

HEARINGS, MEETINGS, LICENSES

3-21-16

From: Amelia Tracy
Sent: Friday, March 18, 2016 12:36 PM
To: Jacqueline Shanley
Subject: BOS Hearing 3/21

Jackie,

We are requesting a continuance for our hearing scheduled 3/21 to review the restoration plans as we are not complete with Conservation Commission at this time and are aware that BOS is looking to have ConCom approve the restoration plans prior to issuing the Special Permit for the plantings. We request that the hearing be continued to April 11, 2016.

In the meantime, we will submit the revised plans based on ConCom's peer review when they are finalized. I do have a question about coordination: will the BOS peer review need to review the ConCom peer review changes?

Please let me know if you have any questions, and confirm that we are on for the 11th.

Thank you!

Amelia

Amelia Tracy
NextSun Energy
c. 413.588.8079

March 11, 2016

Patricia J. Cassidy, Agent
Middleborough Conservation Commission
20 Centre Street, 2nd Floor
Middleborough, MA 02346

Re: Special Permit Restoration Plan Review
17 Jericho Road Solar Facility

Dear Patricia,

This report is submitted at the request of the Middleborough Conservation Commission for the review of the Special Permit application related to clearing in violation of the Order of Conditions file #SE220-1245 at 17 Jericho Road. A site visit was conducted along with the application review. Documents reviewed include:

1. 'Plan Showing Trees Cut Beyond Approved Limit of Work', Dwg No. CR1.0 dated 2/18/16 (latest revision)
2. 'Remediation Plan' Drawing No. CR-2.0 dated 2/18/16 (latest revision).
3. 'Remediation Plan' Drawing No. L-1.0 dated December 15, 2015, Revised 2/18/16.
4. Proposed 25 foot Buffer Zone Restoration Plan Narrative dated January 20, 2016.
5. 'Landscape Maintenance Recommendations for Solar Electric Generation Facility'.

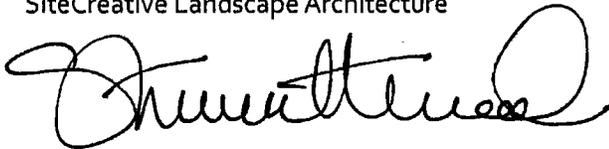
Review observations and recommendations:

1. We recommend that the caliper of trees removed is documented for reference in determining the scope of proposed replacements.
2. There are several trees on site that have been topped. These should be documented.
3. Proposed fencing within the 100 ft buffer zone should be shown on the plans.
4. Any regrading should be identified, along with extent and location of slope stabilization.
5. The proposed 209 plantings (based on ratio of 1.5 to 1 of the 139 cut trees) includes 100 understory shrubs, so fewer trees are being planted than were removed. We suggest that the Commission request a higher rate of replacements based on tree removal quantity and caliper.
6. We suggest varying the size of proposed plantings for staggered maturity rates and grouping shrub masses for more contiguous cover.

7. Plan installation notes state that plantings may be deleted in areas where existing vegetation exists. Please clarify.
8. Planting notes also state that plantings shall be watered until established. Please clarify method of watering and anticipated frequency to monitor watering requirements.
9. The landscape maintenance recommendations are geared toward home landscapes vs naturalized areas. It is recommended to remove items related to manicured landscapes (including fertilizing, pruning for aesthetics and winter cleanup) and add information specific to the proposed 2 year maintenance period of plantings, including watering method and invasive species removal.

Feel free to contact me if you have any questions or you would like to discuss.

Best Regards,
SiteCreative Landscape Architecture

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Stephanie Hubbard', written in a cursive style.

Stephanie Hubbard, RLA, LEED AP
Principal

Jackie/Bob,

At our meeting last night the Committee compiled a list of 5 projects that we would like to undertake. Due to the lack of clarity in Town Counsel's recent "clarification" of his previously provided definitions, we would like to have the Board of Selectmen pre-approve these projects before we invest the personal time required to present them for full approval and funding. Furthermore, after several readings of the Attorney Murray's response, it is still unclear to myself and the rest of the Committee what the Weston Forest is exactly. If we are not a "town forest" by the legal definition, what are we? It appears to the Committee that we fall into a type of gray area somewhere between a "town forest" and a "park or playground". My personal feeling is that if this matter is not settled once and for all in a clear manner this land will remain underused and misunderstood, diminishing Mr. Weston's gift to the town. I would like to request to be placed on the Board of Selectmen's meeting agenda on March 21, 2016 in order to present the proposed projects and voice to Committee's concerns.

Respectfully,
Derek A. Adamiec
Chairman, Weston Forest Committee