

**MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE
CONSERVATION COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF WORCESTER**

August 1, 2011

WORCESTER CITY HALL – LEVI LINCOLN ROOM

Conservation Commission Members Present:

Stefanie Wood – Chair (absent)
Jeremy Theerman – Vice-Chair
Jack Donahue
Paul Franco
Mia McDonald
Jordan Berg Powers (5:40pm)
Joseph Wanat (absent)

Staff Present:

Kathleen Donovan, Department of Inspectional Services
Jonathan P. Gervais, Department of Public Works & Parks
Luba Zhaurova, Division of Planning & Regulatory Services

I. Open Meeting - 5:30 pm

A. Review Minutes – 7/11/2011

On a motion made by Commissioner Franco and seconded by Commissioner Berg Powers, the Commission voted 5-0 to accept the minutes of 7/11/2011.

B. Additions or Deletions to Agenda: Ms. Donovan requested that the agenda is amended by adding a partial Certificate of Compliance for 36-38 Mount Avenue.

II. Unfinished Business

1. **231 Brooks Street – WCC File # 11-27** - Request for Determination of Applicability to conduct site improvements. Tim Warnick, representative for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, stated that the petitioner is seeking to repave the parking lot for storage facility. He stated that there will be an increase in the overall impervious surface in the northern portion of the site, but that the increase will be offset. Commissioner Theerman stated that the Commission would need to see plans of erosion control. Mr. Warnick stated that he will provide specs to the DPW&P.

Motion to issue a negative determination -

M. McDonald

Seconded -

P. Franco

Voted – 5 in favor, 0 against.

Condition: That erosion control plans are submitted to the City prior to commencing work.

2. **Mill Street, Coes Street, Lakeside Avenue – WCC File # 11-29** – Notice of Intent to conduct park improvements and PCB and Lead Soil Remediation: Robert C. Antonelli, Parks Department Assistant Commissioner, presented the project. Commissioner Berg Powers stated that he did a site visit and asked if erosion control measures are planned along the proposed paved paths. Mr.

Antonelli said yes. Commissioner Berg Powers stated that while the project would result in an increase in total impervious surface, given that the polluted portion of the site will be capped, he was in favor of the project.

Motion to close the hearing -
Seconded -
Voted – 5 in favor, 0 against.

J. Berg Powers
M. McDonald

Motion to issue an Order of Conditions -
Seconded -
Voted – 5 in favor, 0 against.

M. McDonald
J. Berg Powers

III. New Business

1. **Belmont Street – WCC File # 11-31** – Notice of Intent to conduct roadway upgrades and associated site work. Bill McGrath of the Beta Group Consultants, representative for the petitioner, stated that the petitioner is seeking to resurface the road for approximately 1 mile stretch from Interstate 290 to Daniel Street. The wall along Bell Pond would be replaced with pre-cast L-shaped panels. The resource areas of the project are a vegetated wetland, an inland bank, and land under water, for approximately 140 linear feet. He stated that all work would be done from the roadside and that the construction is scheduled to commence by September 30, 2011. He stated that construction documents call for seeding the areas near the wetlands post-construction. Commissioner Franco asked about the phasing of the proposed wall. Mr. McGrath stated that the wall construction will be staged and done piece by piece. Commissioner Berg Powers asked if the old wall will be stockpiled. Mr. McGrath stated that it will be removed immediately off-site. He stated that no new impervious area is proposed, but that the lanes will be re-arranged and a new sidewalk would be provided. Commissioner Theerman was concerned about potential snow dumping into the pond. Mr. Gervais stated that he is reasonably confident that this situation would not take place given that City employees clear the street and the sidewalks and are aware of the area sensitivity. Commissioner McDonald was concerned about potential built-up of trash along the fence and it blowing into the pond. Mr. McGrath stated that the wall is made of upright poles and that he thinks it will stop most of the trash from going into the pond. He stated that the wall was approved and paid for Department of Transportation and that the petitioner has a limited choice of wall options.

Motion to close the hearing -
Seconded -
Voted – 5 in favor, 0 against.

P. Franco
J. Berg Powers

Motion to issue an Order of Conditions -
Seconded -
Voted – 5 in favor, 0 against.

J. Berg Powers
M. McDonald

IV. Informal Discussion/Old Business

1. **1121 Grafton Street – Drainage:** Ms. Donovan stated that no new information was received on this project. Vice-Chair Theerman asked that a letter is sent to the applicant requesting his presence to report on the status and resolution of the project. Ms. Donovan stated that she will check with the engineer.
2. **36-38 Mount Avenue:** Mr. Gervais stated that per petitioner's request for a Certificate of Compliance, he did a site visit and found the site well stabilized and that one of the two approved duplexes is completed.

Motion to issue a partial Certificate of Compliance -
Seconded -
Voted – 5 in favor, 0 against.

M. McDonald
J. Berg Powers

Upon a motion by Commissioner Franco and seconded by Commissioner McDonald, the Commission voted 5-0 to adjourn the meeting at 6:30 pm.