

**TOWN OF ACTON
CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

Minutes

March 14, 2018

7:15 PM

**TOWN HALL - 472 MAIN STREET
ROOM 121**

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Terry Maitland, William Froberg, Amy Green, Tim McKinnon, Jennifer Stoltz, Paula Goodwin

NATURAL RESOURCES DIRECTOR & RECORDING SECRETARY: Tom Tidman

VISITORS: Mike Plate, Janet Adachi

7:15 Request for Determination of Applicability: 21 Musket Drive

Applicant Mike Plate manages grounds for Patriots Hill Recreation Club. The project is to remove and replace the existing fence structure that exists at 21 Musket Drive, town atlas plate E3, parcel 87-61.

Mr. Plate reported that the Building Department has required that they replace the fence around the community pool. They will not be expanding the area inside the fence, and the new fence will be located within the same footprint as the existing fence. The new fence must meet Mass. General Laws for community pool fencing. It will be a 6 foot high cedar fence. Posts will be augered in with no cementing. The work will be conducted from inside the fenced area. There is a 10 foot wide cleared area around the fence. Contractors will also work from inside the enclosed pool area.

Meeting closed at 7:25PM.

Decision: Mr. Froberg moved to issue a Negative 2 determination, that is, the work described in the Request is within an area subject to protection under the Act, but will not remove, fill, dredge or alter that area. Therefore, said work does not require a filing of a Notice of Intent.

Ms. Green seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

7:30 Notice of Intent: 2 Taylor Road, Acton Arboretum, China Trail
Hearing continued from 12-6-2017.

Mr. Tidman presented plans for the construction of a 12 foot long and 5 foot wide arched bridge over a farm ditch. The posts will be set in 12 inch diameter concrete foundations. There will be a five foot wide boardwalk approaching both sides of the bridge. The boardwalks will rest on corrugated pvc drain pipe. The boardwalk will not be in contact with wetlands.

Ms. Green asked if the footings could be dug without having a backhoe working in the wetlands. Mr. Tidman answered that a small power auger could be used, or they holes could be dug by hand.

Ms. Green also asked that all excavated soil be removed from the site. Mr. Tidman said they would have a small dump truck near the work area. Soil would be collected and removed from the site each day.

Mr. Froberg asked if any kind of bamboo is included in the planting plan. Mr. Tidman assured the Commission that the planting plans were carefully reviewed by the Friends of the Acton Arboretum, particularly Sue Whitcomb and Cathy Hatfield. Mr. Froberg reiterated that no bamboo should be planted in the garden. Ms. Green noted that only native wetland species should be planted in disturbed areas around the bridge.

Ms. Green also said that work should only be done during the dry season when the farm ditch is dry. Mr. Tidman said the plan was to construct the bridge this coming summer.

Decision: Ms. Green moved to issue a standard Order of Conditions with the following special conditions:

1. Footings must be installed in dry conditions
2. Post holes are to be dug by auger or by hand
3. All excavated material shall be removed immediately
4. Excavation site must be covered if rain is forecasted
5. Plantings shall not include any non-native invasive species, in particular bamboo species
6. No plantings shall be done in wetlands unless re-establishing native wetland species

Ms. Goodwin seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Certificate of Compliance

69 Charter Road DEP File #85-855

Decision: Ms. Green moved to issue a Certificate of Compliance, Mr. Froberg seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Minutes:

February 28, 2018: Pending

Meeting adjourned: 8:15 PM



Terry Maitland
Chairperson

**CONSERVATION COMMISSION
AGENDA
March 14, 2018
7:15 PM
ACTON TOWN HALL
472 MAIN STREET
Room 121**

Note: Meeting originally scheduled for March 7, postponed due to weather conditions. Location has been changed to Room 121.

7:15 Request for Determination of Applicability: 21 Musket Drive
Mike Plate representing Patriots Hill Recreation Club is the applicant. The project is to remove and replace the existing fence structure that exists at 21 Musket Drive, *town atlas plate E3, parcel 87-61.*

7:30 Notice of Intent: 2 Taylor Road, Acton Arboretum, China Trail; continuance

Certificate of Compliance

Quail Ridge DEP File #85-986 (pending)

69 Charter Road DEP File #85-855

Minutes:

February 28, 2018: pending

