

Town Manager's Report Monday, June 11, 2012

To: Board of Selectmen
From: Christopher Whelan, Town Manager

Following are items of note this week, including some of the matters reported on by various Town departments:

West Concord Advisory Committee's Open House: The Board of Selectmen and the public are invited to the West Concord Advisory Committee's open house scheduled for June 14 from 5-7PM at the Harvey Wheeler Community Center in the Clock Tower Room.

The Advisory Committee will have the master plan, design guidelines, and a list of potential redevelopment projects that they have heard about recently. The Committee's aim is to introduce its new members and solicit community feedback on projects and priorities. All are welcome to stop by, and the Committee would welcome the extra input.

PEG Access Channel Moved: As of Thursday, June 7 in Concord, the CCTV Education Channel - which formerly was located on channel 10 - is now located on channel 99. While so far the move seems to have been seamless, anyone with any problems associated with the move should feel free to call their cable provider (Comcast) for assistance as Comcast moved the channel and CCTV had no control over the mechanics involved.

Customers should also feel free to contact Lindsay Alaimo, CCTV Executive Director, at 978-369-5038 and Lindsay will gladly assist in making sure they are getting their public access channels.

LIBRARY

Book Sale: After having a "rain delay" from the previous week, the Friends of the Library's book sale went off very successfully this past Saturday, reporting a net profit of over \$18,400.

PLANNING & LAND MANAGEMENT

Natural Resources Division

Natural Resources Commission (NRC): At the June 6 meeting, the NRC issued Orders of Conditions for the construction of two single family houses at 445 and 41A Lowell Road; and demolition and reconstruction of a single family house at 42 Ridgeway Road. The following matters were also discussed: an Amendment to an existing Order to construct a new single family house on Lot 10A Martin Road; replacing a septic system at 477 Lowell Road; and an Amendment to an existing Order of Conditions to replace a culvert, repave the driveway, and remove trees at 1385 Old Marlboro Road. New applications received last

week include: a Notice of Intent for Concord Public Works – Engineering to install a closed drainage system to resolve a ponding concern at 121 Virginia Road; a Notice of Intent for Jack McBride to demolish and reconstruct a single family house at 253 Sudbury Road; and a Notice of Intent for Jeffrey Morgan to construct an in-ground swimming pool and other amenities at 495 Monument Street. These matters will be heard at the June 20 NRC meeting in addition to the continued hearings for Keypoint Partners, Inc., 181, 195 & 203 Sudbury Road, to repair and repave a commercial parking lot and improve the existing stormwater management system; James White of Millbrook Tarry Condominium Association, Inc., 91 – 107 Lowell Road, to redevelop the existing commercial buildings, install drainage improvements, and repave the parking lot; and, Arista Development LLC, 1112 Main Street, to redevelop the existing gas station into a TD Bank.

Conservation Crew: Brigit Arell joined Ian Hunter this week to complete this summer's Conservation Crew team. Working with Jim Macone, they have begun staging to reconstruct the bridge in the Town Forest that was vandalized a few years ago. The bridge replacement is expected to be completed over the next few weeks. Other responsibilities they have begun to tackle include weeding along the Heywood Meadow wall, removing garlic mustard around Town, and evaluating conservation land signs, and repainting, repairing, or replacing these as necessary.

Old Calf Pasture: In a successful restoration effort resulting from NRC enforcement of a wetlands violation, the Old Calf pasture has seen a marked improvement in its ability to support the rare Britton's violet. Sally Zielinski, a Carlisle botanist who is contracted to oversee the invasive buckthorn control and monitor the violet population, organized a violet census at the pasture for May 27. She and several volunteers counted 271 violets, and still have two-thirds of the meadow to go. One observer also found a woodcock nest with four eggs. The second count is scheduled for June 10, beginning at noon, and the third count will be June 24, time to be determined. For more information please contact the Division of Natural Resources at 978.318.3285.

Building and Inspections Division

DOE SMART Building Workshop: The Building and Inspections Division hosted an HVAC seminar as part of the SMART building workshops put on by the Department of Energy. Architects, Contractors and Building officials attended this 3 hour seminar held at 141 Keyes Road. The discussion involved the latest energy code, duct sealing and calculation for proper sizing of equipment.

Inspections: The Building Department continues to be busy with 36 building inspections, 19 plumbing inspections and 29 electrical inspections for our alternate inspector. Zoning enforcement issues and plan review also continued.

Health Division

Emergency Planning: Public Health Director Susan Rask attended a seminar hosted by the Massachusetts Medical Society, *Providing Medical Care in an Emergency Shelter Setting*. The seminar was geared to Medical Reserve Corps members and directors, to assist in planning for meeting medical needs in emergency shelters.

Septic System Plan Review, Permitting, and Field Work: Assistant Public Health Director Stan Sosnicki continues to oversee all septic system permitting and field work. To date, 62 septic permits have been issued in 2012 (on par with prior years); approximately 90% of these permits are related to Title 5 inspections and property sales. New construction permits are primarily tear-downs and lots that have been subdivided or combined.

Planning Division

Historic Districts Commission: The HDC met Thursday night to review nine new and one continued applications for changes within the Historic Districts. The Commission approved Certificates of Appropriateness for: a new addition and garage at 324 Sudbury Road; new gutters and downspouts at 388 Lowell Road and 229 Lexington Road; a new deck at 126 Lowell Road; new signage at 126 Independence Court, 48 Monument Square, and 166 Main Street (Concord Academy); new paint colors at 475 Lexington Road; and a new stone wall and fencing at 340 Main Street. The Commission also opened their review of exterior changes to the property at 17 Munroe Place and scheduled a site visit to the property prior to their next meeting on Thursday, June 21. The Commission also reviewed a draft copy of the Rules and Regulation and accepted the request from the Millbrook Tarry Condominium Associations to continue their application for changes to 71-107 Lowell Road until a future meeting in July.

Planning Board Meeting: The Planning Board heard a presentation from the development team of an 8-lot Preliminary Subdivision at 9B Mosen Road, which is currently proposed to meet the Town of Concord Subdivision Rules & Regulations for a standard subdivision and includes Conservation Restriction Areas per the Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Program to protect estimated and priority habitat areas for Blanding's turtles. The meeting was well attended with the audience providing many comments; main concerns included the nature of an emergency access easement, improvements to the existing Mosen Road right-of-way, protection of the Blanding's turtles and wetland/creek areas, and, unrelated to the proposed development, concerns with parking and speeding traffic by those visiting the Wildlife Refuge. The meeting concluded after the Planning Board endorsed an Approval Not Required Plan for land of Dreher and Tilton at 66 & 88 Deer Grass Lane.

Concord Center Cultural District: Planning staff worked in conjunction with Stephanie Stillman, Director of the Chamber of Commerce, to prepare an application to the Massachusetts Cultural Council to have the core area of Concord Center (as well as Heywood Meadow/Emerson House/Concord Museum, a portion of Bedford Street to Sleepy Hollow Cemetery, a portion of Monument Street to the Old North Bridge/Old Manse/Buttrick Mansion, and a portion of Lexington Road to the Alcott's Orchard House/Wayside/Hawthorne Inn) designated as the Concord Center Cultural District. A similar application is planned to designate West Concord as a Cultural District in the upcoming year.

MAPC/MAGIC Suburban Mobility Study: The Town of Concord Planning Division is currently undertaking a survey of residents to better understand the public transportation needs in Concord. This survey is part of a larger effort to address the lack of public transportation options across thirteen towns between Routes 128 and 495. The results of

this survey will help us better understand who is currently using public transportation, what they are using it for, where they are going, and if they aren't using it what are their reasons for not doing so. The goal of this larger effort is to find more efficient and cost-effective solutions to providing public transportation to residents, businesses and organizations within and across all thirteen towns. The survey is found at:
www.surveymonkey.com/s/4CONCORD

POLICE

Operational Services: On Monday June 4, officers responded to the CVS Pharmacy on Sudbury Road for a report of an employee stealing prescription medication. After conducting a detailed investigation, officers arrested the employee and charged him with larceny and possession of a Class B controlled substance.

On Tuesday June 5, officers responded to a residence on Finigan Way for a report that an employee was in possession of illegal narcotics. Officers determined that the report was accurate and arrested the employee for possession of a Class A substance (Heroin).

On Friday, June 8, six (6) marijuana plants were seized following the warrant arrest of a subject at 204 Virginia Rd. A search warrant was later obtained for the residence where approximately six (6) marijuana plants and other cultivating products were seized. The subject was charged with (1) Distribution of Class "D" (Marijuana) and (2) Cultivation of Marijuana. He is being held on \$1500 cash bail. The Division of Children and Family Services (DCF) was notified as a child was identified to have been living in the house with his mother. Additional charges may follow.

Community Services: The Department is currently investigating a possible harassment case involving a seventeen (17) year old CCHS student. Investigators have several leads that they are following up with along with potential suspects. Officers are also diligently working with school officials to ensure that all students are safe and protected.

Officers are currently investigating an incident that occurred at a Bedford Street residence where the resident located a baseball bat covered with racial slurs. Investigators have been following up leads as well as working with the residents to ensure their safety. In addition, the Department has notified the Concord-Carlisle Human Rights Council on this matter.

On Saturday June 9, officers assisted with traffic and crowd control at the Concord-Carlisle High School graduation. No major issues were reported during the event.