

MINUTES
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
REMOTE PARTICIPATION
February 1, 2021

OPENING: The remote Zoom meeting is being held in pursuant to the Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 order suspending certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law, F.L. C.30A, 18 and the Governor's March 15, 2020 order imposing strict limitation on the number of people that may gather in one place.

Christopher Pratt, Chairman, opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. and announced the Commissioners who were in attendance names, time and date of the meeting, and that the meeting was being recorded.

ATTENDANCE

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

Also in attendance was:

Norman Cheever, Lake Management Committee

Ryan Nelson, R. Levesque & Associates

Randy Brown, DPW Director

Julianne Busa, Fuss & O'Neill

Mr. Brian & Mrs. Karen Durand – 94 Berkshire Avenue

Ms. Sabra Karanian – 104 Berkshire Avenue

MINUTES

Vice Chairman MacWilliams made a motion to table the minutes of January 4, 2021.

Commissioner Pranka seconded the motion. The roll call vote was as follows:

Christopher Pratt	yes	Maryssa Cook-Obregon	yes
David MacWilliams	yes	Brian Pranka	yes

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Ryan Nelson, R. Levesque & Associates

NOI DEP# 292-0374 115 Fred Jackson Road (Continuation) Mr. Nelson requested a continuation of the Public Hearing until the next scheduled meeting on March 1, 2021. Commissioner Pranka made

a motion to approve a continuation. Commissioner Cook-Obregon seconded the motion. The roll call vote was as follows:

Christopher Pratt	yes	Maryssa Cook-Obregon	yes
David MacWilliams	yes	Brian Pranka	yes

Randy Brown, DPW Director
Julianne Busa, Fuss & O'Neill

NOI DEP # 292-0375 Klaus Anderson & Johnson Brook Culvert Replacement Mr. Brown explained the comments from DEP of the violations on the Johnson property that may have occurred several years ago. There is a section where hay had been previously harvested and a low depression segment that does collect water. Monuments will mark the location of the property where the vegetation will be allowed to regenerate naturally. Mr. Brown requested that the Conservation Commission extend the Order of Conditions for 5 years as grant funding will be required. As no other comments were heard, Vice Chairman MacWilliams made a motion to close the Public Hearing. Chairman Pratt seconded the motion. The roll call vote was as follows:

Christopher Pratt	yes	Maryssa Cook-Obregon	yes
David MacWilliams	yes	Brian Pranka	yes

Chairman Pratt made a motion to allow the project to go forward with an Order of Conditions of 5 years. Vice Chairman MacWilliams seconded the motion. The roll call vote was as follows:

Christopher Pratt	yes	Maryssa Cook-Obregon	yes
David MacWilliams	yes	Brian Pranka	yes

Ryan Nelson, R. Levesque & Associates

NOI DEP # 292-0376 78 Berkshire Avenue Chairman Pratt opened the Public Hearing by reading the legal ad as posted in Reminder Publications on January 20, 2021. Mr. Nelson presented a map showing the parcel at the corner of Berkshire Avenue and Boyce Road. The proposed dwelling will be centered on the property with a permeable paver patio. There are several trees and evasive vining plants that will be removed for the placement of a lawn within the buffer zone. Silt fencing will be placed within the 50 buffer zone to the lake. The plans also showed a permanent dock that will require a Chapter 91 license from the State. The Conservation Commission members stated that plans as this have been discouraged at a lawn using fertilizer can run off into the lake and permanent docks as they can be a hazard in winter for snowmobilers and during the boating season as a navigational hazard. Mr. Cheever from the LMC also agreed that a permanent dock was discouraged on Lake Congamond. The Commissioners suggested plantings and landscaping that would mark the 50 foot buffer zone. Mr. Nelson did include a gravel walkway designed under 30 inches. As the trees to be removed were not marked on the plan, the Commission members agreed to conduct a site visit at the location on Wednesday January 3rd at 9:30. Chairman Pratt made a motion to continue the Public Hearing until the next scheduled meeting on March 1, 2021. Commissioner Cook-Obregon seconded the motion. The roll call vote was as follows:

Christopher Pratt	yes	Maryssa Cook-Obregon	yes
David MacWilliams	yes	Brian Pranka	yes

Ryan Nelson, R. Levesque & Associates
Mr. Norman Cheever, Property Owner

RDA 100 Berkshire Avenue Chairman Pratt opened the Public Hearing by reading the legal ad as posted in Reminder Publications on January 20, 2021. Mr. Nelson presented a plan of tree removal along an existing slope to the rear of the property which is eroding. There are a total of 6 trees, two of which will have stumps removed. Fill will be moved to stabilize the slope with permeable landscape material with stone, boulders and shrubs. No material will leave the property. There is one section of 21 and ½ cubic feet in the flood plain that will be compensated in an area at 48 cubic feet. Mr. Cheever stated that he was no in agreement of the removal and compensation as stated on the plan. There were also some issues noted in the DEP assessment that need to be addressed. Chairman Pratt made a motion for a continuation until the next meeting on March 1, 2021 so all the issues can be addressed. Commissioner Pranka seconded the motion. The roll call vote was as follows:

Christopher Pratt	yes	Maryssa Cook-Obregon	yes
David MacWilliams	yes	Brian Pranka	yes

Mr. Richard and Ms. Jessica Solek

RDA 181 Granville Road Chairman Pratt opened the Public Hearing by reading the legal ad as posted in Reminder Publications on January 20, 2021. Mr. Solek presented a plan for a 30 by 30 foot garage that will be self-sufficient using solar panels. The garage is located in an area of the existing lawn 102 feet from a perennial stream. There is a tree line between the stream and the proposed garage which will be used for an office. Mr. Solek and his son plan on restoring classic cars. Erosion control of double fencing will be in place during construction. Chairman Pratt made a motion to find the Request for Determination negative. Commissioner Pranka seconded the motion. The roll call vote was as follows:

Christopher Pratt	yes	Maryssa Cook-Obregon	yes
David MacWilliams	yes	Brian Pranka	yes

NEW BUSINESS

Re-sign Certificate of Compliance DEP # 292-0370 19 Powder Mill Road As the original document was lost, Chairman Pratt made a motion to have the Conservation Commissions re-sign another original document. Commissioner Cook-Obregon seconded the motion. The roll call vote was as follows:

Christopher Pratt	yes	Maryssa Cook-Obregon	yes
David MacWilliams	yes	Brian Pranka	yes

Certificate of Compliance DEP # 292-0287 54 College Highway Coordinator Clark conducted a site visit and presented an aerial picture of the property. The plantings were in accordance with the Order of Conditions. However, the property owner asked about replacing a shed with a stone slab near the north side of the property within close proximity to wetlands. Coordinator Clark will measure the distance between the wetlands and proposed stone slab prior to construction. Vice Chairman MacWilliams made a motion to approve the Certificate of Compliance. Commissioner Pranka seconded the motion. The roll call vote was as follows:

Commissioner Cook-Obregon seconded the motion. The roll call vote was as follows:

Christopher Pratt	yes	Maryssa Cook-Obregon	yes
David MacWilliams	yes	Brian Pranka	yes

Annual Town Report The Conservation Commission members read and approved the Annual Town Report for 2020.

OLD BUSINESS

101 Lakeview Street Annual Dock Removal Mr. Cheever, LMC, stated that their Committee has not had an opportunity to vote on the requested variance. The issue will be tabled until the next meeting. The dock is still in the water and does not have cones at the end.

Swamp Trail Vice Chairman MacWilliams stated that a portion of the flat area could be raised and 13 pears need to be reset. A quote from a welder for the angle irons will be forthcoming. Vice Chairman MacWilliams will also discuss the renovations with Kyle Scott, Building Inspector.

Town Hall Meeting Protocol As of this meeting, the Covid-19 is still impacting the ability for a return to meetings being conducted within the Town Hall Building.

As there was no further business to discuss, Commissioner Cook-Obregon made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:16 PM. Commissioner Pranka seconded the motion. The roll call vote of the Commission was as follows:

Christopher Pratt	yes	Maryssa Cook-Obregon	yes
David MacWilliams	yes	Brian Pranka	yes

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Conservation Commission is 03/01/21.

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, Commissioner
CC 02012021

Date