

CITY OF GARDNER
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
GARDNER CITY HALL- MANCA ANNEX
115 PLEASANT ST., ROOM 202
GARDNER MA 01440

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MEETING

**MONDAY, JULY 10, 2023, AT 6:30 P.M.
IN-PERSON AT THE CITY HALL ANNEX
SECOND FLOOR MEETING ROOM 203**

MEMBERS PRESENT

CHAIRMAN DUMAS
AGENT, SOPHIE DOROW
DAVID BEAUREGARD, MEMBER
NORMAN BEAUREGARD, MEMBER
DAVID ORWIG, MEMBER

ABSENT MEMBERS

DUNCAN BURNS, MEMBER

GUESTS

AIMEE BELL
WAYNE ANDERSON

MINUTES

The minutes for May 22, 2023, & June 12, 2023, were presented. Chairman Dumas made a motion to continue the meeting minutes for our next meeting. Norman Beauregard replied motion made. David Orwig seconded it. Chairman Dumas asked all in favor. All members present replied aye. Continued to next meeting on July 24, 2023.

NOTICE OF INTENT

ENFORCEMENT ORDER

NONE.

EMERGENCY CERTIFICATE

NONE.

EXTENSION ORDER OF CONDITIONS

Elementary school wetland replication-discuss replication plan & revised plan for parking extension. - Chairman Dumas - acknowledge guests in the room, please state your names do the record-Aimee Bell, Foss & O'Neill & Wayne Anderson, School Department.

Chairman Dumas please give a brief update on the wetland replication & then we can kind of get into the parking extension.

Aimee-My understanding with the wetland replication that the planting season are from August 15th -October sometime, can't remember the exact dates on contract plans for redoing & reseeding & It was confirmed the trees & shrubs were planted, we are satisfied and the other plants. So really just the reseeding.

Chairman Dumas -Do we have the approved submittal for what they are planning on reseeding? Everything's all been approved?

Aimee replied-It's already approved, it's on Pro-Core. We can send separate submittals if you guys would like.

Chairman Dumas -I'll look them up. I know there is question on what type of maintenance was done on the replication area, I got access into the Pro Core site. For instance, in the e-minutes from 6/16/2022-it states right in there right under recommendations & suggestions- #1-wetlands planting should be monitored & watered to unsure viability. That's not the only time that that has come up in their notes so for Fuss & Oneill they did what we were hired them to do.

Aimee -and also back in September of 2022 we issued an amendment to the contractors that said it's not growing; you need to reseed & we sent subsequent memos after that.

Chairman Dumas -Ok. So I think at this point we need to get a date of when they are gonna plant or maybe a window of time they want to plant-maybe a 2 week window so Sophie can go there & make sure there's prep before they seed & maybe drive through when they do seed I to make sure it is seeded properly & what they plan to doing this time around to protect the seed & how they maintain watering it.

Sophie- What would the preparation entail?

Chairman Dumas -They would probably have to scratch it up again. Maybe the rest of you would know more. They would have to clean it all up again & get the weeds back out of there & start over.

Norman B-might have to re-mulch layer it too.

Chairman Dumas -Yeah topsoil may have washed away.

Dave B -We would really have to a like a look at it before we can say.

Chairman Dumas -they probably have to tell us what they plan to do in preparation then we can take a ride through and then when they see it , depending on what time of year it is , do something to protect it.

David Orwig-I mean my question would be -they didn't water last time; how we know they will water it this time? It happened more than once.

Chairman Dumas -So we did get the maintenance log, the owner manuals, but the log was more like a SWIPP report, it wasn't like whoever owned that maintenance manual & that process. That won't come until the contractors receive approval or some type of notification from the town or City of Gardner saying we accept that the seed has taken everything is out & the school would take over watering it.

Dave Orwig-Right, right.

Chairman Dumas -it hasn't happened yet so that's where the breakdown is. He' not gonna water because he does it the contractor sends it right back.

Dave B-I'm saying how do we make sure the contractor waters it?

Chairman Dumas -Well ...the documentation & the reports are in proper play, however said here make sure they do it. I don't know who on the city side or project side would say this needs to get done. In my mind I'm not sure.

Wayne- **Would be the ones to accept the grass and the wetlands, the wet mix. 80% of the grass was not accepted.**

Chairman Dumas -I couldn't get in for some reason, Pro Core -all the reports are there. Everybody at the city side has done what I asked. It's the project person that is responsible for that.

Aimee-Can I add- it happens again that it doesn't take, it is on the contractor to come back & do it again. They have it in their warranty.

Chairman Dumas -So I guess what we will ask for is when they're gonna do it, what the process is gonna be and then maybe we ask for a watering plan, If they are not going to water it because of rain, they need to document how many inches of rain in that specific location not at their place, Need some type of water gauge or rain gauge that area to prove they got enough water to negate the reasoning behind it. That's all can do.

Chairman Dumas -then on the parking lot extension-if we can just get conformation that the storm water plan or discharge plan, the storm water abatement, anything that relates to the water & where it dissipates in to the conservations jurisdiction. If you can confirm that's not happening, that doesn't happen. It's not going to change any of

the flow or anything at all, no recharge issues then it's kind of out of our jurisdiction. Do you all agree with that? And they got paid, Greg then turned to Aimee and asked if that is something you can kind of attest to?

Aimee-absolutely. We actually submitted a prevent storm water model that was revised from the previous report that was submitted. I believe it was issued to you guys. We did rerun the calculations with the additional impervious there's only 1 basin that is affected by it -the bigger one at the top of the hill & another shows that we do not increase the peak flows going above or below existing conditions. All the recharge values are done, water recalculations were redone . Everything good to go. We aren't moving any drainage structures around; they are all still in place. We're not changing any structures. The other thing we're doing is reshaping one of the higher retention basins?

Chairman Dumas -Everybody agree that its out of our jurisdiction. All agreed. So, we don't need to vote on anything per say.

Dave B-I just had 1 question going back to the grass. Does anyone know what the seed mixture is of the grass?

Chairman Dumas -It's the same one we always use, New England wetlands.

Dave B-Hey but what's in it?

Chairman Dumas - It's certified by the State. I am not sure exactly, but I can pull it up. It's the same one we used with Bucky at the corner. I just know it's always our base line. It's pretty standard, get it at the place in Amherst. Dave B agreed ok. Dave Orwig handed Greg the seed manual.

Chairman Dumas -when they talked about the parkinglot extension because that isn't our jurisdiction so we're pretty good there.

Wayne Anderson-Can we go back to the wetlands verification? There was a colony of invasive species, in there that we're supposed to control that area. The state -10:18/1:05:01 thru 10:45/1:05:01

Greg- You're good with that right? That's standard product.

Dave B – I don't even know what that is?

Chairman Dumas -This guy right her knows-pointing to Norman B

Norman B-there's no grass there? There's flowers & blue grass?

Greg – hold on a second.

Dave B-It's a good mix to use around here. If that's some kind of verbiage that means the same thing, I'm unaware of it.

Chairman Dumas -If this is the same one, this is what I use in work too. Its pretty much across the state, I'm just making sure. This is in specs. I don't see unless you know exactly which one it is. I see Harvard seed mulch, I see C bond seed, I see semi shade seed mix, I see no seed mix-is that it? Or mold grow-usually it says New England seed weapons mix. Do you know which one this is?

Wayne-The one that they just approved.

Aimee-it was recently approved. I can't remember which one.

Chairman Dumas -How was it recently approved if they just did it?

Aimee-there was a mix up with one that was previously approved & then the correct one got reissued. The correct one got issued initially and then a substitute one got issued to Stemsons & Stemsons approved it & it was determined that it was not good enough, was not the proper one so it got submitted again back to Fuss & O'Neil to approve. So it was just this one approved.

Chairman Dumas - I searched on the seed.

Dave Orwig-That was the original, I don't know where the subsequent one is. Can I Clarify a question? Is there a that there are invasives in that area where the contractors were?

Wayne-There was a notation in the Order of Conditions There was a small colony potentially they had there. There was a small area built out by morse brothers used as a staging area they found organics on pearl st. way back when.

Wayne -There's a small little colony?

Chairman Dumas -What number is it?

Wayne-329200-009

Greg-329.200-009-that doesn't come up on mine?

Dave O -no that's not the same- sedge, swamp milkweed, lists sedge species, bullrush

Greg-We're talking about the wetland mix

Dave B-that is the wetland mix. It's not just grass its wetland, it always grows along streams. It is actually its just in different order.....

Its possible it was hydroseeded.

Chairman Dumas -This one says received in 2021.

Aimee-Yes that was the original one 2021-that had all the seed mix & it included the wetlands mix which is where the confusion was because it went to wetlands in our system.

Chairman Dumas -we usually don't hydro seed wetland seed

Aimee-it was all packaged together. You should have received that from me recently in there.

Chairman Dumas - I guess it doesn't matter-I'm just disappointed that you don't submit an alternate on a wetland mix that you buy and classify at the same place.

Dave Orwig -this original submittal does say hydro seed, Mechanical spread or spread by hand.

Chairman Dumas -Hydro seed is that mechanical spreader. I think the mechanical spreader is the throw, right?

Dave B -that's what it is yes.

Dave Orwig-? Hydro seed fly-but maybe you do?

Norman B- I don't see how they can hydro seed all that stuff?

Dave Orwig-That's what I mean, I'm not positive of that.

Chairman Dumas- What are these plans for?

Sophie- I thought you'd like to visually see and reference the plans. I thought Duncan was going to be here.

Chairman Dumas – so it shouldn't be hydro seeded it should be hand mechanical. That's probably why the material didn't take because they mixed it with something that was already in the truck & they don't flush it out properly.

Wayne – **Fuss & Oneil will 19:23/1:05:01 thru 19:54 / 1:05:01?**

Chairman Dumas -Wayne anything else I need to hear.

Wayne -think things are good. Because there was something about converting the elevation changes. We just need to know if the commission approves of the elevation changes. **20:12/1:05:01 thru 20:26 / 1:05:01?**

Chairman Dumas- yes, that's good

Aimee-originally approved set that was provided according to the test pits out there to confirm groundwater and with that Ground water we realized we had to change the drainages so that was done and So those were plans that were provided to you guys for the June 12th meeting and Eric Bernardin talked about that too

Chairman Dumas -ok we also talked about not seeding around the guardrails -right? We all agreed to that.

Wayne- That wetland mix needs to be redone on the slopes & retention basins as well and the erosions controls

Sophie- The erosion controls

Wayne -there are some areas on the east side, those areas should stay. That whole playground is, I gave you the plan, the erosion controls should stay because they will be working on that area.

Chairman Dumas - If there's areas that they are done working & if everyone agrees that there is satisfactory growth there then we should take it down, do you agree? The walls aren't going to disintegrate on their own but that should be I think everywhere else, I would imagine construction...

Wayne- We do have one that's questionable with construction and should be maintained and will have to do some replacement.

Aimee-the contractor did issue a plan up the original plan for it-I dint get to look at it. I showed you where the conditions were good and the silt fence was still standing but there are some areas that will have to be replaced.

Chairman Dumas -Ok we're good. Thank you everybody.

Sophie-So the extension for the Order of Conditions. Want to vote on it?

Chairman Dumas -If someone can make a motion to vote to improve the 2nd extension order of conditions for the elementary school Dave B – Motion made, Norman B 2nd the motion, all in favor aye

Amiee- Yes, when I visited the site I walked along the limits and there were no signs of debris or litter from the construction, I believed they cleaned it all up but I didn't walk down as far as where Sophie went on her site visit.

Sophie- Its further down, I haven't been since I went with Wayne on a site walk.

Chairman Dumas- Is it when you drive in on the left? I just remember a pile on the left. It looks like someone had a pile picked up and removed.

Wayne- We will have to go around again and look. Will there be a second approved wet mix?

Chairman- Yes

Chairman Dumas- Keeping an eye on the seeding and preparation process.

Aimee- Commission has approved elevation change, compressed file and wetland mix, is there anything else the commission needs from us? Can you send an email with everything we just discussed?

Chairman Dumas- We can compile everything and send that to you and maybe you can put it on proCore.

REQUEST FOR AMENDED ORDER OF CONDITIONS

NONE.

REQUEST FOR CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE

Chairman Dumas -Next on the agenda – Request for COC for DEP #160-566, 314 Brookside Drive & #160-0400 & 160-0393 continuance from 6/12/23-do you have an update?

Sophie-it was sent out to the original clerk. They already sold it & the mail didn't go through. There was like 4 attempts for it to be deliverable & it was undeliverable -it came back on Friday. I just sent the new one out today, July 10, 2023, so we'll see.

Chairman Dumas -ok so-will someone make motion to grant continuance for 314 Brookside Drive to July 24, 2023. Dave Orwig made motion, Norman B 2nd motion -all in favor-aye. Continued to July 24th.

Chairman Dumas -COC (partial) 330 Brookside Dr-where we at on that?

Sophie-I sent a compiled file with a bunch of photos documenting the property. There is nothing there were in the pictures that were in the buffer zone. There was a little fire pit & what not outside the buffer zone.

Dave Orwig-Can I just clarify something? I thought at one time there needed to be signage or something.

Chairman Dumas - that's the first one. Dave O-oh ok just want to make sure. Greg-Right? Sophie-ah 314 yes. Chairman

Dumas- yes remember they did a transaction at the house, and no one ever knew anything about it. Dave Orwig-Right ok just making sure.

Sophie-There's a lot of Brookside Drives right now. Chairman Dumas-yes that's kind of weird & Dave Orwig agreed.

Chairman Dumas -So what's the partial COC for. Sophie-For which property? Chairman Dumas-for 330 Brookside Dr.

Sophie- It says partial? I might have just made a mistake. It said 330 Brookside Dr only. It's a partial release of the whole deed remember. Chairman Dumas-No it can't be. It's all together.

There's only 1 law associated with this. Lot 57, right? Sophie-yes there's 1 lot. Chairman Dumas -so I guess. Sophie -They requested it. Chairman Dumas -but you went out there, its done. You confirmed that everything was done to our conditions? Everything was out of the buffer zone & everything? Everything's cleaned up & out of the buffer zone, there's no issue there? Why didn't they get a partial certificate of compliance before this? Sophie-I'm not sure.

Chairman Dumas- I don't want to vote on this if it's a partial or it's full. Maybe it's a partial for the lot.
Sophie-and then what they requested is 330 Brookside Drive only. Chairman Dumas -What is that you have there? Let's look at that. It says partial certification is hereby that only the following???? Why would it be a complete? Do have the original in a file? Chairman Dumas- Read COC file. There's several involved-this doesn't make sense. Sophie-well it's a sub-division. Chairman Dumas -330 was? Sophie-yes. It's all park of the Brook. Sophie-So your concern is. Chairman Dumas -well we're signing off on a partial but how can it be a partial on 330 when it's 1 address. Why would it be a partial? Do you understand David, everybody? Do you have the original file for this? Can you go grab that? The actual application for the cert & the original standing order for conditions that we would have passed, do you have that?
Norman B-do we have to do this tonight? Chairman Dumas-I'm concerned if it's for the sale of the property or not if it is I don't want this to hold it up. You have to find the folder for this DEP#, do you have that folder you can get? Sophie - possibly, yes. Chairman Dumas -Can you grab that? Is there a file for #0070? Do you guys remember 330-it doesn't sound right. Just see if you can find the folder. Dave B - you think it would ring a bell-it doesn't. Why would there be a partial on 1 address? I mean 330 is not the whole park. Dave B- I don't know there's some miscommunication somewhere. Norman B- are there other lots associated with this? Chairman Dumas-that's what I'm telling you. I don't know. It doesn't make sense why there would only be 1 address. I'm going to Google my Gmail. I don't want to hold the sale for somebody if can just address easily. Sophie - so this is some information that I pulled awhile back when I was doing research on it. That's the conditions & they sent the check too. Dave Orwig - that's a newer address. Chairman Dumas- this says Clark St at the intersection of Wilder Brook. Sophie - I believe it's for the whole subdivision. There isn't an exact plot plan for the exact parcel except for the one that was shared with you guys. Chairman Dumas -is there a list of lots on there? Sophie - this is their request. Chairman Dumas - So this one here, this DEP file # is goes back to 1986, closed on 7/1/1986. It doesn't say specific lot numbers on this. I don't see a lot # 70 associated with, I just don't remember this. I Googled it & I came up with a bunch of other ones. Hold on a second here's one. Looking to see if the same DEP # comes up, give me a second. 325 Brookside Drive. Sophie -The information I found was very limited as well. I spent quite some time looking into this, I even asked Chris to help me look.
Chairman Dumas-the problem is it looks like we're signing off on all of 330 Brookside Drive. Dave B-yes it does. Chairman Dumas-if you look at this it says 330 Brookside Drive only but that doesn't mention 330 Brookside Drive anywhere. What we can do is, you want to look at this, handing papers to Dave Orwig. It doesn't really help us, what we could do is I mean Sophie went out there & looked at that lot, we sign for the certificate of compliance for 330 Brookside Dr then note lot #57. Dave B-Maybe that's why it's a partial. Chairman Dumas-everybody agree with that? We've done partials there before because of the same choice but 330 doesn't ring a bell to me specifically. It's on the corner, is it across from where that? Dave B-yes, it's close, it's the one next to it. That whole area was built at the same time. Chairman Dumas - I'm ok with it because you said it is all done. Releasing a partial COC for 330 Brookside Drive specific to Lot 57 only. Everybody in agreement? So, I'd like to make a motion to approve these signatures in the approval for a COC partial for 330 Brookside Drive lot 57 specifically, someone make it-Norman B -aye. Chairman Dumas-someone 2nd it? Dave Orwig- 2nd -all in favor-aye.

NEW BUSINESS

Chairman Dumas - Community Health Connections, 0 Timpany Blvd. site inspection erosion controls discussion -I drove by but didn't drive around back. Sophie-did you have a chance to look at the images I sent you? Chairman Dumas-yes. Anybody else have any comments on that? Dave B -No I got the same thing as you, from the from it looks good. Norman B -agreed. The back would be the most. Chairman Dumas-yes that's where the area is yes. Sophie - Eroding, it's very steep at a portion. I don't know what direction it would be North or? Dave Orwig - maybe West. Dave B - maybe South. Chairman Dumas-did you talk to them when you were out there did you make a recommendation to get it repaired? Sophie - I didn't meet with them no. The first time they reached out was when Lindsey and I were out there months ago. They just wanted to take it out due to aesthetics, but we said no you should wait, you have to wait until construction is done & everything is established in which it appears that there are certain parts that are not established. There are some other places and I think you probably know the species that it's a very medium plant list, its' about that

high, very long, skinny leaves that take over the grass. Chairman Dumas – what day did you send that email, picture? Sophie – I sent before I left. Dave Orwig- is there concern that there is still erosion going on they still want to take out the walls? Sophie- the walls are actually washed kind of away, I want to call it a mini landslide. Norman B- I would like to see to what it looks like right there. Dave Orwig-I know we've seen some erosion lines, that needs to be addressed especially now. Chairman Dumas – do you happen to have it in here? Sophie - yes, I think I labeled almost picture of where it is & what's going. What the picture is depicting. Chairman Dumas – So I guess we send notification out that a site visit was conducted on this date & we are asking for them to do the repairs. When they're done have them call you & make sure everything is completed. I mean you did a good job on this highlighting all the areas that need to be fixed so when we send the letter we had a site visit on this date, please make sure these areas have been addressed. Dave B -can you explain to me what is in the back of the building? A steep slope with walls & anything else? Chairman Dumas – Yes. there's a like there's a -it goes from 995-956, I mean you can see it on there. Dave B & Sophie-That is steep. Chairman Dumas – its' eroded. Dave B-someone is going to have to tell them what to build. Chairman Dumas – I think they know because they to maintain the current construction now that it's almost done, they can't just let this wall fail. Send this out, let them know the areas to address, give them a timeline of 2-3 weeks & go from there. Sophie – and then we wait for things to be established or? Chairman Dumas -Yes make sure it's reestablished and the grass is growing & doesn't get washed out again, Dave B- again they should us the right seed mix. Chairman Dumas – they probably did, they just didn't maintain it, or it never took. Dave B-it's things like that it's good to have some annual rye grass which will die the following year. Like perennial rye grass, fescue & some of these other... Chairman Dumas – Yes, they'll get some roots in to hold it or they could put matting down while it's taking there. Dave B-Something, hay, matting. Chairman Dumas – yes straw matting. You alright with that? We don't want to use straw we'll want to use hay matting.

Chairman Dumas – the other order under new business is Open Space & Recreation Plan endorsement. There were some discrepancies on there, am I wrong? You had said something about- does it need to expressed or no? Dave B – my only discrepancy or my only question to them was the state has that land on Route 140 as being permanently protected. The city said it's not permanently protected. So if it's an open land it's permanently protected, if I'm not mistaken because they us the state's overlay . I am just pointing out-what is it? Norman B – when was this last meeting? Dave B – a couple times I think I pointed it out. Norman B – yes, I must've been there. Dave B – so basically engineers, everybody uses the state's overlay for what's considered permanently protected land. For years including the last open space plan the land along Route 140 was considered permanently protected land on that overlay. Now that doesn't mean it is, I guess but that's what they said & it's been up for discussion or controversy if it's protected land or not. So, my only point was don't put it in the plans that it's permanently protected if you don't know if it is or not. But I don't know what's come of that. Norman B -well that is some bluff it's been voted as open space. Its always been there. Chairman Dumas -I mean I'm ok with endorsing the plan. If we have verification if that area is protected or not. We believe it is. Sophie – I believe it is. It still needs to go through a couple other committees that they're going to be reviewing and I think there's a plan to have further discussion about it. Chairman Dumas – ok so why don't we hold off a vote on this until we get verification on the Route 140 corridor. Let's revisit it again on July 24th. Norman B – how does the state enter into this? Chairman Dumas – we use their mapping right? Dave B – that's my assumption, I'm not positive from an engineering point of view. You go on the state & there's a state overlay of permanently protected land across the state. You look at Gardner, it has a map of where the permanent protected land is & it shows that as being permanently protected. Norman B - So both sides say it's protected? So what's the question? Chairman Dumas – well that was the areas that the Mayor originally discussed about doing some work on there or selling it or reselling it. Dave B -did that vote go anywhere? Chairman Dumas – I think it's dead in the water-it didn't go through. Norman B – it didn't go through this time. Chairman Dumas – right. So, I think we need to get this clarified first before we send a letter of approval, that we endorse it. Just so there's clarification. Norman B – well why do we have to wait-we can ok it. Dave B – we can endorse the plan that says it's permanently protected. Chairman Dumas – it's been permanently protected for a long time and now somebody said it wasn't. Dave B – yes but we still can endorse the plan that says it's permanently protected. Chairman Dumas - why do we want to endorse something with questions? Norman B – well I want it protected.

Chairman Dumas – I agree it's a chance to get this clarified. Norman B – people don't realize how destructive that is going to be to that area. Chairman Dumas – But I think if we sign off on it I think this is our chance to get that specifically clarified. That's the only reason why I'm saying now unless you think otherwise. just like saying I'm fine with signing something that we don't know if it's going to happen yet. It's been that way in the open space plan for years & we all agreed it was permanently protected and then. Norman B – right but the states also agree that the open space is permanently protected. Chairman Dumas – I mean we can vote on it now if you guys want to vote on endorsing it. Do you want to me to bring it up to a vote? Norman B – alright. Dave Orwig – well before we do that, do you know, I haven't seen the final map, in the plan if it's been changed or not. I haven't seen a map in over a month. You have any idea? Sophie – Well the last, when was the last time you looked at the draft? Dave Orwig – it was early June I thought. I hadn't gone to that public meeting yet. Chairman Dumas – well let me just be frank here, I'm not going to vote on something that I haven't seen the final documentation on. Dave B – ok. Chairman Dumas – yes, you guys go to the meetings, we don't. Norman B – alright. Sophie – it hasn't changed. Chairman Dumas -I haven't seen it. Sophie- oh I thought you have. Chairman Dumas- I mean you're both on the committee so it get that our voice is being heard there but for Dave & I we aren't there, we don't know. Sophie – I would take some time really review the whole draft plan if you haven't already. Chairman Dumas -we should get the final. Why would we endorse something that is draft? Sophie - well I think we already have like half the people endorsing it. Chairman Dumas – I don't really care if someone wants to endorse a draft, they can but I wouldn't. Dave Orwig – does that disturb the final plan? Chairman Dumas -well if it's marked final & not draft. Sophie -for the most part is very, very close to being the final plan yes. There's a couple small edits. To make it final Chairman Dumas – I personally am not going to endorse a draft. Chairman Dumas – when is it due to be finalized? You guys know? Dave Orwig-no I don't know. Sophie - it starts with the endorsement letters essentially. Chairman Dumas -that doesn't make any sense at all. They should say this is the final. Chairman Dumas – can we just table this until July 24th? Until we get something more solidified? To find out if that area is protected. If it's s final draft, then that's a little different but if it's just a draft & it hasn't been final & it's not 99.9%, I wouldn't do that. Someone could take the draft back & change it. Norman B – ya that's true. Chairman Dumas – not that they would but they could. Chairman Dumas – Let's hold off until the 24th. Everyone agree? All agreed. We don't need to vote on holding off. I'm on agreement with 99.9% of it with what I've seen over the years. The other thing is it's dated 2022. Why would it be attached? Sophie – No it's the 2022 plan, everything was planned out to 2022. Chairman Dumas – we're in 2023 now. Sophie –Yes but the plan itself was created during the majority of 2022. Chairman Dumas -ok. Sophie – the next one will be ... Chairman Dumas -every eight years? Dave Orwig- every five . Sophie – seven, it's every 7 years. Chairman Dumas – so let's hold off to the next meeting.

Chairman Dumas – is there any update on 170 Mill St? Sophie -No there's not. Chairman Dumas – can you follow up & see if the state's going issue additional notification on 170 Mill St? Or is that the only correspondence they're going to have with the applicant. Sophie – I missed the first part, Chairman Dumas repeated himself then asked are we just sitting & nothing's going to happen? Sophie – the later. Chairman Dumas – And that's because of? Sophie – Uhm? Chairman Dumas -it's out of our hands at this point. Sophie – exactly. Chairman Dumas - can you just follow up with that state & ask them if they have heard anything new? Anything we don't know? It's more than fair. Sophie – Sure. I did ask them to email me. Chairman Dumas – I know you did. Sophie – I just can't rely on them-ya. Chairman Dumas – It's in the state's hands & sending 1 email in my mind is not enough. Dave B – that doesn't look too healthy. Chairman Dumas – alright just let us know. Sophie – mmm uhm

Chairman Dumas – anybody have any other business-David? (Orwig) Dave Orwig responded no.

Chairman Dumas – did you send an email about another class or did you already take it-asking Sophie. Sophie – yes it's just the um...meeting for MRBC-it's just a luncheon, it's free. Chairman Dumas – ok.

Chairman Dumas – Norm -anything new. Norman B replied no.

Dave Orwig - oh just a comment. I did see Bailey Brook, basketball court -it looks amazing as is the playground, it's just surrounded by weeds.

Sophie -- a little addition to that I'm working on creating a like little flyer or something to get some volunteers for trail maintenance in Gardner. Because apparently there's none. Nobody maintains the trails. Chairman Dumas - nobody maintains any of the trails in the city. You can't just send notices to people. Sophie - no I know. Dave B - especially the ones by the radio station. Norman B - that bike trail between the rink & the radio station- they finally mowed it. The 140-bike trail, getting bad especially after this winter the damage to the trees is awful. My question is why can't we use the prisoners? What happened to that program? Chairman Dumas - I think in some places someone needs to request it. =Norman B - that's got to be done. As far as the new Park St park -it looks pretty good. Dave B - it does, a lot of picnic tables. Norman B - the grass is taking. Chairman Dumas - good. Norman B - they hydro seeded that & that truck they used is huge. Chairman Dumas - yes its huge, it's tank size. It can hold more mix , you don't have to go back every time.

Chairman Dumas- well the only other thing I had for new business is -how's you work load between conservation agent and planning board wise? How do you feel that's going percentage wise? Do you feel you're too stretched thin on one side or the other? Sophie - I'm feeling stressed in all areas. Chairman Dumas - that's why we're asking. Sophie - A few people from the conference said that a lot of agents have assistants. They actually start as assistants and then move up to the actual planning agent. I guess it's not too common in Mass to take on every single hat. Chairman Dumas - what percentage of your duties are conservation & what percentage are planning? 50/50? Sophie - it does fluctuate. Chairman Dumas - on average? Sophie -weather's there's grants or parks I have to finish. Chairman Dumas - on a monthly is it 70/30 conservation? Sophie - I think for the most part I think the planning part takes over a bit more to a degree especially with then open space plan, it takes as longer time. Chairman Dumas - Ok. Dave B - were you told you had to do this? Sophie - can you specify? Dave B - were you told you were taking on that responsibility or did you volunteer. Sophie oh. Uhm ...it was directed. Chairman Dumas - it's as part of the job description for the role. Sophie - planning and Norman B - was that in the past too? Chairman Dumas - yes but I think it's -the percentages have really swayed recently. Dave B- well you know with all the paperwork that flies around with these committees-that's a lot of work-period. And if you're stressed out you should tell us about it or somebody about it that will listen because it is way too much. Chairman Dumas - is it 70% planning & 30 % conservation right now? Sophie - maybe not 70. Chairman Dumas - 60/40. Sophie-probably. Chairman Dumas -60% planning & 40% conservation. Sophie replies yes. Dave B - how much do you do at home? Sophie - not too much unless there's a training I really want to take. Dave B - yes well that's different, yes. Chairman Dumas - alright we will keep this discussion going so it's in the minutes so we can talk about it every week. Maybe we can talk about what that is & what workload isn't getting done for the conservation side so we can communicate with Trevor. It's not about pointing fingers on him or anybody. It's a dual role but it does sway. I remember Jeff saying that some of the planning side would get dropped because it's busy on the task end. So we just need to clarify what percentage it should be & get it back to that. Whatever committee is paying the most then obviously. Dave B- I think also more help is needed that would solve the problem. Chairman Dumas - But it's the funds that we need to pay for the more help. So it's a balancing act. Dave B - they can get some money. Sophie - Honestly my mind d blown how some ppl can manage all. Idk if Jeff, someone was part time at one time & I can't imagine doing this part time. Because I leave at the end of the day like... Norman B - It wasn't part time. Chairman Dumas - I know some things in the city have grown & things are changing & we're getting caught up. It goes come & go. Some years it's ongoing & the workload is substantial & other years there's not a lot going on. This year just seems like we're pretty busy with landfill & you know certificate of compliance that add up & the school. Dave Orwig -DO you feel like you have adequate time to deal with conservation? Sophie-well put it this way, when I leave on Friday, I have a million things to still catch up on. I feel like I'm always back tracking. Dave B - what would you rather be doing? You have a choice? Conservation or planning? Sophie - probably conservation. Chairman Dumas - the problem is the funds are shared; I don't recall the actual percentages, but it's always been shared. Dave Orwig - I 'm just trying to ensure that...I mean

please let me know if you can't reach all the conservation issues then it would be good for us to know that. Norman B-yes, yes.

Chairman Dumas -It might be that we can't support either, it just might be the workload associated with it is never going to level out, but it does have happen. That way we at least communicate with Trevor & say hey we may need to balance the work load a little & the percentage of who is funding what. Trevor is more than on board, we've had calls. He doesn't have four eyes he doesn't know what's a heavy concern on conservation. He's more involved with the planning side of things., that's more his side, his roles. Dave B – you know your biggest stress is working with 3 Beauregards. Chairman Dumas – ok. Norman B – I vote we end the meeting. Chairman Dumas – I 2nd that – all in favor aye.

Meeting adjourned at 7:35 pm.

DRAFT