

APPROVED June 19, 2013

**City of Boston Conservation Commission
Public Hearing Meeting Minutes**
Boston City Hall, Hearing Room 801
Boston, Massachusetts, 02201

June 5, 2013

Commissioners Present: John Lewis, Jeanne McHallam, Antonia Pollak, John Sullivan

Commissioners Not Present: Charles Button, Stephen Kunian, Vivien Li

Staff Present: Stephanie Krueel, Executive Secretary

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- **Motion made by J. McHallam and seconded by J. Lewis to appoint Toni Pollak as temporary chairperson (4/0/0 6:10 PM)**
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6:00 PM Notice of Intent for **DEP File No. 006-1348** from Jorgji Shkurti for Regrading and Construction of a Retaining Wall at 48 Birchwood Street, West Roxbury (Buffer to BVW)

Representative: Robert Marini, Native Landscapes Inc.

R. Marini submitted the required abutter notification forms as well as photographs taken on June 5, 2013. He began to describe the intermittent stream at the back of the property that was once connected to Mother Brook. He described the project which includes the erection of a retaining wall within the buffer zone to a Bordering Vegetated Wetland.

J. Sullivan asked if any flood area would be filled. Mr. Marini replied that none of the work area was within the FEMA floodplain. The project map originally submitted was not to scale. He confirmed that the wall has not yet been constructed, and that there is some debris in or very near the wetland area.

A. Pollak confirmed with Mr. Marini that it is the proponent's intent to keep the existing vegetation north of the retaining wall.

Mr. Marini described the filling that would take place in the buffer zone as being within an approximately 1,600 to 2,000 cubic foot wedge measuring roughly 80' X 4' X 60'. None of the fill is reflected in the plan. Ms. Pollak asked that the plan be amended to show the planned fill. Mr. Sullivan noted that usually when fill of greater than 1 foot in depth is proposed, ISD gets involved.

Mr. Sullivan is concerned about the ability of the wetland to store floodwater, since increased precipitation is expected due to climate change.

Mr. Marini stated that the proponent plans to construct the wall by hand and probably would not use heavy equipment.

Ms. Pollak expressed her concern with the amount of guestimating involved in this project, and the lack of any real plan.

Mr. Marini replied that he has not yet received a topographic grading plan from the surveyor.

Mr. Sullivan pointed out discrepancies between the original plans and the stamped plans received today. The wetland flags, the manhole, and the retaining wall are in different locations. Mr. Sullivan requested that the proponent provide stamped plans that show the site topography. Ms. Pollak echoed this request with her own request for more detail.

Mr. Marini asked that the Commission approve the project with the condition that the requested detailed plans be submitted.

Ms. Pollak asked the proponent to return to the Commission in 2 weeks with the requested information. Mr. Sullivan confirmed that he could not vote to issue an Order of Conditions due to the confusion caused by the different maps. He also indicated that ISD may need to issue a permit for this work.

J. McHallam asked the proponent if any ISD permits had been issued for this project. J. Shkurti replied that they would be issued on June 6, 2013.

- **Motion made by J. Lewis and seconded by J. McHallam to continue the meeting to June 19, 2013 (4/0/0 6:35 PM)**

6:15 PM Request for Amended Order of Conditions for **DEP File No. 006-1325** from Boston Autoport LLC for a Stormwater Management System at 100 Terminal Street, Mystic Pier 1, Charlestown, Boston Harbor (Buffer Zone, DPA)

Representatives: Daniel Padien, Karen Wynn & Lisa Chow, VHB; Lanny Johnson, Boston Autoport

D. Padien reviewed the history of the Commission's involvement with this site. He reviewed the site and the resource areas. This requested amendment is for building construction and stormwater control improvements. Eight deep sump hooded catch basins will be secured to the underside of the deck. TSS removal will be accomplished through sweeping and source control programs. Rooftop runoff will be separately conveyed through a 15" pipe within the sea wall, a new hold for which is required for discharge. During the installation of the catch basins, a narrow barge will float under the deck to catch the cuttings and prevent debris pollution.

J. Sullivan asked if the utilities need to be raised to account for sea level rise. Mr. Padien responded that the finished floor is at elevation 12.25' (NAVD88), and the base flood elevation is 9'. This is a Massport property, and the state building code for the special flood hazard district will be followed. The contractor has filed the SWPPP, and the proponent will submit a copy to staff.

A. Pollak inquired as to whether eight catch basins would be enough to handle the storm water. K. Wynne replied that structural issues prevent more or bigger basins from being installed, but she believes this is the appropriate number if they are maintained properly. Mr. Sullivan suggested that a condition be added that the catch basins are inspected on a monthly basis during their first year of operation.

- **Motion made by J. McHallam and seconded by J. Lewis to issue the Amended Order of Conditions as amended (4/0/0 6:50 PM)**

6:30 PM Notice of Intent for **DEP File No. 006-1341** from the Boston Children's Museum for Construction of a Pile Supported Pulpit and Floating Dock at 308 Congress Street, Fort Point Channel (Land Under Ocean) *Continued from May 1, 2013*

The proponent requested a continuation to the July 10, 2013 meeting.

- **Motion made by J. Lewis and seconded by J. McHallam to continue the meeting to July 10, 2013 (4/0/0 6:50 PM)**

6:35 PM *Updates and General Business*

- Request for Certificates of Compliance from Massport for **DEP File No. 006-1240** East Boston Immigration Building Demolition
 - **Motion made by J. McHallam and seconded by J. Lewis to issue the Certificate of Compliance (4/0/0 6:50 PM)**
- Request for Certificates of Compliance from Massport for **DEP File No. 006-1223** Taxi Pool Temporary Relocation
 - **Motion made by J. Lewis and seconded by J. McHallam to issue the Certificate of Compliance (4/0/0 6:55 PM)**
- Request for Certificates of Compliance from Massport for **DEP File No. 006-1258** East Boston/Chelsea Bypass Road
 - **Motion made by J. Lewis and seconded by J. McHallam to issue the Certificate of Compliance (4/0/0 6:55 PM)**
- Request for Certificates of Compliance from Massport for **DEP File No. 006-1260** Green Bus Depot at Logan Airport
 - **Motion made by J. McHallam and seconded by J. Lewis to issue the Certificate of Compliance (4/0/0 6:57 PM)**

- Request for Certificates of Compliance from Massport for **DEP File No. 006-1298** Black Falcon Fender Repairs
 - **Motion made by J. McHallam and seconded by J. Lewis to issue the Certificate of Compliance (4/0/0 7:00 PM)**

7:00 PM Local Wetlands Ordinance Public Listening Session

- Commissioner Vivien Li joined the meeting.
- Stephanie Kruel lead a presentation and discussion on Sea Level Rise.
- The summary from the Listening Session will be provided separately.

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- **The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 PM**

Respectfully submitted,

Stephanie Kruel

Executive Secretary