

Department of Planning and Community Development

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Mayor Joseph C. Sullivan

Braintree Conservation Commission

Patrick Flynn, Chair
Donald Murphy, Vice-Chair
Diane Francis
Matthew Hobin
Daniel J. McMorrow, Jr.
Gail Poliner-Feldman
Alan Weinberg

Staff Kelly Phelan

CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2012

Present: Alan Weinberg, Acting Chair, Diane Francis, Gail Feldman, Matthew Hobin
Daniel J. McMorrow, Jr. & Kelly Phelan, Staff

Absent: Patrick Flynn, Gus Murphy

Public Hearings

Request for Determination of Applicability 168 Franklin St. /McAuliffe

APPROVED

Mr. Weinberg opened the hearing for 168 Franklin St. and read the hearing notice published in the Patriot Ledger.

The applicant, Shirley McAuliffe, was present. Ms. McAuliffe said she is filing for an addition to the pool house which was already constructed and she wants to clean up area behind the pool house. She also wants to level out the garden area and eventually put in a floating dock.

Staff went over the comments in the staff report. She said the slope behind the pool house is steep and cannot be altered without filing for a grading permit from the Planning Board. She said Ms. McAuliffe should meet with staff from the Planning Board to review grading of the existing lawn area. She also recommends native groundcover be used for landscaping rather than lawn on the slope and recommended limiting removal of vegetation along the shore to one access point to the proposed floating dock. Leaving existing vegetated buffer is important for water quality and deters geese.

Mr. Weinberg asked how the dock would be anchored. Ms. McAuliffe said it would be anchored to the shore and float.

Ms. Feldman asked for clarification on grading. Staff included a condition that allowed minor grading of the lawn area but not grading which would trigger a grading permit.

Motion by Mr. McMorrow, second by Ms. Feldman, to issue a negative determination of applicability with the six conditions drafted by staff. Vote: 5-0.

Other Business

Status of Fill Removal

8-614 1091-1093 Washington St./Clancy

Mr. Clancy was present. He said the surveyor and engineer came back out and drew up plans to create the compensatory flood storage needed. They will cut into the hill behind the church. Mr. Clancy said he talked to a contractor who can do the work. A large tree will have to be removed.

Staff looked at the plan and said it quantified the cut on the site at each elevation as well as the net cut but the fill information, including net fill was not included. Staff said they need this information to determine that net cut is equal to or more than net fill. Staff noted there was also a Planning Board permit for this project and Mr. Clancy will have to discuss these revisions with that board.

Staff said that contingent upon the cut and fill balancing and Planning Board approval, she would not object to Mr. Clancy resuming work on the project. She said the conditions still apply and they would meet on the site with the new contractor.

Request for Certificate of Compliance

8-405 555 Mahar Highway/F.X. Messina

Mr. Weinberg asked if anyone had a chance to look at the site as staff had requested. Ms. Feldman said she did and she felt it should be restored. Ms. Francis said it needs topsoil and grass or wildflowers. Mr. Weinberg said he thought it should be restored.

Mr. Weinberg stepped down from the chair to make a motion that a letter be sent to F.X. Messina regarding the Certificate of Compliance request for 8-405 stating that the site does not comply with the Order of Conditions because the debris has not been removed. Ms. Feldman seconded. Vote: 5-0.

Shoreline Alteration at Sunset Lake

In response to Commission concerns about the vegetation removal, retaining walls, etc. around Sunset Lake, staff reviewed aerial photos of the properties around the lake. Staff compared 2005 aerials with 2009 aerials and noted there is little change between the years. Most of the alteration is long-standing. Discussion on the issue was tabled until the next meeting.

Splash Pad Updated

Staff provided the Commission copies of DEP's Superceding Order of Conditions approving the splash pad project at Watson Park. It is expected that construction will begin in the spring.

2013 Meeting Schedule

Staff provided the Commission copies of the 2013 meeting schedule. The 2013 schedule calls for monthly meetings, with additional meetings to be added as necessary.

Approval of Minutes

Motion by Mr. McMorrow, second by Ms. Francis to approve the November 1st minutes. Vote: 5-0.

Adjourn

Motion by Mr. Weinberg, second by Ms. Francis, to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 PM. Vote: 5-0.