



## **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 coordinated with the Water Bodies Working Group and 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. The reduced funds may delay some work of the Water Bodies Working Group.

### **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 but didn't think that design would work here.

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 data used in the modeling for the stormwater report
- 3) Expanded riverfront area analysis to include discussion of 310 CMR 10.58(5) criteria
- 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) Have sent the stormwater quality specifications to the Engineering Division for review but have not received comments back
- 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 (who submitted written comments in advance of the meeting), about the maintenance of landscaped areas and the Applicant's plans to fertilize an area onsite that is within the AURA, noting that the Commission typically restricts use of fertilizer in resource areas. The Applicant's representative D. Norman noted that the area within the AURA near the artificial turf borders the DPW property and DPW maintains this area and will continue to do so. S. Chapnick responded that use of fertilizer here might be something that the Conservation Commission will want to discuss further with Department of Public Works.

On behalf of P. Heidell, S. Chapnick also asked about possibility of widening vegetation buffer strip. S. Garvin said the Applicant could look at possibility of more compact parking spaces.

S. Chapnick also asked, on P. Heidell's behalf, whether inspections and preparation of logs required pursuant to the SWPPP will be done by the Construction Contractor/subcontractor or an independent entity. S. Garvin indicated that a qualified professional from Consigli will be responsible. S. Chapnick asked whether the Conservation Commission would receive logs documenting exceedences. S. Garvin suggested a Condition that the logs be submitted to the Conservation Commission. Later, as a follow up, C. Tirone stated that the Conservation Commission may want to consider a condition requiring an independent environmental monitor.

Similarly, S. Chapnick asked on P. Heidell's behalf, who will be responsible for post-construction inspection and maintenance of stormwater controls, the outlets, or the rain gardens. The Applicant responded that this will be a topic for discussion with the School Building Committee.

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 and Post-Construction O&M responsibilities for stormwater system
- 2) Polyaromatic Hydrocarbons (PAHs) information for artificial turf fields
- 3) Revised climate change summary for artificial turf fields for ecological health and climate resilience, 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.