

Minutes
Watertown Conservation Commission
Third Floor Hearing Room
Wednesday, October 6, 2010
7:30p.m.
Adopted November 3, 2010

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

Staff Present: Hayward, Collins, Magoon

Members of the Public Present: See Sign-In Form

Pallotta-McDermott chaired.

1. **Discussion – Proposed change to Watertown Rules and Regulations for the Administration of the Watertown Wetlands Ordinance**

Magoon raised concerns about the proposed return to the previous ordinance language for the “no build zone.” He warned that by defining the no build zone to 50’ beyond the first observable break in slope might be ambiguous where there might not be an observable break. In those cases, he thought that the resource protection may be questionable and open to possible litigation.

Martin argued that the proposal was returning to the original definition and not to enlarge the size of the wetlands area.

Pallotta McDermott reflected that the proposed change was to correct an oversight and to clarify the CC definition of “no build zone” for applicants, and ultimately to preserve the resource area.

Taverna suggested placing a maximum length to the Town of Needham’s 50’ no build zone.

Rose suggested checking MACC’s definition.

Vote: Taverna moved to adopt the following language for “no build zone” as *Without limiting the foregoing, and as an additional local requirement, no person shall build or enlarge any structure, parking lot or impervious surface upon or within the no build zone of any wetland, marsh, meadow, bog, swamp or vernal pool; any bank; or any river, stream, creek or*

brook, lake, pond, or spring. The no build zone is defined as the area measured 50 feet upland from the first observable break in slope above the wetland delineation flags.

Fairbairn seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

2. Minutes of September 2010 -approved.

3. Old Business

Item	Update status
Whitney Hill Report	Survey completed and presented. CC requested a bid for placing permanent boundary markers. Proceed with TC to request that land become Open Space.
Recycling Center/Filippello Park	Concerned about recycle center's continued location at park in violation of grant agreement. CC to meet with Town Manager to discuss offer made by Mt. Auburn Cemetery for an alternative site.
Storm Water Advisory Commission	Rose reported on the continued progress on draft ordinances.
Rivers Protection Act	Hayward reported that there is a new Assessor. He will meet to discuss updating the RPA areas on the Town's GIS map.
GSA	Awaiting response to CC's comments. Corsi assigned as manager to site.
Stanley Ave.	Area has been cleaned up. Trucks have been moved.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm.

