

Watertown Conservation Commission

Lower Hearing Room

Wednesday, November 5, 2008

7:30p.m.

Conservation Commission Members Present: Pallotta McDermott, Martin, Bering, Fairbairn, Hammett, Rose, Taverna

Staff Present: Hayward, Collins

Members of the Public Present: See Sign-In Form

1. Informational – Fall MACC Conference

Hammett attended the Fall MACC Conference. She distributed her notes from the conference presentation on the Rivers Protection Act. There was discussion on the relevant water bodies in Watertown. She recommended that a consultant be hired to delineate and identify the Rivers Protection Act areas in Watertown. Rose volunteered to identify the areas with the Town's GIS system. Hammett recommended that the CC communicate with the Planning Board about the Rivers Protection Act and its possible impact on future Pleasant Street redevelopments. She felt that the Rivers Protection Act provided an additional stronger tool to the WWO.

Hammett also provided a Sample MACC Special Conditions for OOC.

Hammett informed that MassDEP is instituting efilng system for 2009.

2. Comment Review of RAO for the Sawins and Williams Pond property (Arlington Street and Coolidge Avenue), Anne Marie Desmarais, Environmental Insights, consultant

Desmarais presented her proposed response to the Phase II CSA Report and the RAO Statement Sawins and Williams Pond. Overall, she found the document to be satisfactory. She noted that it identifies Edison as the upgradient source of PCBs. She indicated that generally the applicant, through Vineyard Engineering, answered questions raised by the CC in its comments. Desmarais informed that the next step is to write a letter addressing the CC's concerns and areas of further investigation. She will submit a final draft by next Friday. Hammett suggested that copies be sent to the Town's legislative delegation as well as DEP and that a follow-up call be made a week after the letter has been sent to keep pressure on this project.

3. Discussion of MACTEC and ACE's October 28th Meeting on the GSA site

It was noted that the DCR was not present at MACTEC's and ACE's October 28th meeting on the GSA site. A future meeting is planned by MACTEC and ACE with DCR. CC wants that meeting to be open and to be included. Hayward will notify when the meeting is scheduled.

Desmarais informed that the area has not been completely delineated. The following were concerns raised by Desmarais:

- the area closest to the brook has not been completely sampled. Since the area is downgradient she feels it should be sampled,
- the risk evaluation is human-use based, a complete Ecological Risk Assessment needs to be conducted.
- an AUL restricted to adults only would not be acceptable. How can you limit children?
- an AUL cannot be imposed if there is an Ecological Risk Assessment.

Hammett recommended that a comment letter be sent, inquiring what is proposed and requesting that more be done.

There was a discussion about the possible presence of dioxins at the site. Desmarais suggested that testing for dioxins be requested.

There was discussion that the site, as a federal property, is presently outside the CC jurisdiction. However, their concerns regarding this matter are made on behalf of the Town of Watertown and the WWO implications when the property is transferred to DCR.

Desmarais will write a letter by November 19, 2008 requesting sampling, investigation into dioxins, the nature of the AUL, the methodology, input by the CC of the final design, testing under the building and the removal of the buildings. Desmarais will email the final draft for review by Friday.

4. Minutes of October 1, 2008 – Adopted with corrections

5. Old Business

Item	Update status
Whitney Hill Report	Pending legal counsel. Rose provided a letter regarding the different definition for Chapter 97 and Conservation Land.
Recycling Center/Filippello Park	Pallotta McDermott to send a letter to Magoon requesting a status on the relocation of the Recycling Center.
Stormwater Management Standards	Goal – to pursue the establishment of a Stormwater Management Advisory Committee. Hammett to submit a statement on the need for a SWMAC.
Gore Estate	TC discussed item in Executive Session in December 2006. No update. Hayward reported that he has had discussions with a developer about an installation of a 10" waterline along the easement through the property.
Rules and Regulations	To be update.
Avitrol with Potential Contact into Stormwater	Magoon's letter and memo from DPW responding to questions by the CC on Avitrol was distributed. Pallotta McDermott will send a letter of appreciation to Magoon and request that Avitrol not be used in the future.

6. New Business

Hammett announced that she will be submitting her resignation effective December 31, 2008 to the TM. Pallotta McDermott requested that she submit her resignation at the end of December.

Fairbairn announced that Mount Auburn Cemetery is enhancing its wetland habitats with new plantings around the BWV.

Meeting adjourned at 10:15pm