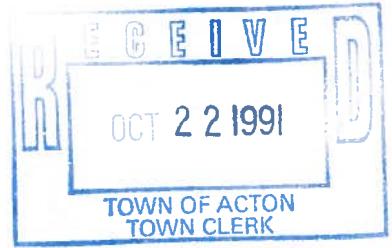


CONSERVATION COMMISSION  
MINUTES FOR  
JUNE 19, 1991



**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Andrew Sheehan, Charlotte Timlege, John Chalmers

**CONSERVATION ADMINISTRATOR:** Tom Tidman

**RECORDING SECRETARY:** Andrea MacKenzie

**VISITORS:** Dennis Ring, Richard Eifler, Joseph Canoby, Howard Edwards, Dennis & Linda Larson, Barbara Howell, Barbara Penton, Lynda Palermo, Dan & Nancy Busse, Alex Ivanov, Margaet & David Forrant, John & Lucy Salsgiver, Fred Goldstein, Arlene & Alan Weiss

7:40 Mr. Sheehan called the meeting to order.

**CITIZEN'S CONCERNS**

John MacLeod, of the Acton Rotary Club, stated that he has met with Town officials and is before the Commission to discuss the possibility of cleaning up Acton's brooks and streams. This environmental project will be done in three phases if the proper approvals are granted. Phase one will entail picking up small litter and liftable rubbish around and out of the brooks and streams. Phase two would be to educate the public on cleaning up the smaller tributaries. Phase three will involve working with the state, county and local agencies to come up with a plan to remove large objects from brooks and streams (such as large trees, rocks in some areas, steel drums, etc.), which cause blockage of flow creating mosquito breeding areas and stagnant water.

The Administrator asked the Commission to consider concerns of clearing certain things, such as blown down trees that are now part of a natural habitat in the water ways, etc. The Administrator stated that he feels that the Rotary Club would have to file with the Commission.

Mr. MacLeod stated that he was aware of what may be required, but presently he is looking for the Commission's blessing and a letter endorsing the project and Phase I.

8:00 **REQUEST FOR DETERMINATION** - McCarthy Village - Housing Authority

Mr. Sheehan opened the meeting under MGL Chapter 131, Section 40 of the Wetlands Protection Act, and the Town of Acton Bylaw for the improvements to the sub-drain system running around the perimeter of Units 7, 9, 11, and 13 at McCarthy Village off Sachem Way.

Richard Eifler, of Gauchat Architects, Inc. stated that there is a drainage problem from the original construction 10 years ago. When the buildings were constructed, there was a hill cut which rises behind the noted units. When the hillside was cut they hit

groundwater. There is a functioning drain 10' from the back of the buildings. They propose to excavate the end of the existing drain and swing it around with the grade of the hill where the remaining groundwater posing a problem will be caught by a proposed gravel drainage ditch.

The Administrator read a letter from a Commissioner that could not be present at this hearing and who is an abutter, which stated in part that, the debris in on-site wetlands remaining from the original construction of the units, he feels, should be cleaned up before the allowance of the drainage work.

The Administrator recommended a site inspection with the Director of the Housing Authority, and create a punch list for the clean-up, which could be done when feasible for the authority.

8:14 Hearing no further comments, Mr. Sheehan closed the meeting.

8:17 REQUEST FOR DETERMINATION - Taylor Road Culvert - Town of Acton

Mr. Sheehan opened the meeting under MGL Chapter 131, Section 40 of the Wetlands Protection Act, and the Town of Acton Bylaw for the routine maintenance to the drainage structures within 100' of a wetland on Taylor Road near the Conant School.

Mr. Dennis Ring, Town of Acton Engineering Department, presented plans showing culverts existing that are now 100' from the low points in the road. The Town proposes to replace the existing pipes and the culverts, and add (oil separating) catch basins at the low points and then repave Taylor Road. Presently, due to the freezing of water in these low points, the road breaks up frequently.

Hearing no further comments, Mr. Sheehan closed the meeting.

Mr. Chalmers moved that the Commission finds the work as proposed to be within their jurisdiction, but will not impact the wetlands. Ms. Timlege seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

DETERMINATION - McCarthy Village - Housing Authority

Mr. Chalmers moved to find the work as proposed to be within the Commission's jurisdiction, but will not impact the wetland. Ms. Timlege seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The Administrator stated that he would send a letter with the Determination to Betty McManus, Acton Housing Authority, stating the Commission's concerns about the old construction debris in the wetlands, and will arrange to meet with her.

8:30 NOTICE OF INTENT - 65 Hammond Street - BART Corporation 75-247

Mr. Sheehan opened the hearing under MGL Chapter 131, Section 40 of the Wetlands Protection Act, and the Town of Acton Bylaw for the construction of a single family home within 100' of a wetland.

Chris Nelson, of Nelson Engineering, presented plans for 65 Hammond Street, accessed off of Evergreen Road. The applicant has received approval from the Board of Health for the septic system. Approximately 2000-3000 yards of fill will be required within the buffer zone for the septic system. As proposed, the driveway will be 28' from the edge of wetland and will be constructed to function as a drainage barrier for the wetlands, and will have a catch basin within it. Haybales are proposed between the driveway and wetland.

Mr. Chalmers interjected to state that all of the wetlands on the site are not indicated on the plans. Ms. Nelson stated that there is no proposed activity within 100' of any other wetlands therefore she did not indicate them on the plans. The Commission requested amended plans showing all on site wetlands to be shown.

Ms. Nelson also stated that the applicant is requesting a waiver from Section 3.2 "Wetland Setbacks for New Construction" ss. (3), 40' No Build Setback from Edge of Wetlands. Only part of the driveway is within the 40' no-build zone.

The excavation and removal of soils for the septic will be used on site, with an additional 2000 - 3000 yards of fill brought in for the Title 5 approved septic system. Perc tests were done in December of 1990. She noted that the groundwater flows west on the lot towards the wetlands.

Mr. Sheehan asked the applicant to continue this hearing until the following is done:

- 1.) The Commission receives amended plans showing all wetlands on the property;
- 2.) That all Commissioners conduct a site inspection, after the entire lot has been flagged for wetlands;
- 3.) The issue of surface flow will be resolved. There was disagreement between the abutters and Nelson Engineering regarding the direction of surface flow.

Ms. Nelson, on behalf of the applicant, agreed to a continuation of the hearing.

The Commission stated that the hearing will be continued until July 10, 1991, the next scheduled Commission meeting.

**VOTE TO RECONSIDER - Lot 17 & 18 Stoneymeade Way**

Upon the applicants request, Mr. Chalmers moved to reconsider the Notice of Intent. Additional information has been provided by the applicant for Lot 18. Ms. Timlege seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Cataldo provided plans for Lot 18 clearly showing a deck off the back of the house, reduced fill within the buffer zone (Approximately 1500 rather than 2500 yards of fill). The landscaping on the back slope will be done with a low bush blueberry sod which will stabilize the 2:1 slopes quicker than hydroseed materials. Lot 17 has no changes.

9:48 Hearing no further information or comments, Mr. Sheehan closed the hearing.  
Mr. Chalmers moved to issue a standard Order of Conditions for Lot 17 & 18 Stoneymeade Way. Ms. Timlege seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

10:01 Meeting Adjourned.



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Andrew Sheehan, Chairman

CONSERVATION COMMISSION  
AGENDA  
JUNE 19, 1991

7:30 **CITIZEN'S CONCERNS**

Members of the Acton Rotary Club will be before the Commission to propose a stream clean-up project; see attached.

8:00 **REQUEST FOR DETERMINATION** - McCarthy Village - Housing Authority

The Acton Housing Authority is sponsoring improvements to the sub-drain system running around the perimeter of Units 7, 9, 11 and 13 McCarthy Village, Sachem Way. The work being done will limit the amount of break-out behind the units. Discharge from the interceptor pipes will be deposited to the surface at a distance greater than 40' from the edge of wetlands.

8:15 **REQUEST FOR DETERMINATION** - Taylor Road - Engineering Dept.

The Town Engineering Department requests permission to conduct routine maintenance to the drainage structures on Taylor Road near the Conant School. This will involve installing a new catch basin and cleaning culverts.

8:30 **NOTICE OF INTENT** - 65 Hammond Street

Construction of a single family home accessed from Evergreen Road. The driveway accessing the house does not meet the 40' wetlands setback. They will be asking for a waiver.

\*\* All Commissioners attending this meeting should become familiar with this site, as a great deal of local concern from residents on Evergreen & Hammond Street has been raised.

**MINUTES**

April 17  
May 15 To be submitted  
June 5 " "