

MINUTES
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
HYBRID PARTICIPATION
October 2, 2023

ATTENDANCE

Norman Cheever, Acting Vice Chairman	Present
Mehmet Mizanoglu, Commissioner	Present
Jerry Patria, Commissioner	Present
Kevin Solek, Commissioner	Absent
Andrew Reardon, Commissioner	Present
Dennis Clark, Commissioner	Present
Christopher Pratt, Commissioner	Present

Acting Vice Chairman Cheever opened the meeting at 7:00 PM by announcing the date, time and members in attendance. Acting Vice Chairman Cheever also welcomed back Mr. Christopher Pratt as an appointed Commissioner of the Committee.

MINUTES

Commissioner Mizanoglu a motion to accept the minutes of 09/18/23. Commissioner Patria seconded the motion. The Roll call vote was as follows:

Norm Cheever, yes	Mehmet Mizanoglu yes
Jerry Patria yes	Andy Reardon yes
Dennis Clark yes	Christopher Pratt recused

Public Comments Mrs. Michelle Pratt, 152 Berkshire Avenue, related that the Citizens to Restore Congamond voted down approval of funds with the removal of the rope swing at North Pond.

Reorganization of the Committee Vice Chairman Cheever asked for a vote to appoint the officers of the Conservation Commission. Commissioner Pratt nominated Commissioner Clark as Chairman. Commissioner Patria seconded the motion. The roll call vote was as follows:

Norm Cheever, yes	Mehmet Mizanoglu yes
Jerry Patria no	Andy Reardon no
Dennis Clark no	Christopher Pratt yes

The motion did not carry on a 3 to 3 vote.

Commissioner Clark then nominated Christopher Pratt. The roll call vote was as follows:

Norm Cheever, yes	Mehmet Mizanoglu yes
Jerry Patria yes	Andy Reardon yes
Dennis Clark yes	Christopher Pratt yes

The motion carried as unanimous.

Commissioner Reardon nominated Norm Cheever as Vice Chairman. Commissioner Clark seconded the motion. The roll call vote was as follows:

Norm Cheever, yes	Mehmet Mizanoglu yes
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Jerry Patria yes
Dennis Clark yes

Andy Reardon yes
Christopher Pratt yes

Chairman Pratt nominated Commissioner Clark as the Conservation Commission representative to the CPC. Commissioner Mizanoglu seconded the motion. The roll call vote was as follows:

Norm Cheever, yes
Jerry Patria yes
Dennis Clark yes

Mehmet Mizanoglu yes
Andy Reardon yes
Christopher Pratt yes

Mr. Jeff Smith, Salvini Associates
Mr. Val Shvets, Owner

RDA Lot A 72 Mort Vining Road Mr. Smith presented an RDA for a single family dwelling. However, the criteria data of 1,000 square feet of disturbance within the buffer zone was beyond the scope of what is allowed under an RDA due to the extensive proposed work within the wetlands. Commissioner Clark made a motion for a positive determination. Commissioner Pratt seconded the motion. The roll call vote was as follows:

Norm Cheever, yes
Jerry Patria yes
Dennis Clark yes

Mehmet Mizanoglu yes
Andy Reardon yes
Christopher Pratt yes

The property owner will resubmit the project under a Notice of Intent.

Mr. Chris Chamberland, Berkshire Design
Mr. Steve Riberly, Baystate Global
Mr. Jim Boyle, Owner

662A College Highway NOI 292-0412 Mr. Chamberland presented a revised plan as requested by the Conservation Commission. Mr. Riberly redefined the wetlands at the location showing a larger area on the southern portion of defined wetlands the property. This the design was revised with the entrance to the storage buildings more towards the center of the property. There has been several changes on the property and the wetlands were defined by the existing plants and soils. The replication of the disturbance of 1,900 square feet will be at 4,0000 square feet with small species trees planting along the roadway. Infiltration for drainage has been submitted to the Planning Board and DPW. A box culvert will be installed at the wetland crossings. The Commission was comfortable with the revised wetland delineation. Commissioner Patria made a motion to approved a requested continuation of the Public Hearing. Commissioner Mizanoglu seconded the motion. The roll call vote was as follows:

Norm Cheever, yes
Jerry Patria yes
Andy Reardon abstained

Mehmet Mizanoglu yes
Kevin Solek yes
Dennis Clark yes

Mr. Ryan Nelson, R. Levesque Associates
Mr. James Davenport, Owner

112 Berkshire Ave & 1 Pine Road NOI 292-0414 Members of the Conservation Commission and Coordinator Pooler conducted a site visit at the location. The proposal included drainage from the stone

pavers with PVC piping into a dry well. The trees and stumps being removed will be replaced with trees on an approved listing provided. The section of pavers will now be pervious and the wetland replication is now larger than the disturbed area proposed. All work will be conducted at the same time as opposed to phasing the project as previously noted and silt fencing will be installed. As there was no further discussion, Commissioner Pratt made a motion to close the Public Hearing. Commissioner Mizanoglu seconded the motion. The roll call vote was as follows:

Norm Cheever, yes

Mehmet Mizanoglu yes

Jerry Patria yes

Andy Reardon yes

Dennis Clark yes

Christopher Pratt yes

Commissioner Clark made a motion to approve the project with the standard Order of Conditions, a \$10,000. bond, and a revised plan including the proposed plantings be submitted before the pre-construction site visit. Commissioner Pratt seconded the motion. The roll call vote was as follows:

Norm Cheever, yes

Mehmet Mizanoglu yes

Jerry Patria yes

Andy Reardon yes

Dennis Clark yes

Christopher Pratt yes

81 Point Grove Road NOI 292-0415 Coordinator Pooler presented a written request from the applicant via email requesting a continuation of the Public Hearing. Commissioner Clark made a motion to accept the continuance. Commissioner Mizanoglu seconded the motion. The roll call vote was as follows:

Norm Cheever, yes

Mehmet Mizanoglu yes

Jerry Patria yes

Andy Reardon yes

Dennis Clark yes

Christopher Pratt yes

Troop 12916 Coordinator Pooler noted that there was no one in attendance for the proposal. The issue will be postponed.

21 White Street Coordinator Pooler made note that the pre-construction site visit was conducted and the project can start.

18 Oak Street Possible Wetland Violation Acting Vice Chairman Cheever responded to a complaint of silt comping from Oak Street going into the canal. A site visit confirmed that stones were placed redirecting the water. Another site visit will be conducted after more research on the property and owner is conducted.

39 Beach Street Possible Wetland Violation Coordinator Pooler and Acting Vice Chairman Cheever conducted a site visit at the location and noted leaves, trash potting soil, dog facies etc. dumped into the wetland. The DPW department was also interested in an underground pipe that was discharging liquid towards the lake. Further researched will be conducted and educational materials will be sent out.

579 Forest Rd Suffield CT Acting Vice Chairman Cheever conducted a site visit by boat and noted that a jetty was being built of rocks in the lake, vegetation was removed and the shoreline was altered. The Wetland Enforcer in Suffield issued a cease and desist order to the property owner.

Assisting Conservation Coordinator Acting Vice Chairman Cheever made note that Coordinator Pooler does not have sufficient time allotted to the Conservation Commission to conduct all the

necessary aspects of the position that need to be addressed in a timely manner. The position should be full time. Acting Vice Chairman will look into possible grant funding for the position and the Conservation Commissioners will assist in investigations.

Mr. Steve Salvini, Salvini & Associates
Arturas Ribinskas, Owner

Alteration plan 157 Feeding Hills Road DEP 292-0380 Mr. Salvini presented information relative to the gazebos and walkway that were constructed on the site. Mr. Salvini recognized that the existing gazebos are more substantial in size than what was on the original plan. However, they are now elevated by 6 inches which is allowing for less ground disturbance and water to flow under the buildings. Mr. Salvini is requesting a partial Certificate of Compliance, which the Conservation Commission has not historically granted outside of a subdivision. Mr. Matt McCassey, 145 Feeding Hills Road, made note that adding handicap ramps to the already oversized gazebos limits the free flow of water. The project has gone substantially over the initial presentation. Chairman Pratt made note that the Conservation Commission only has jurisdiction on the impact in the wetland area. Commissioner Clark stated that Mr. Salvini will need to return to the Commission with a complete plan showing all the existing and proposed components of the project. Mr. Salvini requested a continuation. Mr. Ron Sena, 149 Feeding Hills Road, commented on the proposed zone change that will allow for more flexibility on the part of the owner and wanted to know what the plans are for the future. Chairman Pratt stated that the questions were not within the purview of the Conservation Commission, but a Certificate of Compliance will not be issued at this time. Mr. McCassey also noted that there are burn barrels in the rear of the property and a gate where the access pump was pulled back 10 feet. Commissioner Clark made a motion to approve a continuance until the 20th of November. Vice Chairman Cheever seconded the motion. The roll call vote was as follows:

Norm Cheever, yes
Jerry Patria yes
Dennis Clark yes

Mehmet Mizanoglu yes
Andy Reardon yes
Christopher Pratt yes

31 Sam West Road – Possible Wetland Violation Coordinator Pooler stated that Mr. Stinson, Mass DEP, made note that the violation may be more extensive than previously reviewed. There was no representation of the property at the meeting.

Certificate of Compliance DEP # 292-0286 Commissioner Clark explained that some of the retention basins were supposed to be bio retention basins. The Commission will need to be reassured of the change before a Certificate of Compliance can be issued.

Star Gazers Event _ The previous similar event happened 15 years ago. Hopefully this event will create a more common occurrence. The ruts were not filled in as of this meeting.

13 Berkshire Avenue Coordinator Pooler stated that this will be continued until the next meeting on October 16th. The property is across from the south ramp on Middle Pond. The Select Board would like estimates on a feasibility study on options for the land. The owner wished to "donate" the land. There is a possibility that the parcel will be involved in a dredging project.

Commissioner Clark made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:01 PM. Commissioner Mizanoglu seconded the motion. The roll call vote was as follows:

Respectfully submitted,

Jean Nilsson, Secretary

cc:
Select Board
Town Clerk

Christopher Pratt, Chairman

Norman Cheever, Vice Chairman

Mehmet Mizanoglu, Commissioner

Jerry Patria, Commissioner

Kevin Solek, Commissioner

Andy Reardon, Commissioner

Dennis Clark, Commissioner

Date