

**MINUTES
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
LAND USE MEETING ROOM
March 19, 2018**

OPENING: The regular scheduled meeting of the Conservation Commission opened at 7:00 p.m. Attendance is as follows:

Christopher Pratt, Chairman	Present
Seth Kellogg, Vice Chairman	Present
Frank Soleimani, Commissioner	Present
Mehmet Mizanoglu Commissioner	Absent
Dave MacWilliams Commissioner	Present
Brian Drenen Commissioner	Present
Brian Pranka Commissioner	Present
Dennis Clark, Coordinator	Present

7:00 Christopher Pratt, Chairman, opened the meeting.

MINUTES

Commissioner Pranka made a motion to accept the minutes of 03/05/18. Commissioner MacWilliams seconded the motion. None opposed, the motion passed unanimously.

ATTENDANCE

Mr. & Mrs. Berry

Mr. David and Mrs. Maureen Berry, 106 Coes Hill Road, attended the meeting to discuss the trimming of trees along their property line and the Sterrett Farm Nature Walk. Coordinator Clark explained that the Town has a right-of-way with a 25 foot drainage easement. The intent of the nature walk was for the neighborhood residents to have access to open space. There are several pine trees boarding the Berry property which were trimmed to allow sufficient space for trail walkers. Mrs. Berry stated that she was informed that the trimming was for motorized vehicles – the trees that were improperly trimmed and have a potential to die – several birds and animals lost their habitat and possibly their lives – branches cut have the potential to harm someone who could fall on them – the trimming only went as far as the Berry property line. Coordinator Clark assured Mrs. Berry that motorized vehicles were not allowed on the right-of-way and the trimming did proceed past the Berry property. The Conservation Commission members reviewed photos taken by Coordinator Clark and agreed to conduct a site visit with Mr. & Mrs. Berry.

Mr. Paul Murphy attended the meeting to discuss the Select Board meeting on March 27th to address the jet ski issue on North Pond. In accordance with a newspaper article, the Select Board members are potentially creating a Bylaw to address concerns with the North Pond residents as well as recreational vessel users on Congamond Lakes. Mr. Murphy obtained 38 signatures of the 55 property owners on North Pond on a petition which will be presented at the Select Board meeting on March 27th. Members of the Conservation Commission will also be in attendance.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Mr. Jon Goddard, R. Levesque Associates
7:23 **RDA Thomas Arnold Map 111 Parcels 17 & 18** Chairman Pratt opened the hearing by reading the legal ad as posted in the Westfield News on 3/8/18. Mr. Goddard presented a plan showing the various wetlands and buffer zones. The property located on Davis and Klaus Anderson Roads contain intermittent and perennial streams, banks and a tilled agricultural field. At this time, Mr. Arnold does not have any intentions toward the property aside from delineating the wetlands. The Conservation Commission members agreed to a site meeting on March 31st. Commissioner MacWilliams made a motion to continue the public hearing until April 2nd. Commissioner Drenen seconded the motion. None opposed, the motion passed unanimously.

7:24 **RDA Crestview Map 27 Parcels 3, 4, 5** The public hearing was continued until April 2, 2018.

DISCUSSION/REVIEW

Mr. Jon Goddard, R. Levesque Associates
Kuldel Broathers – Sunnyside Conservation Restriction Mr. Goddard stated that Town Council did accept the revision, however, there is an overlap with DEP conditions. Mr. Goddard hops to resolve the issues for the next Conservation Commission meeting.

135 North Lake Avenue – Dock Violation Commissioner MacWilliams made a motion to table the issue until the April 2nd meeting so more information can be obtained. Commissioner Drenen seconded the motion. None opposed, the motion passed unanimously.

23 White Street – Dock Violation Coordinator Clark stated that the dock was not secured on the shore and was floating on North Pond. The property owner did contact Coordinator Clark for assistance in retrieving the dock. The Conservation Commission does have the authority to issue a fine for the dock being in the water after the “ice out” date. Commissioner MacWilliams made a motion to invite the property owner to the next meeting. Commissioner Pranka seconded the motion. None opposed, the motion passed unanimously.

Active Order of Conditions Coordinator Clark stated that a chart will be composed of all the active Order of Conditions inclusive of bond amount still active. The chart will be posted in the Conservation Commission office.

Sofonowski Field Mowing Coordinator Clark stated that the issue of payment for mowing the Sofonowski fields was mentioned at the Budget Hearing. The Conservation Commission contracted the mowing with Solek Farm until the year 2021, paid for through a grant issued by the State. At the budget hearing, Selectman Fox stated that a farmer volunteered to mow the fields at no cost. Coordinator Clark will request a representative from Solek Farm to attend the next meeting.

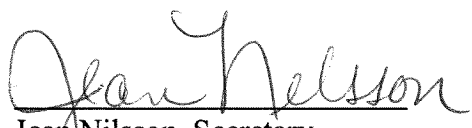
Land Management Advisory Committee Coordinator Clark stated that he is having difficulty arranging attendance for the meetings due to the various members scheduled. Once a consensus of the members is determined, a meeting date, location and time will be established.

Community Garden As of this meeting, only two plots have been reserved. Commissioner MacWilliams stated that the Boy Scouts will still want to reserve space to grow food that will be donated to the food pantry.

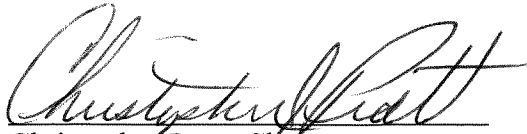
RT 57 Culvert Coordinator Clark related that the engineer for the project did not keep the Town informed of several compliance issues with the Army Corps of Engineers. The Army Corps of Engineers reported that the new proposed liner is would restrict the flow of the brook. A new liner could be installed, but only if it is proven that the flow would not be restricted.

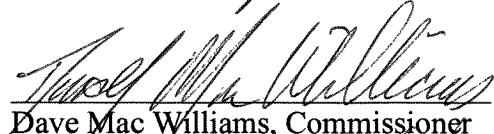
Commissioner Pranka made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:21 p.m. Commissioner Drenen seconded the motion. None opposed, the motion passed unanimously.

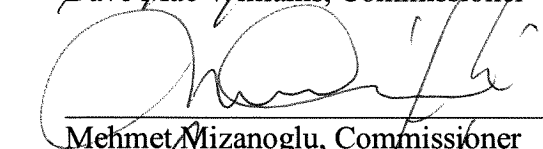
Respectfully submitted,

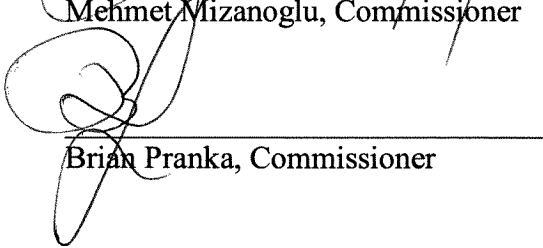

Jean Nilsson, Secretary
cc:

Select Board
Town Clerk


Christopher Pratt, Chairman


Dave Mac Williams, Commissioner


Mehmet Mizanoglu, Commissioner


Brian Pranka, Commissioner

Seth Kellogg, Vice Chairman


Frank Soleimani, Commissioner

Brian Drenen, Commissioner

Date 4/2/18