



Arlington Conservation Commission

Date: June 04, 2020

Time: 7:30pm

Location: Conducted through Remote Participation using Zoom

Minutes

Attendance: Commission Members Susan Chapnick (Chair), Dave Kaplan, Nathaniel Stevens, Chuck Tirone (Vice Chair), and David White; Associate Commissioners Cathy Garnett and Mike Gildesgame; and Conservation Agent Emily Sullivan. Members of the public included Steve Garvin, Lori Cowles, Kevin Sanders, John Amato, Daniel Norman, Haipeng Zhu, Henri Schuette, and Dennis Hickey. Commissioner Pam Heidell was absent.

Administrative Update

E. Sullivan updated the Commission that the Zoning Board of Appeals plans to continue the Thorndike Place 40B application hearing to its July meeting. E. Sullivan also updated the Commission that due to financial constraints, the Town is looking to cut funds across the Town. As such, the Finance Committee is proposing to reduce the \$55,000 FY2021 allocation approved for the Water Bodies Account to \$45,000. E. Sullivan confirmed that this reduction would not prevent the Water Bodies Working Group from conducting the planned treatments of water bodies in 2020, but would reduce some of the account's reserve that has built up over the years.

Working Session: Eagle Scout Project at Mt. Gilboa

H. Schuette, Eagle Scout, presented a project proposal to restore two sections of trail in Mt. Gilboa that have eroded due to human use and washout. H. Schuette proposed restoring the trail sections with native plantings, check dams, and water bars.

D. White expressed support of the project, and emphasized that this project should prioritize the durability of the restoration efforts and materials.

N. Stevens recommended looking at the trail restoration work at Window on the Mystic. H. Schuette stated he was involved in that scout project and so is familiar with the work.

M. Gildesgame asked how long this project would take. H. Schuette estimated one day of preparation work and two-three days of onsite work.

S. Chapnick asked what type of equipment is being proposed to do the work. H. Schuette confirmed the work would be performed by hand, with no machines, using tools like rock bars and maddixes.

D. White asked what the budget for this project is and where funding is coming from. H. Schuette estimated that the materials would cost \$200. D. White stated that the Commission has funds it can allocate to this project if requested. H. Schuette stated he will put together a formal cost estimate and submit it to the Commission for review and ask for support. D. Kaplan supported D. White's statement that the Commission can allocate funds to the project.

D. Hickey, H. Schuette's scout leader, stated he supports this project and appreciates the Commission's support and review.

E. Sullivan requested that H. Schuette submit a more detailed project proposal with cost estimate and request for funds.

**Hearing: Request for Certificate of Compliance, 12 Clyde Terrace
MassDEP File #091-0274**

N. Stevens motioned to continue the hearing to the Commission's 06/18/2020 meeting at the request of the Applicant's Representative, D. White seconded, all were in favor, motion approved.

**Continued Hearing: Notice of Intent: 869 Mass Avenue, Arlington High School
MassDEP File #091-0323**

Documents Reviewed:

- 1) *Notice of Intent for work at Arlington High School, 869 Massachusetts Avenue, Arlington MA prepared by HMFH Architects and Samiotes Consultants Inc, dated 05/07/2020*
- 2) *Existing Conditions Plan Set for Arlington High School, 869 Massachusetts Avenue, Arlington MA prepared by HMFH Architects and Samiotes Consultants Inc, stamped by James P Horgan PLS#50302, dated 04/23/2020*
- 3) *Civil Engineering Plan Set for Arlington High School, 869 Massachusetts Avenue, Arlington MA prepared by HMFH Architects and Samiotes Consultants Inc, stamped by Stephen R Garvin PE#42772, dated 05/07/2020*
- 4) *Sports Fields Plan Set for Arlington High School, 869 Massachusetts Avenue, Arlington MA prepared by HMFH Architects and JJA Sports LLC, stamped by John J Amato PE#34799, dated 05/07/2020*
- 5) *Stormwater Report for Arlington High School, 869 Massachusetts Avenue, Arlington MA prepared by HMFH Architects, Crosby/Schlessinger/Smallridge LLC, and Samiotes Consultants Inc, stamped by Stephen R Garvin PE#42772, dated 05/07/2020*
- 6) *Supplemental Materials submitted for the 06/04/2020 meeting*

Resource Areas:

- 1) *Mill Brook*
- 2) *100-Foot Wetlands Buffer Zone*
- 3) *100-Foot Adjacent Upland Resource Area*
- 4) *200-Foot Riverfront Area*
- 5) *Bordering Land Subject to Flooding*

Per the Commission's 05/27/2020 meeting, the Representatives for the AHS NOI reviewed the supplemental materials requested by the Commission, including:

- 1) Impervious area increase calculation in AURA/100-ft Buffer
- 2) Cornell modeling for stormwater report
- 3) Expanded riverfront area analysis to include 10.5.85 A-H standards from the Wetlands Protection Act
- 4) An alternative analysis for work in the AURA/100-ft Buffer
- 5) Specifications for the possible stormwater quality units that could be installed onsite
- 6) Send the stormwater quality specifications to the Engineering Division for review
- 7) Papers/information about artificial turf fields and impact on ecological health
- 8) New York's standards and specifications for the proposed artificial turf fields
- 9) A climate change resiliency narrative for the proposed artificial turf fields
- 10) The current artificial turf maintenance contract for AHS and whether maintenance includes chemical treatments
- 11) The site's Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP)
- 12) More information about the proposed rain gardens
- 13) A summary of the site constraints in alternatives analysis
- 14) Landscape plans

S. Garvin presented the project proposal and supplemental information.

J. Amato stated that the project recommends that the artificial turf fields are not chemically treated for maintenance.

S. Garvin stated that the License Site Professional, McPhail, does not recommend infiltrating the rain gardens due to the pre-existing contamination onsite.

S. Chapnick asked, on P. Heidell's behalf, about the maintenance of landscaped areas onsite and whether fertilizers would be used. S. Garvin stated that the Commission could condition the use of fertilizers or condition that no fertilizers be used. The Department of Public Works will be maintaining the landscaped areas.

S. Chapnick asked for clarity regarding the levels of lead and zinc in the artificial turfs' infill material and blade/grass material. J. Amato stated that the amounts listed in the supplemental information is reflective of both the infill and blade material (e.g. 100ppm for lead). S. Chapnick commented that the climate change resilience summary for the artificial turf field is focused on human health impacts, and not ecological health impacts. Human health impacts are under the purview of the Board of Health, while ecological health impacts are under the purview of the Conservation Commission.

C. Tirone asked what the disposal process is for artificial turf. J. Amato stated it is disposed as waste-to-energy for cement manufacturers. C. Tirone also asked whether the curbing along the parking areas could have breaks in it to promote infiltration. C.

Tirone recommended that the Representative look into the feasibility of onsite stormwater capture for site landscaping.

Through the hearing, the Commission requested the following additional items to be submitted as supplemental information:

- 1) Construction O&M for stormwater system
- 2) PAHs report for artificial turf fields
- 3) Revised climate change summary for artificial turf fields for ecological health, not human health considerations
- 4) O&M plan for artificial turf field, including waste-to-energy disposal for concrete manufacturing
- 5) Urban heat island analysis for artificial turf fields
- 6) Determination of whether parking island curbing in parking lots can be removed for stormwater management
- 7) Determination of whether a system for onsite water capture can be implemented so stormwater can be used for landscaping

D. Kaplan motioned to continue the hearing to the Commission's 06/18/2020 meeting, N. Stevens seconded, all were in favor, motion approved.

Regulatory Update: Vegetation Removal and Replacement Section

The Commission agreed to postpone this regulatory review to its 06/18/2020 meeting.

D. White motioned to close the Commission meeting, D. Kaplan seconded, all were in favor, motioned approved.

Meeting adjourned at 10:00pm.