

**MINUTES
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
LAND USE MEETING ROOM
December 16, 2019**

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

Christopher Pratt, Chairman	Present
Dave MacWilliams, Vice Chairman	Present
Mehmet Mizanoglu, Commissioner	Present
Brian Drenen, Commissioner	Present
Brian Pranka, Commissioner	Present
Jerry Patria, Commissioner	Present
Maryssa Cook-Obregon	Present
Dennis Clark, Coordinator	Present

7:00 Chairman Pratt opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. and announced that the meeting was being recorded.

MINUTES

Commissioner Drenen made a motion to accept the minutes of November 18, 2019. Commissioner Patria seconded the motion. None opposed, the motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Mr. Pilipe Cravo, R. Levesque & Associates

NOI 13 North Pond DEP #292-0363 Chairman Pratt opened the continuation of the public hearing. Mr. Cravo attended the meeting to present a revised plan. The vinyl sheeting has been extended throughout most of the entire lot as requested. There will be approximately twenty trees "no greater than 4 inches in diameter that will be removed, but the larger trees along the shore line will remain. All trees will be marked on the plan and during the pre-site construction visit. Mr. Brown, DPW Director, submitted a calculation to determine the estimated cost of \$57,700.00 in the event of a catastrophic event of a failure at the site to prevent any cost on behalf of the Town for returning the property to its original state. Commissioner Pranka made a motion to set the bond at \$60,000.00. Commissioner Mizanoglu seconded the motion. The vote of the Committee was unanimous in favor. Chairman Pratt made a motion to approve a continuation of the Public Hearing until January 6, 2020 so the plans can be revised and the property owner is aware of the bond amount. Vice Chairman MacWilliams seconded the motion. None opposed, the motion passed unanimously in favor.

Mr. Mike Massarelli, Property Owner

RDA 92 Davis Road Chairman opened the continuation of the Public Hearing. However, Mr. Duducal the applicant was not in attendance. Coordinator Clark contacted Mr. Duducal by phone and Mr. Duducal requested that the hearing be continued. Chairman Pratt made a motion

to approve a continuation until January 6, 2020. Vice Chairman MacWilliams seconded the motion. None opposed, the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Jeremy Beltrandi

7 & 9 Noble Steed Crossing Chairman Pratt read the legal ad as posted in the Westfield News on December 6, 2019. Mr. Beltrandi explained that the properties will be consolidated into one lot instead of two. There is a high bank to the rear of the property which he would like to level at the location of the proposed dwelling site. This would allow for a rear yard. The excavation would level about 7 feet on the crest of the hill which is between the 50 and 100 foot buffer zone. There will be approximately 2,400 square feet of material including trees that will be disturbed. The Conservation Commission members requested more definitive information be placed on a site plan. Vice Chairman MacWilliams made a motion for a continuation of the Public Hearing. Commissioner Drenen seconded the motion. None opposed, the motion passed unanimously.

DISCUSSION/REVIEW/ACTION ITEMS

Granville Gorge Coordinator Clark locked the gate and put up a sign that the gorge parking area was closed for the winter and is in the process of getting a quotation to repair the parking area.

61 & 63 College Highway – Enforcement Order Coordinator Clark stated that there is still a cease and desist order on the property, but appears that work is still being done. As the Building Inspector is currently on vacation, Coordinator Clark will notify the interim inspector that the silt fences are down and there is a danger of material going onto College Highway.

Granville & Fred Jackson Roads DEP#292-0362 Coordinator Clark stated that the project is not completed as designed as of this meeting.

LPP Ice Out Notices A letter was issued to the property owner of 16 Shore Road asking that the dock be removed as soon as possible. Coordinator Clark also issued an email to LMC members asking if anyone can help with the removal as the property owner recently lost her husband and may need assistance with the removal.

133 North Lake Avenue Mr. Waversack submitted a letter requesting a variance for removal of the dock. The variance application included a letter in which Mr. Waversack agreed to keep orange barrels and a light on the dock during the ice out season and the dock will be maintained or replaced with a removable dock. The LMC voted to approve the variance at their meeting on December 12th. Commissioner Patria made a motion to accept the variance application. Commissioner Pranka seconded the motion. None opposed, the motion passed unanimously.

112 Sunnyside Road DEP # 292-0366 Coordinator Clark presented pictures of the activities on the site that are in violation of the Order of Conditions issued for the project. The violations include failure to show proof that the Order of Conditions was recorded with the Registry of Deeds, no bond posted as required, no preconstruction site visit with the Conservation Commission, proper erosion controls not in place, and a sign with the correct DEP file number was not in place. These were just some of the eleven violations cited in the EO. Chairman Pratt made a motion to ratify an Enforcement Order which will include a fine of \$300.00 per day for each major violation totaling \$9,000.00 and will continue until such time as the Conditions are in

compliance. Commissioner Cook-Obregon seconded the motion. None opposed, the motion passed unanimously.

Conservation Restriction The Greens Coordinator Clark presented a Conservation Restriction for The Greens that has been approved by Town Council which would keep the open space in perpetuity for the Flexible Residential development. The Committee reviewed a document that would need to be filed with the Commonwealth for a Conservation Restriction on the open space in the Flexible Residential Development for The Greens. The document would keep the open space in Article 97 thus available to the public for perpetuity. The designated open space will be available to the general public, with access available through common open space and no privately owned lands. Chairman Pratt made a motion to sign the Conservation Restriction. Commissioner Drenen seconded the motion. None opposed, the motion passed unanimously. The document will be notarized then forwarded to the Select Board for their signatures.

Local Filing Fees Coordinator Clark related that the local filing fees collected through Notice of Intent (NOI), Request for Determination (RDA), and fines are being directed to the general fund. It was the previous understanding of the Commission that these fees were collected and used similar to that of the Local Permitting Program (LPP) through a revolving fund for Conservation usage. Chairman Pratt made a motion to issue a letter to the Select Board requesting that a Warrant Article be presented at the Annual Town Meeting for setting up the revolving fund for these fees. There have been Conservation Commission gift accounts that have restrictive use, thus are not directed to their intended purpose to preserve the Southwick's most valuable assets. Commissioner MacWilliams seconded the motion. None opposed, the motion passed unanimously.

LPP Application The Conservation Commission members reviewed and accepted the 2020 LPP revised application for dock and registered vessel fees.

26 Castle Street Commissioner Mizanoglu made a motion to sign the Certificate of Compliance for 26 Castle Street. The originally signed document mistakenly had 28 Castle Street.

Mrs. Michelle Pratt

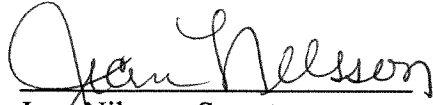
Alum treatment Funding Mrs. Pratt attended the meeting to present information relative to the lake treatments. The maximum limit for Copper Sulfate has not been quite reached as of yet, but the amount of Copper Sulfate treatment used has caused a more serious problem. By using so much Copper Sulfate in the lakes a Copper Sulfate resistant bloom developed. The Town has the Alum treatment "shovel ready" as all of the permits and RFP, RFQ's are order. The Conservation Commission, Lake Management Committee, Citizens Restoring Congamond, Board of Health and Town of Suffield are working together to get the funding released from the Environmental Bond Bill before the lakes suffer from an non-treatable algae bloom resulting in closing the lakes for the summer, or for a substantially longer period of time. The Conservation Commission unanimously voted to have Chairman Pratt sign documents to Lt. Governor Karyn Polito and Secretary Kathleen Theoharides.

Mr. Norman Cheever, LMC

LMC Report Mr. Cheever attended the meeting and related information from the Lake Management Committee. 1) 159 Berkshire Avenue was issued a cease and desist order and will need to submit a Storm Water plan, 2) the LMC are in the process of establishing culvert and boating protocol for North Pond.

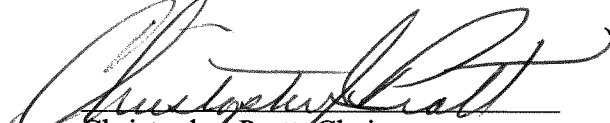
The next meeting of the Conservation Commission is scheduled for January 6, 2020

Respectfully submitted,

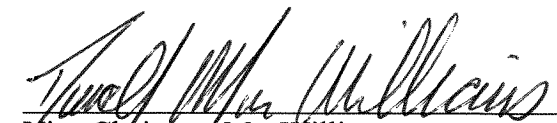


Jean Nilsson, Secretary
cc:

Select Board
Town Clerk



Christopher Pratt, Chairman




Vice Chairman MacWilliams


Jerry Patria, Commissioner

Mehmet Mizanoglu, Commissioner

Brian Drenen, Commissioner



Brian Pranka, Commissioner



Maryssa Cook-Obregon

1/6/20
Date