerbated by the driveway fill. The Commission explained that extra on-site flood storage and in-ground infiltration were being supplied.
- <u>Vote</u>: To continue the hearing to 9/22/22 at 9:00pm to allow for revised plans [Motion: Lunin, Second: Gilligan; Roll-call vote: Cade (aye), Green (aye), Lunin (aye), Zabel (aye); Gilligan (aye). Vote: 5:0:0].

6. 9:05 - 100 Boulder Road - informal discussion re Minor Plan Change - DEP #239-908

- Owner/Applicant. Amir Nashat
- Representative. Brian Timm and Chris McDonnell, RJ O'Connell; Rayhaneh Ramezany, Maryann Thompson Architects
- Request. Determine if proposed design changes constitute a Minor Plan Change, or if applicant needs to refile.
- Jurisdiction. Flood Zone (114' NAVD88), Riverfront Area, Buffer Zone to Bank
- Documents Presented.
 - o Comparison of Unenclosed Deck Designs and Rendering.
 - o Table: Comparison of Impervious Area and Mitigation.
 - o Table: Comparison of Degraded Area and Riverfront Restoration Area.
 - o Excerpt of previously approved plan showing restoration and enhancement.
 - o Table: Comparison of Approved vs Proposed Flood Plain.
- Presentation (Brian Timm) and Discussion.
 - An OOC for an addition and deck/patio was issued Jan 10, 2022.
 - o The applicant tried to clarify the proposed changes.
 - Expand first floor level deck.
 - Replace and expand deck with an at-grade patio.
 - (These would result in an increase in degraded area and impervious area. The applicant noted that the infiltration system was sized to accept/infiltrate more than the proposed degraded area.)
 - Use sonotubes rather than helical piles. (The applicant noted that excess flood capacity would still be provided.)
 - Reduce the mitigation planting area.
 - Staff and Commissioners noted their confusion about the awkward use of regulatory terminology, and the internal
 inconsistency of the plans and drawings provided. They asked for internally consistent drawings and a clearer
 description of the desired changes.
 - o Staff and Commissioners expressed concerns about the proposed reduction of the mitigation planting area.
 - Staff reminded the Commission that the question before them was whether to accept the proposed changes as Minor Plan Changes or whether the changes would require an amended OOC.
- <u>Consensus</u>: To continue the discussion to 9/22/22 at 9:30pm to allow for revised plans [Motion: Lunin, Second: Gilligan; Roll-call vote: Cade (aye), Green (aye), Lunin (aye), Zabel (aye); Gilligan (aye). Vote: 5:0:0].

B. CONSERVATION AREA DECISIONS

7. 9:30 - Presentation and approval of Eagle Scout Rohan Peters Cliff Trail Project

- Owner. Conservation Commission
- Representative. Rohan Martin Peters, Eagle Scout candidate
- Request. Approve completed Eagle Scout project
- Project Summary. Construction of stairs at trail by cliffs in the NW corner of Webster Conservation Area.
- Presentation (Rohan Martin Peters) and Discussion.
 - o Rohan showed slides of his project building a new set of stairs at "the Cliffs" in Webster Conservation Area.
 - He was able to secure a 30% Manager's Discretion Discount from Home Depot to purchase items for the project.
 - The stairs are very well-designed and installed.
 - o It was a big, but very successful project.
 - Commissioners and staff were very impressed and appreciative.
 - o Staff will install trail head sign(s) on Hammond Pond Parkway when they install new signs throughout Newton.
- <u>Vote</u>: To have staff sign Rohan's Eagle Scout project book [Motion: Gilligan, Second: Lunin; Roll-call vote: Cade (aye), Green (aye), Lunin (aye), Zabel (aye); Gilligan (aye). Vote: 5:0:0].

C. 9:40 – ADMNISTRATIVE DECISIONS

8. Minutes to be approved

- <u>Documents in packets.</u> Draft 8/11/22 minutes as edited by Kathy Cade.
- <u>Vote</u>: To approve the 8/11/22 minutes as edited by Jennifer Steel [Motion: Cade, Second: Gilligan; Roll-call vote: Cade (aye), Green (aye), Lunin (aye), Zabel (aye); Gilligan (aye). Vote: 5:0:0].
- Volunteer. Dan Green volunteered to review the 9/1/22 minutes.

OTHER TOPICS NOT REASONABLY ANTICIPATED BY THE CHAIR 48 HOURS BEFORE THE MEETING

9. 166 Pond Brook Road - COC re-issue - DEP #239-200 (1988) and DEP #239-208 (1989)

- Owner. Elaheh Golestani
- Representative. none
- Request. Re-sign prior approved COCs
- Presentation (staff) and Discussion.
 - #239-200 = Construction of house; received COC in 1991 (satisfactory completion).
 - #239-208 = Construction of pool; received COC in 1991 (never initiated).
 - o Both OOCs were closed out with COCs
- <u>Vote</u>: To re-issue both COCs [Motion: Gilligan, Second: Cade; Roll-call vote: Cade (aye), Green (aye), Lunin (aye), Zabel (aye); Gilligan (aye). Vote: 5:0:0].

10. 43 River Ave. - NOI cont'd - DEP #239-931

- Owner/Applicant. Dina Onur
- Representatives. John Rockwood, Eco-Tec; Tom Ryder, RAV Engineering; Edmond Spruhan, Engineer
- Request. Continue hearing to 9/22/22.
- Documents in packets. none
- Additional documents presented at meeting, none
- Jurisdiction. RFA, BLSF, Buffer Zone
- <u>Staff Comments.</u> This hearing had been continued to this meeting, but the applicant requested another continuation to 9/22/22 and staff neglected to put it on the agenda. The Commission must vote to accept the request to continue.
- <u>Vote</u>: To continue the hearing to 9/22/22 at 8:00 pm[Motion: Lunin, Second: Gilligan; Roll-call vote: Cade (aye), Green (aye), Lunin (aye), Zabel (aye); Gilligan (aye). Vote: 5:0:0].

ADJOURN at 10:10

• <u>Vote</u>: To adjourn [Motion: Lunin, Second: Gilligan; Roll-call vote: Cade (aye), Green (aye), Lunin (aye), Zabel (aye); Gilligan (aye). Vote: 5:0:0].