

Conservation Commission Meeting  
Sharon Community Center  
February 5, 2015

Meredith Avery, Acting Chairperson, Stephen Cremer, and Keevin Geller were the members present. Elizabeth McGrath arrived to the meeting late. Peg Arguimbau, Linda Orel and Alan Westman were the members not present. The Conservation Administrator, Greg Meister, was also present.

**7:45PM – Hearing Continuance - 135 Old Post Road, DEP# SE280-0565**

Commission received an email from the applicant requesting a continuance to March 5<sup>th</sup> McGrath, Cremer 4-0-0

**Update - Lake Management Review Committee (LMRC)**

Betsy McGrath – LMRC asked Meister to return to the next meeting to review the studies which he passed out and other data. Members of the LMRC are interested in Meister’s opinion on how issues at the Lake can be remedied. There is concern with correlation of numbers when artificially manipulating the lake levels.

According to Meister there is complete data on the outflow of the lake. As of 2007, DPW put in data logs with data recorders for both the level and outflow of the Lake. Not sure if data is currently being pulled. These periodic Data Logs of the Lake have been kept by Meister and Towner. Paul Lauenstein was given this data and he put it into a digital format. The yacht club also maintained logs of the lake.

The next meeting of the LMRC is March 5<sup>th</sup> at 7pm. Commission members are encouraged to attend.

**8:15PM Hearing – Abbreviated Notice of Resource Delineation, DEP SE#280-0566 1225. General Edwards Highway**

Scott Goddard, wetland scientist representing the owner/applicant.  
Brief overview of the parcels in question (about 28 acres).

bordering vegetated wetlands

- A perennial stream runs through the property which is referred to as School Meadow Brook. A tributary runs off of this brook. Applicant is seeking to confirm extent of wetlands area which is bound within this parcel.
- Question remains about menial high-water of the brook. This was not delineated in full. The high-water needs to be flagged.
- Site walk of property was conducted with a number of changes made.
- Not all of the changes from the site walk have been incorporated into the plan, although most of the changes were made, newer flags still need to be added.
- Several flags still need to be located, once found, the information will be submitted to the Commission.

- The menial high-water mark still needs to be flagged and with the possibility of review later in the process, once an NOI is submitted.
- Delineation on the existing plan was prepared about 10 to 15 years ago.

**Motion** to accept BVW line as amended by Meister and close hearing contingent of receiving an updated plan. There will be no need for continuation of this hearing.  
Cremer, McGrath 4-0-0

**8:30PM Hearing – Notice of Intent, 63 Canton Street. DEP #SE280-0567  
NSTAR Electrical Geotechnical Borings**

Avery recused herself from this hearing as she works with consultant for the project. Denise, from Eversource, now known as NSTAR

NSTAR (Eversource) is proposing the installation of 5 geotechnical borings to be located at 63 Canton Street. These borings will be located within the right of way. The borings are necessary in preparing and doing the engineering work for the foundations of the utility structures for the proposed switching station which will be built adjacent to the Right of Way. At present, plans for building the switching station are going through the DEP process to see if Eversource will be able to build the structure. The borings are exploratory and being done at this time so if the project is approved, they will be able to move forward.

To protect the wetland area, Eversource is looking to use either lattice or composite mats. The footings will be concrete and will not go down to bedrock. Eversource is looking to begin the project as soon as they receive an Order of Conditions. Eversource explained that the best time to do this type of project, and with the least amount of impact to wetlands is when the ground is frozen. A natural buffer will be left in place.

Abutters to the proposed project have concerns.

- Where is the easement located and why will borings be located within the easement when proposed building will be located beyond the easement?
  - Borings will be located within the easement, with permanent towers going in if the project is approved. The actual switching station though is located outside of the easement.
- Project is currently before the DPU.
- Why geotechnical borings now, before project has been approved?
  - It is not unusual to perform exploratory work prior to approval of a project.
- This site has been identified as a top choice for a Town well. If this facility is built, would it preempt a Town well being built?
- Concern with parking due to amount of snow

Cremer asked for clarification of the project schedule to present at the next Commission meetings.

**Motion** to continue hearing to the next meeting scheduled for February 19th.

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Cremer , McGrath 3-0-1

Michael Yawitch, member of Board of Management of Macintosh Farms.  
(approximately 144 units are at MacIntosh Farms.

He was concerned that MacIntosh Farm residents were not notified of NSTAR project as he believed MacIntosh Farm residents are abutters of the proposed project. He has met with and brought up concerns of MacIntosh residents with the Town Administrator. A meetings was set between Town Administrator and NSTAR, unfortunately, due to snow, the meeting was cancelled. Yawitch was concerned with overall project at 63 Canton Street and asked if the Commission would be able to do anything. Arguimbau explained the duties and responsibilities of the Commission with respect to this project.

**Other Business:**

Geller will try to be on the next Selectman's meeting to discuss lake concerns.

Meeting adjourned at 9.10pm  
Geller, Cremer 4-0-0