

Town of Franklin



Conservation Commission

**March 5, 2020  
Meeting Minutes**

Chair Bill Batchelor called the above-captioned meeting to order this date at 7:00 PM at the Franklin Municipal Building, Council Chambers, 355 East Central Street, Franklin, Massachusetts. Members in attendance: Jeff Livingstone, Paul Harrington, Staci Dooney, Jeffrey Milne, Alan Wallach. Members absent: Braden Rosenberg. Also present: Jen Delmore, Conservation Agent.

**Commencement**

Chair Batchelor announced the meeting would be audio and video recorded.

*Note: Documents presented to the Conservation Commission are on file.*

**Public Hearing – NOI – 225 Plain Street**

Ms. Nicole Hayes, Wetland Scientist of Goddard Consulting, addressed the Commission for the construction of a single-family home with associated pervious driveway and retaining wall. She provided Ms. Delmore with additional documents.

Chair Batchelor suggested the applicant not present too much detail when giving testimony because the Agent has not reviewed the modified plan the applicant submitted tonight.

Ms. Hayes stated the location of the house is partially within the 100' buffer zone to an isolated wetland but outside the 50' no-build zone. Most of the driveway is within the 200' outer riparian zone to the Charles River. She reviewed the associated grading, sloping, and topography.

Ms. Delmore stated there were some revisions and necessary additional information for the NOI packet that was submitted by the applicant. She is waiting for a revised plan showing the proposed gas line and the engineer's stamp and signature. As well, she requested the applicant submit one final plan for approval rather than two plans with one referencing the other.

Ms. Hayes noted that the plan she submitted tonight shows the gas line.

There was a motion made by Jeffrey Milne to continue the public hearing for the NOI for 225 Plain Street to March 19, 2020 at 7:20 PM. The motion was seconded by Alan Wallach and accepted with a vote of 6-0-0.

**Public Hearing – RDA – Ben Franklin Charter School Gymnasium**

*Mr. Harrington recused himself.*

Mr. Stephen Garvin and Mr. David Scharlacken, both of Samiotes Consultants, Inc., addressed the Commission for improvements including restriping the parking lot and adding curbing along the landscaped area within the 100' buffer zone to Bordering Vegetated Wetland in relation to construction of the gymnasium. Mr. Garvin reviewed the location of the existing constructed school. He noted that at the time of the original permitting and NOI, the gym was included in the drainage calculations. He stated the work within the buffer zone is minimal and is all previously disturbed area.

Ms. Delmore stated that she conducted a site visit. She stated that the erosion control needs to be biodegradable. She asked if the applicant will be returning for a Certificate of Compliance on the entire project once the gymnasium is complete.

Mr. Gavin stated he did not have any issues with the biodegradable erosion control and they would return for the COC at the completion of the entire project.

There was a motion made by Jeff Livingstone to close the public hearing for the RDA for the Ben Franklin Charter School Gymnasium. The motion was seconded by Jeffrey Milne and accepted with a vote of 5-0-0.

There was a motion made by Staci Dooney to approve a negative determination #3 with the condition that biodegradable material be used for erosion control for the RDA for the Ben Franklin Charter School Gymnasium. The motion was seconded by Alan Wallach and accepted with a vote of 5-0-0.

*Mr. Harrington re-entered the meeting.*

## **GENERAL BUSINESS**

**Minor Buffer Zone Activities:** None.

### **Permit Modifications/Extensions: Maple Preserve**

Mr. Bob Baker of Recco Inc. and Mr. Mark Carroll of Carroll Construction addressed the Commission to request a one-year extension to complete the asphalt top coat and loam and seed for a 10-lot residential subdivision off Maple Street.

There was a motion made by Jeffrey Milne to approve a one-year Extension for Maple Preserve. The motion was seconded by Alan Wallach and accepted with a vote of 6-0-0.

### **Permit Modifications/Extensions: DelCarte Ponds – Aquatic Vegetation Management**

Ms. Delmore stated this project is for the treatment of invasive aquatic vegetation, both Milfoil and Water Chestnut, in DelCarte Ponds. Solitude Lake Management is requesting a one-year extension on behalf of the Town of Franklin. This will be their second extension. She noted Solitude Lake Management has been submitting all required reports.

There was a motion made by Jeffrey Milne to approve a one-year Extension for DelCarte Ponds for Aquatic Vegetation Management. The motion was seconded by Alan Wallach and accepted with a vote of 6-0-0.

### **Certificate of Compliance: 27 Forge Parkway**

Ms. Amanda Cavaliere of Guerriere and Halnon, Inc. addressed the Commission. She reviewed the project for construction of additional parking and stormwater systems. She stated the work was recently completed and an as-built was filed with the Conservation Commission and the Planning Board. She stated comments were received from BETA for the Form H. There were a few items BETA wanted cleared up; therefore, the Planning Board issued a Partial Form H. She discussed that one tree of the eight trees that were proposed was not planted. They are determining a location to plant the tree as it was not needed were originally proposed. She stated the Planning Board is requiring the eighth tree be planted.

Ms. Delmore stated that on her site visit she found that there was a small break in the erosion control upland of wetland flag GC19 which needs to be fixed. She noted that although the site has been loamed and seeded, there is little germination at this time.

Ms. Cavaliere stated the applicant is aware they need to do additional seeding to get the areas stabilized, address the erosion control breach, and get the remaining tree planted. She suggested various places where the tree could be placed. Commission members did not provide a recommendation of where to plant the tree; Ms. Delmore suggested the tree be placed in the general area of where it was originally supposed to be planted.

Chair Batchelor suggested Ms. Cavaliere inform the Conservation Agent when she would like to return to the Commission.

There was a motion made by Staci Dooney to approve the Certificate of Compliance for 27 Forge Parkway to an unspecified date. The motion was seconded by Alan Wallach and accepted with a vote of 6-0-0.

**Violations/Enforcement:** None.

**Minutes: February 13, 2020**

There was a motion made by Staci Dooney to approve the meeting minutes for February 13, 2020 with a modification as noted by Ms. Delmore. The motion was seconded by Jeffrey Milne and accepted with a vote of 6-0-0.

**Discussion Item: Earth Day Update**

Mr. Wallach updated the Commission on sponsorship for the event. He stated that he spoke with the store manager at the Big Y who confirmed the Big Y will provide some baked goods and may provide approximately five volunteers for the event. The manager asked Mr. Wallach to check back with him in a few weeks. Mr. Wallach stated that the Starbucks store manager said they would provide the coffee as well as possibly four to six volunteers. Chair Batchelor stated he put information on the blog and All About Franklin on Facebook. He will post information again next week. He stated Mr. Rosenberg connected with Wicked Local and they will give the event some press. Ms. Delmore stated the Commission members received the flyer examples. Mr. Livingstone suggested that the official address of the DelCarte parking lot should be included on the flyer. Commission members discussed their suggested changes to the flyer. Chair Batchelor discussed the use of the Big Y and Starbucks logos and stated the logos could not be included on the event flyer. Commission members reviewed the Earth Day logo examples provided by Ms. Delmore and selected the Earth logo. Ms. Delmore reviewed her checklist for the event and confirmed 144 pairs of gloves will be provided. She confirmed Mr. Rosenberg will look into the fabric gloves, sponsor proclamations will be taken care of after the event, and trash bags need to be picked up at the DPW building the day before the event. She stated that Allegra quoted \$3 per sq. ft.

for the banner. Commission members and Ms. Delmore discussed locations to hang the banner, the size of the banner, and the wording on the banner. It was agreed that the banner would be 6' x 2' and include the words Celebrate Earth Day at DelCarte, the logo without the date/year, and the time listed as 9-noon. Chair Batchelor stated they would get 72 T-shirts. Ms. Delmore reviewed the cost of the T-shirts and sizes agreed to by the Commission members. Mr. Livingstone suggested providing T-shirts indicating "sponsor" for the volunteers from the sponsoring organizations. Chair Batchelor requested Mr. Wallach let the sponsors know that their volunteers will be identified with a special T-shirt. Mr. Wallach stated he was informed that the sponsoring organizations would probably not know how many volunteers would be attending until closer to the event. Commission members suggested ordering 12 size large shirts for prospective sponsor volunteers without the date on the shirts so if there were any leftover T-shirts, they could be used at a future event. It was agreed that the T-shirt order will remain at 72 with 12 T-shirts having "sponsor" added.

**Chair and Commission Comments:** None.

**Executive Session:** None.

There was a motion made by Staci Dooney to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Alan Wallach and accepted with a vote of 6-0-0. The meeting adjourned at 7:56 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

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Judith Lizardi  
Recording Secretary