

**MINUTES**  
**CONSERVATION COMMISSION**  
**HYBRID PARTICIPATION**  
**October 17, 2022**

**OPENING:** The regularly scheduled meeting of the Conservation Commission opened at 7:00 via hybrid. Vice Chairman Cheever announced the names, time and date of the meeting, and stated that the meeting was being recorded.

**ATTENDANCE**

David MacWilliams, Chairman	Absent
Norman Cheever, Vice Chairman	Present
Mehmet Mizanoglu, Commissioner	Present
Brian Drenen, Commissioner	Present
Jerry Patria, Commissioner	Present (Zoom)
Kevin Solek, Commissioner	Absent
Andrew Reardon, Commissioner	Present

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Maryssa Cook-Obregon (Zoom) related information from the Agricultural Commission concerning a sign at the Sofinowski Land Preserve. The potential sign(s) will be reflective white with green lettering on both the north and south entrances to the preserve possibly hanging from an L shaped swinging sign post which can be removed during the off season. Mrs. Cook-Obregon is currently obtaining quotes for the sign(s). The Conservation Commission members were in favor of the proposal.

**MINUTES**

Commissioner Drenen made a motion to accept the minutes of October 3, 2022. Commissioner Patria seconded the motion. The roll call vote of the Commission was unanimous in favor.

Norm Cheever	yes	Mehmet Mizanoglu	yes
Jerry Patria	yes	Brian Drenen	yes
Andrew Reardon	Yes		

**PUBLIC HEARINGS**

Mr. John Tomaszewski, R Levesque & Associates  
Mr. Andrew Reardon, Owner

**RDA 1 Hudson Drive** Vice Chairman Cheever opened the public hearing by reading the legal ad as posted in The Reminder Publications on October 6, 2022. Commissioner

Reardon, as owner of the property, recused himself from the discussion as a Conservation Commission member. The project is for a self-storage unit that was previously presented, but is now closer to the 50 foot buffer due to a revision in the Storm Water plan. There will be over 1,000 square feet of disturbance that is approximately 16 feet away from the resource area. The Conservation Commission members were in agreement that the project would need to be filed as a Notice of Intent due to the extensive disturbance. Commissioner Drenen made a motion to find the project positive as the project will need to be filed as a Notice of Intent. Commissioner Mizanoglu seconded the motion. The roll call vote was as follows:

Norm Cheever yes

Jerry Patria yes

Andrew Reardon abstained

Mehmet Mizanoglu yes

Brian Drenen yes

**26 Island Way** Mr. Jay Stemmler, owner, attended the meeting via Zoom to present information pertinent to a letter issued for nonpayment relative to the LPP. According to Mr. Stemmler stated that the 4 ½ foot dock was mostly on the shoreline, and stated that the float line was only used when the family was in residence due to boats coming close to his shoreline. However, it was present during every site visit by Coordinator Pooler and in the picture taken during the lake survey by Vice Chairman Cheever. Mr. Stemmler also stated that the Town buoy be moved. Vice Chairman Cheever will address the issue at the next Lake Management Committee meeting. Commissioner Reardon noted that all lakefront property owners need to have consistent regulations. Mr. Stemmler did agree to submit a payment for the structure and vessel at the property.

**Commissioner Drenen excused himself from the remainder of the meeting at 7:39**

**Certificate of Compliance 12 Noble Steed SWK 454-123** Coordinator Pooler conducted a site visit and noted that the property was in compliance with their Order of Conditions. Commissioner Mizanoglu made a motion to issue the Certificate of Compliance and release the \$5,000.00 bond. Commissioner Reardon seconded the motion. The roll call vote was unanimous in favor:

Norm Cheever yes

Jerry Patria yes

Mehmet Mizanoglu yes

Andrew Reardon Yes

**4010 Mountain Road Annual Removal of Docks** Ms. Sylvanna Sajenicz submitted an application for a variance in accordance with Section 6.2 of the LPP. Commissioner Patria made a motion to approve the application with the condition that solar lights and traffic barrels be placed at the end of the dock. The request will be reviewed on a yearly basis. Commissioner Reardon seconded the motion. The roll call vote was unanimous in favor:

Norm Cheever yes

Jerry Patria yes

Mehmet Mizanoglu yes

Andrew Reardon Yes

**LMC Update** Vice Chairman Cheever stated that there were no updates as of this meeting.

**Special Town Meeting** Coordinator Pooler stated that a special Town Meeting will be held on November 15<sup>th</sup>. Coordinator Pooler suggested that a Warrant Article be composed for the establishment of an acquisition account for the purchase of conservation land from CPC funding. There will be insufficient time to create a Warrant Article for this Town Meeting, but Coordinator Pooler will continue to work on a presentation for the Annual Town Meeting.

**Forest Cutting Plans** Coordinator Pooler spoke with Jacob Macko about a possible site visit at Fred Jackson Road. However unless the Conservation Commission has specific issues Me. Maco informed that a site visit is out of Southwick Conservation Commission jurisdiction. Mr. Macko offered to have a joint meeting with the Conservation Commission members on a Town owned property to explain the workings of a forest cutting plan.

**Sofonowski Land Preserve** Coordinator Pooler related that the work day was a success clearing sections of the preserve. There were many volunteers including members of the Agricultural Commission who coordinated the effort. Coordinator Pooler consulted with MACC to establish a way to eradicate evasive plants without their seeds spreading. A trap method using tarps was a viable option. There will be more scheduled clean ups. Some items of concern were trail markers and the picnic benches need to be replaced or rehabbed.

**Sub Committee** Chairman Coordinator Pooler presented a list of structural ways to form the Committee. Town residents have already expressed interest in joining the proposed Committee which will be similar to the former Open Space Committee. It was further suggested to limit the number of members and to have them report directly to the Conservation Commission as they would be focused on land conservation and the issues directly related to the commissions jurisdiction.

**Noble Steed Crossing** Coordinator Pooler stated that once again the corrective measures taken at the subdivision were limited and some are still failing. There was also fill containing contaminated material brought to the site. Vice Chairman Cheever made a motion to begin fining Mr. Saltmarsh beginning Monday October 24<sup>th</sup> at \$300.00 per day. Commissioner Mizanoglu seconded the motion. The roll call vote was unanimous in favor:

Norm Cheever    yes  
Jerry Patria     yes

Mehmet Mizanoglu    yes  
Andrew Reardon    Yes

Commissioner Mizanoglu made a motion to adjourn at 8:29 p.m. Commissioner Reardon  
seconded the motion. The roll call vote was unanimous in favor:  
Norm Cheever yes Mehmet Mizanoglu yes  
Jerry Patria yes Andrew Reardon Yes

Respectfully submitted,

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Jean Nilsson, Secretary

cc:  
Select Board  
Town Clerk

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Dave MacWilliams, Chairman

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Norman Cheever, Vice Chairman

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Jerry Patria, Commissioner

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Brian Drenen, Commissioner

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Mehmet Mizanoglu, Commissioner

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Kevin Solek, Commissioner

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Andy Reardon, Commissioner

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Date