

**DRAFT MINUTES**  
CITY OF NASHUA  
CONSERVATION COMMISSION  
Monday, March 28, 2020

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The site walk was called to order at 5:30 PM by Sherry Dutzy, Chair

Roll call by: Sherry Dutzy, Chair

**Those Present:**

Sherry Dutzy, Chair  
Brandon Pierotti  
Jed Crook  
Carol Sarno  
Maureen Bourque, Alt.  
Meghan Cook (arrived after start)

Staff present: No City Hall staff were in attendance.

Others Present: Kenneth Robinson, C.W.S., Fieldstone Land Consultants, PLLC  
Chad E. Branon, P.E., Fieldstone Land Consultants, PLLC

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**THE FOLLOWING SITE WALK MUST ONLY DISCUSS THE PROPERTY LISTED. A BRIEF DESCRIPTION AND INFORMATIONAL WALK WILL BE CONDUCTED BY THE OWNER AND/OR HIS REPRESENTATIVE. DISCUSSION CONCERNING BUFFER IMPACTS AND ANY RELATED TOPICS ON THE SUBJECT PROPERTY WILL BE COVERED. THE WALK SHOULD THEN ADJOURN WITH NO FURTHER DISCUSSION OF CONSERVATION BUSINESS. ALL DECISIONS WILL BE MADE AT AN UPCOMING MEETING AND POSTED ON THE AGENDA ACCORDINGLY. SITE WALK NOTES /MINUTES WILL BE APPROVED AT THAT TIME. DRAFT MINUTES NEED TO BE MADE AVAILABLE WITHIN ONE WEEK OF THE WALK.**

- Lots 44 and 172 of Innovative Way Extension - Proposal to Permanently Impact 725 sq. ft. of wetland area for culvert upgrades and 7,825 sq. ft. of wetland buffer impact for associated site grading.

The sloping, forested lot currently is not a developed lot. The lot is fronted by Digital Drive to the south and Innovative Way Extension to the east. East of Innovative Way Extension is Dozer Road, which tracks along the F.E. Everett Turnpike but is downhill and much closer to the Everett ramps than the start of the Gateway Hills Seasonal Trail. For this reason, Innovative Way will expand on the current walking trail. Expanding Innovative Way directly upon Dozer Road would potentially cause more impacts to the existing forested slopes, and for that reason, expanding on top of the trail is preferred.

The permanent wetland impact will be to change out the existing culvert comprised of two galvanized corrugated pipes for a longer-length concrete convert with a bottom that is backfilled with natural materials, such as rocks and leaves, to simulate native surroundings. The culvert

length will be expanded in the direction of Digital Drive, which is closer in final grade than the side facing the Everett Turnpike, which minimizes additional impacts.

The Commission walked to the approximate area of where the buffer impact will be. The area appeared wet, but Mr. Branon assured the Commission that the area did not meet the three requirements to be classified as a wetland area. Commissioner Sarno requested that Fieldstone furnish their most recent vernal pool study for the area before the Commission takes up the application at the next meeting, in order to rule out any doubts that the buffer area could contain a potentially-missed vernal pool.

There is an old, stonewall along where the buffer impact will be; however, the stone wall will likely be removed or buried during the site grading process.

Possible suggestions and/or stipulations that were discussed are as follows:

- 1) The incorporation of native plants into the development. The representatives from Fieldstone said that the foundation plantings immediately around the building will likely be more manicured; however, they are open to suggestions of plants to use on the outskirts of the property and perhaps even near the building.
- 2) Firm commitment that the bottom of culvert will be covered with natural materials typically found on the site to make passage for wildlife possible.
- 3) Graded slopes on the perimeters of the property should be covered with a conservation seed mixture, eastern pollinator wildflower seed mixture, or similar selection, where turf grass is not appropriate.
- 4) Choose plants which offer food and/or habitat for wildlife, such as the low-bush blueberry.

Meeting adjourned at 6:15 PM.

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Brandon Pierotti

Date