

MINUTES
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
HYBRID PARTICIPATION
December 5, 2022

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

ATTENDANCE

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Joanne Leblanc, 38 reservoir Road, questioned the tree that were being cut at the Southwick Wildlife Management area near North Pond. Some of the trees that were cut made some of the trails impassable. Chairman MacWilliams has been monitoring the cutting on behalf of the Conservation Commission. Diane Gale, 5 Point Grove Road, also noted that there is no cutting plan in place. As of this meeting, the Conservation Commission does not have a budget for creating cutting plans, but will consider inserting that into the next fiscal year budget.

MINUTES

Commissioner Mizanoglu made a motion to table the minutes of November 21, 2022. Commissioner Drenen seconded the motion. The roll call vote of the Commission was unanimous in favor.

Dave MacWilliams	yes	Norm Cheever	yes
Mehmet Mizanoglu	yes	Brian Drenen	yes
Kevin Solek	yes	Andrew Reardon	Yes

MAIL

Forest Cutting Plan Meadow Lane Coordinator Pooler stated that the work has been completed.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

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

1 Hudson Drive DEP # 292-0410 Chairman MacWilliams opened the continuation of the Public Hearing. Commissioner Reardon recused himself as the owner of the property. Mr. Tomaszewski explained that the project was similar to the RDA that received a positive determination, thus needed to be filed as an NOI. The only difference was a calculation for the storm water drainage in accordance with data provided by Mr. Randy Brown, DPW Director. As a result, the retention basin was increased in size. As there was no further discussion, Commissioner Mizanoglu made a motion to close the Public Hearing. Vice Chairman Cheever seconded the motion. The roll call vote was as follows:

Dave MacWilliams yes
Mehmet Mizanoglu yes
Kevin Solek yes

Norm Cheever yes
Brian Drenen yes
Andrew Reardon recuse

Commissioner Drenen made a motion to approve the project as submitted with the standard Order of Conditions and a \$10,000.00 bond. Commissioner Mizanoglu seconded the motion. The roll call vote was as follows:

Dave MacWilliams yes
Mehmet Mizanoglu yes
Kevin Solek yes

Norm Cheever yes
Brian Drenen yes
Andrew Reardon recuse

Oak Ridge Estates DEP # 292-0409 Chairman MacWilliams acknowledged an email requesting a continuation of the Public Hearing. Commissioner Mizanoglu made a motion or a continuation until the next scheduled meeting. Commissioner Solek seconded the motion. The roll call vote was as follows

Dave MacWilliams yes
Mehmet Mizanoglu yes
Kevin Solek yes

Norm Cheever yes
Brian Drenen yes
Andrew Reardon yes

Mr. Joe Scuderi, Vice Chairman

RDA 526 Griffin Road Chairman MacWilliams opened the Public Hearing by reading the legal notice as posted in The Reminder Publication on November 23, 2022. Mr. Scuderi, Vice Chairman of the South Pond Four Seasons Association, presented a plan for a dock located on the association owned beach that has 50 feet of frontage. The location of the 5 X 40 foot removable dock will be located in the center of the frontage with only 2 vessels moored there. Vice Chairman Cheever stated that the location would not be a navigation hazard and motioned for a negative determination. Commissioner Reardon seconded the motion. The roll call vote was as follows:

Dave MacWilliams yes
Mehmet Mizanoglu yes
Kevin Solek yes

Norm Cheever yes
Brian Drenen yes
Andrew Reardon recuse

NEW BUSINESS

Lot #9 Silvergrass DEP# 292-0397 Mr. Greg Hamlin presented a revision of the NOI as the house design has been changed to accommodate a walk out cellar. All of the revision is outside of the 50 foot buffer zone. Commissioner Mizanoglu made a motion to accept the amended design revision as a matter of record. Commissioner Drenen seconded the motion. The roll call vote was as follows:

Dave MacWilliams yes
Mehmet Mizanoglu yes
Kevin Solek yes

Norm Cheever yes
Brian Drenen yes
Andrew Reardon recuse

Noble Steed Violations Mr. Jessie Saltmarsh, owner, attended the meeting to review the latest planned improvements at the site relative to the sediment control violations of the Order of Conditions. Mr. Saltmarsh presented a plan which would control sediment along the wetland with straw bales and silt fencing on each side of the stream which is about 100 feet in length and the installation of a 12 inch pipe with filters. Commissioner Solek suggested a gabion commonly used to filter silt from washing into the wetland and suggested plantings in the future to stabilize the ground.

As of this meeting, fining will continue until such time as the development is in compliance. Mr. Saltmarsh has removed the larger material by grading. A site visit is planned for December 6th at which time the revisions will be evaluated and the material in the stock pile has confirmed to have been removed.

Future Meeting Review Coordinator Pooler noted that due to scheduled holidays, there would not be a meeting in January, only one meeting in February, April and June. The Conservation Commission members agreed to schedule a meeting on January 9th and evaluate a future schedule depending on business that needs to be conducted.

Master Plan Chairman MacWilliams read an email from Jon Goddard, Town Planner, about future meeting to discuss open space and conservation issues. As of this meeting, there have been no scheduled meeting dates. Mr. Goddard was requesting interested parties to join the meetings. Commissioner Solek and Coordinator Pooler were interested in participating. Commissioner Reardon was contemplating joining the group as well. Chairman MacWilliams also noted that former Coordinator Clark expressed interest in attending.

Conservation Fund Coordinator Pooler stated that there were no updates as of this meeting.

LMC Update Vice Chairman Cheever presented information from the survey relative to lake issues. Some of the public opinions included:

- 1) Dredging will improve water quality at 55%
- 2) The lakes are overcrowded with watercraft 54%
- 3) Success in controlling invasive weeds 40%
- 4) Success in improving water quality 39%

Vice Chairman Cheever concluded that part of the survey answers was due to a lack of education as testing and water quality measures have been taken by the Town, but the results have not been made public. The top 3 issues were overcrowding, water quality and policing. Vice Chairman Cheever will present more results in the coming meetings.

Sub Committee Coordinator Pooler stated that there were no updates as of this meeting.

Conservation Commission Christmas Tree Chairman MacWilliams stated that a tree in front of Town Hall was designated for the Conservation Commission. Members and participants at the meeting made a donation for the purchase of the tree that will be deposited into the Civic Fund. The members were also asked to make an ornament that would reflect the intent of conservation.

Feeding Hills Road Chairman MacWilliams was contacted by Mr. William Brown concerning the property to be purchased as part of a National Parks walking trail. Mr. Brown's family had formerly owned the property for several years and will participate in a walk through to identify locations on the property of historical interest. The hike will take place on Tuesday December 6th at 2:30.

As there was not further business to discuss, Vice Chairman Cheever made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:35. Commissioner Mizanoglu seconded the motion. The roll call vote was as follows:

Dave MacWilliams yes
Mehmet Mizanoglu yes
Kevin Solek yes

Norm Cheever yes
Brian Drenen yes
Andrew Reardon Yes

Respectfully submitted,

Jean Nilsson, Secretary

cc:
Select Board
Town Clerk

Dave MacWilliams, Chairman

Norman Cheever, Vice Chairman

Jerry Patria, Commissioner

Brian Drenen, Commissioner

Mehmet Mizanoglu, Commissioner

Kevin Solek, Commissioner

Andy Reardon, Commissioner

Date