

**MINUTES
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
PORTSMOUTH, NH**

Remote Meeting Via Zoom Conference Call

Per NH RSA 91-A:2, III (b) the Chair has declared the COVID-19 outbreak an emergency and has waived the requirement that a quorum be physically present at the meeting pursuant to the Governor's Executive Order 2020-04, Section 8, as extended by Executive Order 2021-06, and Emergency Order #12, Section 3. Members will be participating remotely and will identify their location and any person present with them at that location. All votes will be by roll call.

3:30 P.M.

June 09, 2021

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Barbara McMillan; Vice Chairman Samantha Collins; Members; Allison Tanner, Jessica Blasko, Andrew Samonas and Thaddeus Jankowski

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT: Peter Britz, Environmental Planner/Sustainability Coordinator

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Vice-Chairman Collins opened and led the meeting.

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. May 12, 2021

Ms. Blasko commented that on page 9, the sentence 'A lot of the efforts made for treatment' should be 'water' treatment. In the same paragraph, 'to create habitat' should be added after the word 'landscaping'. On page 11, the fourth paragraph should be removed. Ms. Tanner said the word 'filtrate' in the phrase 'filter to an underdrain' on page 7 should be 'filter'. Mr. Jankowski said the term 'organic lawn management' on page 2 should be 'organic land care'. On page 4, first complete paragraph, Mr. Britz said the sentence 'the porous pavement will be paved' should read 'the porous pavement will be 'vacuumed'.

Ms. Tanner moved to approve the May 12, 2021 Conservation Commission Meeting Minutes, as amended, seconded by Ms. Blasko. The motion passed unanimously by a 5-0 vote.

II. CITY OF PORTSMOUTH PROJECTS

1. Standard Dredge and Fill Application - NHDES
200 Peirce Island Road
City of Portsmouth, Owner
Assessor Map 208, Lot 1

Erik Meserve of AECOM and city engineer Terry Desmarais spoke to the application. Mr. Meserve said there were three components to the permit application, the first of which is the replacement for two sewer force mains on Peirce Island, the removal of the above-ground temporary force main, replacement of a segment of water main from the bridge to the pool, and the lining of one of those force mains on the bridge. The second component is raising a low section of Peirce Island Road about three feet to provide a more resilient roadway and access to the treatment plant. He said a former snow bump will be removed, and the parking lot will have concrete grass pavers, a wooden guard rail, and planters. The last component will be an extension of the trail system from the current overlook to the treatment facility and along the perimeter. He said all three components will have erosion control and barriers to isolate things. The pipeline work will extend from the bridge to the treatment facility; two pipes will be replaced all the way up to the treatment facility and the pipe closest to the water will be moved away from the water so as not to disturb any sensitive zones, and all areas will be restored after construction. He commented that one thing that was not discussed at the site walk was the slip lining under the bridge that would require temporary access pits on either side of the barge and will be in the roadway. He said other work will be done from the bridge on scaffolding. He said the work is scheduled for the fall and that the temporary impacts will be approximately 52,000 square feet. A small segment of the roadway will be realigned toward the former snow dump and raised about three feet to shed the water toward the snow dump and let it infiltrate through the grass parking lot. He said a lot of native plants along the perimeter of the parking lot will also be in the storm water treatment. The perimeter will have a wooden guardrail, a path for vehicles through the parking lot will have concrete grass pavers, and the parking spots will be just grass. He said the impact from it will include about 7,500 square feet of restoration, noting that there will be some overlap with the force main, resulting in temporary impacts of 13,400 square feet and permanent impacts of approximately 11,040 square feet.

Ms. Tanner asked what happened to the temporary parking put in before the pool. Mr. Desmarais said, due to the restrictions associated with the pipeline on the ground, they prepared the area so it can be utilized for temporary parking during pool season, and in the future it would remain as it has been in the past once the force main work is done and will be available for overflow parking on an as-needed basis. Ms. Tanner asked if the other parking space near the snow dump was needed. Mr. Desmarais said they didn't intend to modify the amount of parking, noting that in the past summers, the use of the pool was limited and parking was very limited, and people had adjusted to the restricted parking. This year, he said the paved pool parking lot will be open again, with the exception that the temporary force main will run through it and cut it in half, so they anticipated leaving that in. He said in the past, people filled the paved parking lot and parking in the grass area and along the road. He said they had no plans to modify that but that their plan will improve the area, bring it higher to prevent water going over the roadway during high tide, and incorporate storm water treatment. Ms. Tanner said the applicant was trying to improve the storm water treatment yet would allow vehicles to park there and leak gas and oil. Mr. Desmarais said they didn't have a funding source and no timeline to construct that portion of the work, but they had a plan to move forward with the trail extension. Mr. Samonas asked what pipes would be abandoned. Mr. Meserve they would abandon the 18-ft force main that runs in several areas, and because it was quite close to the marsh area, they would abandon that section of it in place. Mr. Samonas asked if it required any remediation steps. Mr. Meserve said it would be drained ahead of time and plugged in at either end.

Mr. Meserve said the proposed trail extension will run from the current overlook and make its way to the treatment facility and along its perimeter and connect with the existing trail behind the facility. He said it was close to the edge of a steep drop-off, so there would be a safety fence along the perimeter. He said the temporary impacts are 3,000 square feet and permanent impacts are about 2,400 square feet. In response to other questions from the Commission, Mr. Meserve there was no electrical lighting planned. He said the area at the back of the building had a wide expanse of grass and they weren't sure if they needed safety fencing due to the wide distance from the new treatment facility to the riprap area. He said they were considering more of a footpath rather than installing a gravel-type path once the safety fence was in place. Ms. Tanner said a bench in the wide expanse of grass had been suggested previously. Mr. Meserve said they would consider having a bench, noting that it seemed like an appropriate location for it.

Vice-Chairman Collins commented that there should be signage for where dogs were allowed and not allowed, and where pedestrians were allowed to exit the parking lot. She said in the past, people cut through wherever they wanted to, and she wanted to ensure that there was a distinct exit point from the parking lot to get into all the trail systems. Mr. Meserve said he believed there were breaks in the fencing at certain points but said one could be added to get to the trails. Vice-Chairman Collins said she didn't know if a sign should be in the buffer or wetlands area. She said people should be corralled in going out the right side and into the trails and there should be just one point of exit from the parking area to the right side, leaving everything else as confined boundary-wise as possible, so people didn't walk through the sensitive vegetation. She said she didn't know who regulated the dog signage but that having clear signage would be good. Mr. Desmarais they would ensure that the signage was clear.

Mr. Samonas asked if the applicant anticipated any disruption or influence that the new material for the pipe and the buried mains would have on mature plantings and trees in that area. Mr. Meserve said there were very few trees within the alignment of the force mains and anything that might be damaged or removed would be restored or replaced. Mr. Desmarais agreed, noting that there were invasives across from the pool and by the boulders and an area where the ledge needed to be removed, but there would be no significant removal of large trees or impacts. Ms. Tanner said she thought there were three or four oak trees in good shape across the entrance to the pool. Mr. Meserve said they wouldn't be disturbed. Ms. Tanner recommended that dogs be on a leash or not allowed at all on the path extension going around the back of the building because it wasn't very wide and there could be dog poop everywhere. Mr. Desmarais agreed but said many dog owners were concerned and that the City Council would likely decide the issue. Ms. Tanner said there was an area where the dogs could be off leash but needed to be on the leash on the narrow trail behind the building.

Vice-Chairman Collins asked what the substrate of the new parking area would be made of. Mr. Meserve said it would be a gravelly loam that allowed infiltration. Mr. Desmarais added that it had a lot of full-sized gravel in it and supported the growth of grass but was stable enough for people to park and make turning movements on. He said the material of the concrete grass pavers allowed for water to penetrate through the cracks. He said the surface would be stable enough for plowing operations. Vice-Chairman Collins asked why the vegetation shown on the plan didn't fill the entire interior area inside the turnaround. Mr. Meserve said it was additional parking and that people could park on both sides of the concrete paver.

Ms. Tanner moved to recommend approval of the Standard Dredge and Fill application to the Wetlands Bureau, seconded by Ms. Blasko with the following **stipulation**:

1. The pedestrian exit from the parking is to be the only one, and on the eastern side.

Mr. Desmarais said the topics of the bench, signage, and dogs being off leash at the back of the building would be addressed.

The motion passed unanimously by a 5-0 vote.

2. Wetland Conditional Use Permit Application
Marjorie Street (Pump Station)
City of Portsmouth, Owner

Britt Eckstrom and Michael Theriault of Wright-Pierce, city engineer Terry Desmarais, and Zachary Cronin spoke to the petition. Ms. Eckstrom said the presentation would include impacts within an inland wetland buffer zone, with no impacts to the actual wetland itself, for a new pump station to be located at the end of Marjorie Street.

Mr. Theriault said the pump station will be located off the Middle Road area at the end of the dead-end Marjorie Street, and that the station was needed to convey sewage to a new alignment within the public right-of-way to allow a more sustainable access for future maintenance. He said a new wastewater force main would run the length of Marjorie Street to the existing sewer collection system on Essex Street. He said a small section beyond the end of Marjorie Street was inland wetland that was not prime, and the location of the new pump station and associated items will land within the 100-ft buffer zone of that wetland. He said none of the work planned will be within the wetland itself. He said there will be 4,200 square feet of temporary impact, including some work within the right-of-way as well as a temporary construction easement to the north that the City will obtain from the private landowner that was needed for construction of the actual pump station. He said there will be 1,500 square feet of permanent impact associated with the new structures, and the majority of those impacts will be for an extension of the paved area of Marjorie Street, which will allow for plowing operations. To offset some of the impacts, a new sewer line routing from the existing sewer to a slightly brushed area to the new pump station location will require some brush clearing, so arborvitae plantings will be done around the Marjorie Street side and the private property side of the pump station. For storm water treatment, the extended pavement area will be surrounded by a brushed stone perimeter and on two sides of a bio-retention area, and opposite the pump station a grassy swale will provide some retention and infiltration. He said a new sewer line would be installed in the brushy area.

Ms. Tanner said some additional plantings would be useful besides the arborvitae as a screen for people on Marjorie Street and the homeowner, like native shrubs instead of just having grass. Mr. Desmarais said he would confer with Mr. Britz for recommendations about plantings for the area and come up with a reasonable approach.

Mr. Samonas moved to recommend approval of the Wetland Conditional Use Permit, seconded by Mr. Jankowski with the following **stipulation**:

1. The applicant shall add native trees and shrubs in an area where originally they were going to do a grass seed mix so that the additional plantings will act as more of a buffer and help prevent invasive species.

The Commission further discussed whether the snow around the pump station would be dumped into the wetlands. Mr. Desmarais said the snow dump was further away from the wetlands and that they could minimize snow storage in the area. He noted that the plow pushed snow to the sides of the road a lot, so it wouldn't be an impact to the wetland.

The motion passed unanimously by a 5-0 vote.

III. STATE WETLANDS BUREAU PERMIT APPLICATIONS (OLD BUSINESS)

1. Standard Dredge and Fill Application
Sarah Mildred Long Bridge
Maine Department of Transportation, Owner

Christine Perron of McFarland-Johnson and Eric Ham of Maine DOT spoke to the application.

Ms. Perron said the DES wetlands permit application was for the submarine cables for the Sarah Mildred Long Bridge. She noted that the State line ran through the middle of the lift span, which has two submarine power cables running between the two towers parallel to the bridge. She said concrete block mats were placed on the cables for further protection. She said as part of the bridge replacement, several agencies were consulted, like the NH Fish and Game and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), and required several approvals and permits to minimize impacts to fisheries. Since the bridge was in a federal navigation channel, the Army Corps was consulted and required as a condition for the permit that the cables be buried at least 42 feet below mean low water. She said it was discovered that the contractor did not place the cables at the appropriate depth but placed them on top of the stream beds. Maine DOT coordinated with the Army Corps to then place the cables at the appropriate depth. Maine DOT was engaged in legal disputes with the contractor that resulted in a legal settlement and required the contractor to address the upstream cable. She said that work will include removing the concrete mats to access the upstream cable and excavating 125 linear feet of river bottom across the channel, of which 75 feet is located in New Hampshire and the remaining in Maine. She explained the process and said that, due to concerns with NH Fish and Game and to accommodate enough time to get permits, the work is proposed to be completed between early August and March 15 and repairs will require 30-60 days to complete. She said a long-range excavator will be used because the currents made turbidity enclosures not practical, given the water's depth. She said a number of remedies will be included in that 30-60 day period and dredging will occur within each tide cycle. She said the substrate in the area was mostly gravel and cobble with some pockets of sand, and the currents ranged from 1.05 to 1.20 knots and often higher, with the river 1,600 feet wide at the bridge location. She said it was not expected that any turbidity would extend more than 900 feet upstream or downstream and would be contained in a

narrow area within the channel, most likely less than 300 feet in width. She said all those considerations will be summarized in a turbidity monitoring plan approved by DES and will require that turbidity be monitored on a regular basis during construction.

Ms. Perron said the river included suitable habitat and was within the range of Atlantic sturgeon and short-nose sturgeon and were less likely between the August and March timeframe. She noted that the NHDES rules contained a requirement to restrict work in tidal waters from November to March, so that rule waiver had been approved. She said Maine DOT confirmed with the Army Corps that work would be done under the existing Federal individual permit and that an amendment would be required for the change in the in-water work window, which the Maine DOT was working with the Army Corps to acquire. She said the original permit for the bridge replacement project expired in 2019, and the proposed work to address the submarine cables was also a major impact permit. She said they coordinated with the NHDES since February and the application was submitted on April 2. She said the total required disturbance excavation in New Hampshire equates to 750 square feet -- 75 feet along the width of the channel and 10 feet upstream and downstream. She said no new permanent structures were proposed and the total impacts are just over 1,100 square feet. She said they had to submit an application amendment to DES recently because the concrete mat system wasn't functioning as designed due to the extreme magnitude of scouring and deposition in the river. She said the constant movement and instability of the concrete mats put the cables at risk for damage and also had safety risks for navigation in the channel. For those reasons, Maine DOT and the Army Corps said the best thing to do was remove all the mats and continue monitoring the positions of the cables before determining when it would be appropriate to lower the cables. She said those additional temporary impacts extended the width of the cables located in New Hampshire to an additional 1,150 square feet of temporary impacts, which brought the total impact for the project up to 2,300 square feet. She said the amendment was submitted at the beginning of May and that the permit must be approved by the New Hampshire's Governor Council. She said a full permit was needed by early August for the contractor to complete the work.

Mr. Jankowski asked who the contractor was that failed to bury the cable, and Mr. Ham said it was Cianbro. Ms. Blasko asked that, based on the mats, it might be something that would have to happen again at some point because there was no real way to hold them there. Ms. Perron said removing the mats would allow the river to continue its more natural scouring and deposition processes and over time would naturally lower the cables, which was the reason Maine DOT was proposing long-term monitoring. Mr. Jankowski asked if the contractor was responsible for the cost related to the cables being buried. Mr. Ham said he didn't know, but the settlement was to have the contractor fix them. He said he didn't think the contractor would have to pay the monitoring expense because typically New Hampshire and Maine would partner on it because it was a shared bridge.

Ms. Blasko moved to recommend approval of the Standard Dredge and Fill application, seconded by Ms. Tanner. The motion passed unanimously by a 5-0 vote.

2. Standard Dredge and Fill Application
375 Banfield Road
Banfield Realty, LLC, Owner

Assessor Map 266, Lot 7

Project engineer Joe Coronati and James Gove of Gove Environmental Services spoke to the application. Mr. Coronati said they were working with TAC on modifications for the site plan and that the latest design was to place the driveway on the west side of the building, make the building longer and narrower yet still fit in the parking and loading areas, and avoid the wetland buffers. He said comments ranged from site distance over the hill and the fact that there was an old cemetery that prevented the hill being regraded. He said they knew there would be minor impacts for the driveway by putting it on the west side and that the edge of wetland wrapped around the site, but their impacts were small. He said there would be a permanent impact, the pavement in the wetland buffer, but it was off the property and in the city's right-of-way of Banfield Rd and only partially in the buffer. He said they would not do much work there but would remove asphalt and some impact for a vegetative buffer strip and treat some storm water runoff in the entrance area and all of Banfield Road up to the top of the hill. He said the temporary impacts would be revegetated. He said another impact was the drainage outfall, where the drainage is brought to the edge of the wetland. He said the swale would be lined to prevent infiltration to daylight the storm water to the edge of the wetland area and that all the storm water would get treated beforehand. He reviewed the landscape plan and said the trees would remain and would have vegetation added to them.

Mr. Gove reviewed the wetland permit. He said there would be a small impact of 1,910 square feet on an area next to the wetland that was excavated in the past. He explained that the small wetland developed due to water seeping out of the cut slope, but there wasn't enough water to be a vernal pool and had not changed since the Commission saw it during the site walk. He said the Environmental Services Wetland Bureau requests related to comments made by NH Fish and Games, who said they would wait until the AOT was reviewed, so they were still in the process of responding to a request for more information. He said the plan changed due to certain issues with the city and that they had the same direct wetland impact they had in the past.

Ms. Tanner said she thought they discussed moving the swale toward the back of the building and having an outlet there instead of through the buffer. Mr. Gove said at one time, the swale went south and across the entire upland peninsula and was close to the wetland on the southern edge, but that area had standing water. He said the area where it now exited was only saturated in the spring and dry the rest of the time. Ms. Tanner said she remembered it differently, noting that there were some trees in the back and an area between them that seemed like a natural outlet. She said she was also concerned that invasive species would be in the temporary stockpile area that would be revegetated after construction and that it would have to be monitored. Mr. Coronati said they could do that. He said TAC asked them to relocate the swale from the area, but they still had to take it all the way to the edge of the wetland with a lined swale due to the historic nature of the site. He noted that the area was really meadow with a few sparse trees, which was the reason they decided to go back to that location.

Ms. Blasko asked if any of the monitoring wells would have to be relocated, noting that some of them were close to the existing building. Mr. Coronati said the remediation plan for the site was a cap and cover. He said the State had no issue with the paving and building but did with infiltration of any water through the site, so the wells in the disturbed area will be able to be

eliminated and the others along the edge downstream will remain. He said the ones on site would have to go, but there would be the ability to monitor downstream from the site. Ms. Blasko asked if the site would be actively monitored or as needed. Mr. Coronati said they did some monitoring, and further monitoring would be done with the State as part of the AOT permit to prove that they won't disrupt the groundwater or any items found on site, such as chemicals. He said there would also be a lot of coordination with DES on the property.

Mr. Jankowski asked when the AOT plan was due back to DES. Mr. Coronati said it was submitted the week before due to all the site changes and should take 3-4 months. He said the Wildlife Habitat Assessment had to be reviewed by Fish and Games and could take longer.

At this point, Chairman McMillan was present and abstained from the vote.

Ms. Tanner moved to recommend approval of the Standard Dredge and Fill application, seconded by Mr. Samonas, with the following **stipulation**:

1. Any areas left to naturally revegetate shall be loamed and seeded with a wildflower mix and monitored for invasive species, and their removal shall happen according to standard procedures.

The motion passed unanimously by a 5-0 vote.

Ms. Blasko asked that the wells be monitored for contaminants when construction began and ensure that nothing was flowing into the wetlands. Mr. Britz said the Commission could send a letter to the person overseeing the groundwater about their concerns and ask the person to consider the fact in their groundwater review that there was a wetland permit on the site

IV. CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT APPLICATIONS (OLD BUSINESS)

1. 375 Banfield Road
Banfield Realty, LLC, Owner
Assessor Map 266, Lot 7

Chairman McMillan abstained from the vote.

Ms. Tanner moved to recommend approval to the Planning Board for the Wetland Conditional Use Permit, seconded by Ms. Blasko with the following **stipulation**:

1. The naturally revegetated areas shall be loamed and seeded with a wildflower mix.

The motion passed unanimously by a 5-0 vote.

2. 145 Lang Road
Arbor View & the Pines, LLC, Owner
Assessor Map 287, Lot 1
(Request to Postpone)

Ms. Tanner moved to **postpone** the Wetlands Conditional Use Permit application until the June 16, 2021 meeting at the request of the applicant, seconded by Ms. Blasko.

The motion passed unanimously by a 6-0 vote.

3. Shearwater Drive (at the intersection of Portsmouth Boulevard and Market Street)
Brora, LLC
Assessor Map 217, Lot 2-1975

Attorney Justin Pasay, Environmentalist James Gove, and Eric Nelson of the Kane Company spoke to the application. Attorney Pasay said they filed a comprehensive narrative and application on May 5. He showed the CUP plan of the area that was cut and said 58,800 square feet of wetland area was mowed and an additional 49,300 square feet of buffer was mowed. Of the buffer, 29,900 square feet was within the 25-ft vegetated buffer and the remaining 19,400 square feet occurred within the limited cut area. He said the basis of the after-the-fact application was the inadvertent mowing of a portion of the wetlands and the buffer, based on the contractor's belief that he could remove cattails. He said the applicant did significant work to capture and memorialize the extent of the impact to remedy it and also proposed a wetland placard initiative to ensure that it didn't occur again. He said the impact to the buffer caused by the mowing was temporary. He gave a brief history of the property that led to the successful clearing of invasive species in 2019 and this year's mowing. He said dead trees and trash were removed, and then the applicant met with Mr. Britz to review the work. He said the result of the 2019 work was an enhanced wetland area and a cleaner and more aesthetic property that was also more accessible by foot, and any additional cleaning in the future would be easier to access and do the work by hand. In August 2020, he said the contractor mistakenly mowed the buffer to remove cattails, which he thought was an invasive species, and then got a notice of violation stating that there was machine mowing of the wetland in the buffer. He said they remedied the ruts caused by the mowing and the placement of erosion control mats on the side of the stream. He said the applicant did wetland mapping of the property and did the CUP plan. He said they proposed installing wetland boundary placards along the edge of the buffer strip so that any future contractor would be aware of it. He said the applicant would have a letter report at the end of the summer with photos and a description of the installed signs and the extent of the revegetated regrowth of the site. Mr. Gove noted that the contractor had just come from the Pease Development Authority where the FAA told him that the cattails needed to be cut from the detention because they were invasive species, so the contractor assumed that the cattails in the buffer were also invasive. He said it was understandable but clearly a mistake.

Mr. Jankowski pointed out that Mr. Gove had some good suggestions about wildflowers in the previous application, and he asked if there were other ways to improve the lot by using wildflowers as a condition following organic land management practices for the lot. Mr. Gove said the soil had not been disturbed, the ruts were minimal, and the cattails were coming back. He said the soil in the buffer had not been disturbed except for large pieces of trash. He said if they included wildflower mix, they would have to disturb the soil in the buffer, but they could do a wildflower mix in the 25- to 50-foot buffer.

Chairman McMillan asked if any overseeing or seeding was done on the area within the 25-ft buffer where the cutting took place, noting that it was all grass now. Mr. Gove said it was never seeded. Chairman McMillan asked what the plan was for maintaining that area in the buffer. Mr. Gove said it was to place the placards and stay out of it. Chairman McMillan said there were a lot of species cut that maybe needed it because they were dying, but it wasn't just invasives, so there would be opportunity for restoration by doing individual plantings of native species to restore the area for natural habitat. She asked what the placards would say. Mr. Gove said it was up to Mr. Britz. As for the plantings, he said he would have to think about it. Chairman McMillan said she didn't see any reason that the invasive species wouldn't come back unless plantings and management were done on that area, and it was a good opportunity to build off the removal on invasive species. She also noted that the property had totally changed. Mr. Jankowski agreed and said they needed a maintenance plan to follow normal standards to monitor and maintain the property and also to remove the junk because there would be more junk thrown there in the future. He said there was also a lot of open space for birds to nest.

Chairman McMillan said there was a placard that read 'No Mowing Beyond This Area' by the Market Street side and that there had not been an invasive species removed on that corner or by Market Basket. Mr. Gove said there was a triangular strip there that was owned by Market Basket and that the applicant tried to discuss removing the invasive species, but Market Basket declined. Chairman McMillan said she wanted to see a planting and maintenance plan.

Ms. Tanner moved to recommend approval of the after-the-fact Conditional Use Permit for 145 Shearwater Drive, seconded by Mr. Samonas, with the following **stipulations**:

1. The applicant shall install signage to state where the buffer is and that there is not a cut zone in that area;
2. The applicant shall provide a letter at the end of the summer to state what the status of the property is;
3. NOFA land management processes shall be followed for this piece of property;
4. The area shall be replanted with native species within the 25' buffer beneficial to wildlife such as berry-producing shrubs; and
5. There shall be a maintenance plan for this piece of property to prevent the return of invasive species, and also a maintenance plan to prevent trash on the property.

Mr. Britz said the stipulation should note that the area to be planted with native species shall be within the 25-ft buffer. Attorney Pasay asked to continue the discussion to the next meeting, noting that he tried to depict the two distinctive timeframes, the 2019 process of substantial clearing of the invasive species, which was concluded by an inspection of the site by Mr. Britz, and the 2020 episode of the inadvertent mowing. He requested that his team be allowed some time to discuss it and present it at the next meeting. Ms. Tanner asked that the applicant return with a planting and maintenance plan for that site, and Attorney Pasay agreed.

Ms. Tanner and Mr. Samonas withdrew their motions.

Ms. Tanner moved to recommend postponing the Wetlands Conditional Use Permit for 145 Shearwater Drive until the July 14, 2021 meeting, seconded by Mr. Jankowski.

The motion passed unanimously by a 6-0 vote.

V. OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Britz explained the grant application for the Aquatic Resources Mitigation Program (ARMP).

Mr. Jankowski said the City passed a requirement that City Staff consult with the Conservation Commission to prepare an outreach program outlining viable alternatives to synthetic toxic pesticides for the general public's use. He said it had been in place since 2017 and was never discussed. Vice-Chair Collins suggested that the Commission form a subcommittee.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Chairman McMillan adjourned the meeting at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joann Breault
Acting Recording Secretary for the Conservation Commission