



TOWN OF DEERFIELD

Conservation Commission
8 Conway Street
South Deerfield, MA 01373

Deerfield Conservation Commission – Meeting Minutes *June 1, 2023*

Members Present: Peter Law, Sean Libbey, Ben Bryne

Members Absent: Kate Devlin, Ann Mary Cloutier

Town Staff Present: Amy Hahn, Building Assistant;

Notes:

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm, virtually via Zoom

Meeting Minutes from 5/11/23 were reviewed and accepted as written with a motion from Sean Libbey, seconded by Ben Byrne. Roll call vote approved, 3-0-0.

Meeting Minutes from 5/25/23 were reviewed and accepted as written with a motion from Sean Libbey, seconded by Ben Byrne. Roll call vote approved, 3-0-0.

Old Business:

None.

New Business:

1. RDA Bement Parking Lot: A Request for Determination of Applicability filed by the Bement School for work depicted on submitted plans for 0 Ferry Road, Map 40 Lot 16.
 - Emily Wright (Wright Ostermier Landscape Architects – WOLA), Michelle LaMarre (Director of Finance and Operations – The Bement School) and Mike Schloat (Head of School - The Bement School) were in attendance.
 - Emily Wright (WOLA) described the 1.5 acre field and partly mowed meadow adjacent to The Bement School’s athletic fields as the area the school is interested in putting in a formal parking area. Ward Smith of Northeast Survey Consultants flagged the wetlands. The land is subject to flooding under FEMA zone A15. Emily Wright proposed working within setbacks required by zoning regulations and with an aim to maintain the tree cover currently existing the proposed parking lot would include 23 spaces made of a permeable gravel structure (contained within a recycled plastic grid structure to keep it in place). The plan is to also expand the meadow area by reducing mowing on site.
 - Peter Law inquired asked about changes in elevation and Emily Wright replied the change from 137’ to 134’ would require two small cuts and a small amount of fill. Emily Wright shared a presentation featuring photographs of the area as it is currently used for parking, along with tractor and pedestrian traffic. Mike Schloat (lives across the street)

noted that the photos being shown were of a typical home game, at times the fields host two games at once, doubling the parking needs.

- Peter Law stated he needed time to review the FEMA regulations, but believed the proposed project could be approved with conditions. Peter Law asked about the level of removal and the fill to be used. Emily Wright responded that design of the area would be the next step. Peter Law will reach out to DEP regarding the FEMA flood zone.
 - Sean Libbey made a motion to continue the public hearing for The Bement School's RDA Application for a Parking lot (0 Ferry Rd, Map 40 Lot 16) to the next scheduled meeting on June 22nd at 6 pm. Seconded by Ben Byrne. Roll call vote approved, 3-0-0.
2. RDA: DA Water Main: A Request for Determination of Applicability filed by David Purington of The Trustees of Deerfield Academy for work depicted on submitted plans for 70A Old Main Street, Map 61 Lot 14.
- Melissa Coady (Tighe & Bond), Chuck Croce and Andrew White (Tighe & Bond engineers) were present to discuss the water main extension among the dorms at Deerfield Academy. A trenchless drill with two pits (located in maintained lawn area) with an erosion control barrier (silt fence) to be installed before the break in slope on the lawn and catch basin inlet protection during site disturbance times.
 - Peter Law reiterated the Town's standard conditions for silt fence and staking requirements. Peter Law asked about any outstanding orders of conditions for previous work. Melissa Coady replied that there are no open orders applicable to the area in question.
 - Sean Libbey made a motion to approve a Form 2 Negative 3 Determination for the RDA for the Deerfield Academy Water Main expansion filed by David Purington of the Trustees of Deerfield Academy subsequent to orders of conditions to be determined for work at 70A Old Main Street (Map 61 Lot 14). Seconded by Ben Byrne. Roll call vote approved, 3-0-0.
3. NOI DA Tennis Pavilion: A Notice of Intent filed by Andrew DeMado of Deerfield Academy for renovations to the existing Tennis Pavilion structure, including the installation of sectional overhead doors and concrete curbing on property located at 27 Albany Rd, Map 61 Lot 12.
- Melissa Coady (Tighe & Bond), Chuck Croce and Andrew White (Tighe & Bond engineers) were present to discuss the Tennis Pavilion renovations. These renovations would include "tarp curtains" similar to an installed overhead garage door to improve the weather barrier. There would be 1,295 square feet of impact through the addition of new fill. This area is within FEMA limits of Lands Subject to Flooding. Flood storage is expected to be increased through grading. A temporary staging and storage area within the erosion control barrier would be placed outside of the 100' buffer zone. The area of work is considered an area altered by human activity; therefore, there is no impact to habitat. The Mass DEP file number is 142-0237. DEP noted several open orders on the 85 acre parcel. Numerous past orders were discussed, none overlap the geographic footprint of the proposed project area.
 - Peter Law will check with DEP regarding work within Lands Subject to Flooding and will send Deerfield's Standard erosion control specifications to Melissa Coady.
 - Sean Libbey made a motion to continue the public hearing for the NOI for a Tennis Pavilion renovation filed by Andrew DeMado of Deerfield Academy to the next

scheduled meeting on June 22nd at 6 pm. Seconded by Ben Byrne. Roll call vote approved, 3-0-0.

General Discussion:

None.

Mail:

Eversource DVAR replacement project notification.

Items Unanticipated 48 hours prior to posting:

Next Meeting:

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Deerfield Conservation Commission will be held on Thursday June 22nd, 2023 at 6 pm via Zoom.

A motion was made by Sean Libbey to adjourn the meeting at 7:14 pm, motion seconded by Ben Byrne. Roll call vote approved, 3-0-0.

Respectfully submitted, Sean Libbey, Conservation Commission

All Materials and Documents discussed during this meeting are publicly available on the Town of Deerfield's website (excepting those in draft form).

The link to the Conservation Commission page is:

<https://www.deerfieldma.us/243/Conservation-Commission>.