

CONSERVATION COMMISSION
MINUTES
FEBRUARY 9, 2005

MEMBERS PRESENT: Terry Maitland, Mike Eder, Andy Magee, Cheryl Lowe, Jeff Rogers

ASSOCIATE MEMBER: Janet Adachi

CONSERVATION ADMINISTRATOR: Tom Tidman

RECORDING SECRETARY: Tom Tidman

VISITOR: David Hale, Omni Properties

8:00 AM Mr. Maitland called the meeting to order for the purpose of discussing the Commission's written comments to be submitted to MEPA regarding their review of the Environmental Notification Form (ENF) for the proposed development "Woodlands at Laurel Hill".

Mr. Magee reported that he and Mr. Tidman met with the applicant on 2/8/05 to discuss concerns raised in the draft letter to the Executive Office of Environmental Affairs (EOEA). Discussions revolved around stormwater, encroachments on the wetlands buffer, the attitude of the applicant's comments in the ENF towards the wetlands/detention basins and the issue of the isolated wetland not protected under the Act. In the time since the initial draft was prepared the applicant has amended their plans showing the relocation of one building with the purchase of additional land.

Mr. Eder inquired about the ramifications if the developer does not meet the conditions set in the MEPA letter.

Mr. Magee stated that it is a trust issue; there is nothing in the MEPA letter that is enforceable and the applicant will be filing an NOI under the Wetlands Protection Act soon. MEPA filings, Environmental Impact Reports (EIR), bring the proposed project in front of many boards and agencies at one time, in theory allowing everyone to see the project at the same time and not work in opposition to one another.

Mr. Eder stated that the MEPA letter should point out that this is a complex stormwater management site. The Commission should make sure that MEPA highlights the need for DEP to do a thorough review of the Stormwater Management Plan.

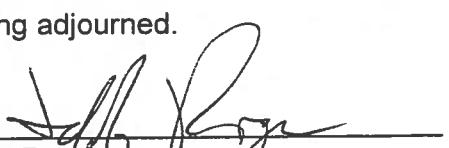
Ms. Lowe asked if the Commission/Town can ask that the pavement be a porous composition.

Mr. Magee stated that this proposed development will appear before the Commission as a formal NOI filing under the Act; at that time the Commission can suggest alternatives such as porous pavement.

Upon query by Mr. Magee, the Commission and Mr. Hale expressed that they were comfortable with the letter as drafted, dated 2/9/05.

Mr. Eder moved that the Commission accept the letter as drafted and amended by Mr. Magee. Ms. Lowe 2nd; unanimous.

8:50 Meeting adjourned.


Jeffrey Rogers
Chair