

**APPROVED Meeting Minutes**

Via Remote Participation

December 8, 2020

7:30 PM

Present: Christopher Bajdek, Chair; Rebecca Weissman, Vice Chair, Jennifer Buttarro, Utah Nickel  
(*arrived 7:34*), Ann Marie Pilch, Allen Rutberg, Commissioners

Ryan Clapp, Conservation Agent

Absent: Shaw Lively, Commissioner

**Christopher Bajdek, Chair, opened the meeting at 7:30 PM.**

**Mr. Bajdek read the following into the record:**

Pursuant to the Governor's Order Suspending certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law G.L. c 30A paragraph 20, as well as the Select Board's Emergency Order dated 3/16/2020 the Holliston Conservation Commission will be using remote participation for this meeting. The audio of this meeting is being recorded and will be posted to the Town's webpage within 24 hours in accordance with the Governor's Emergency Action requirement of keeping the public informed of actions during this meeting. I would ask that all participants remotely attending this meeting please state your name for identification purposes each time you speak throughout the meeting.

At this time, a roll call attendance vote will be taken.

Mr. Bajdek:	Present
Ms. Weissman:	Present
Ms. Buttarro:	Absent
Mr. Lively:	Present
Mr. Nickel:	<i>Arrived 7:34 PM</i>
Ms. Pilch:	Present
Dr. Rutberg:	Present

**General Business**

**Review/Approve Minutes of 11/24/2020**

- Mr. Bajdek offered minor typo corrections.

**Ms. Pilch made a motion to approve the minutes of 11/24/20. Dr. Rutberg seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken.**

Mr. Bajdek:	Aye
Ms. Weissman:	Aye
Mr. Lively:	Abstain
Mr. Nickel:	Aye
Ms. Pilch:	Aye

Dr. Rutberg: Aye

**Vote to Authorize Christopher Bajdek to sign all documents issued by the Conservation Commission on 12/8/2020**

**Mr. Lively made a motion to authorize Christopher Bajdek to sign all documents issued by the Conservation Commission on 12/8/2020. Ms. Pilch seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken.**

Mr. Bajdek:	Aye
Ms. Weissman:	Aye
Mr. Lively:	Aye
Mr. Nickel:	Aye
Ms. Pilch:	Aye
Dr. Rutberg:	Aye

**Eagle Scout Project: Trail Mapping at Daniels Land, Poitras Land and Mellen Street Conservation Area: Connor Wood**

- Mr. Wood presented his project to the Commission. He proposes to map and mark trails on these parcels, as they are currently not well marked. He would also like to build a kiosk at the entrance to the Mellen Street Conservation Area.
- Mr. Wood compared the Commission's maps to those found on AllTrails, which were better marked than the Commission's. He suggests merging the two to make a comprehensive map.
- Ms. Pilch noted that some trails are on private property. Mr. Wood noted that a vetting of the trails is appropriate to determine if they are public or private. Mr. Lively suggested signage marking and restricting access to private property.
- Mr. Lively inquired as to how Mr. Wood would mark the trails. Mr. Wood plans to use plastic markers and mounting them. Ms. Pilch expressed concerns that metal and plastic signs often are improperly installed, resulting in the tree growing around them. Mr. Bajdek suggested Mr. Wood research best practices for trail markings.
- Mr. Wood discussed fundraising, suggesting that he could reach out to local businesses and individuals for donations in return for naming a trail. Ms. Pilch expressed that this constitutes a conflict of interest, but instead the kiosk could note all those who have contributed to the project.
- The Commission approved Mr. Wood's proposal and thanked him for his offer.

**Discussion: Article XXX Regulations**

- Mr. Clapp discussed options for reviewing the Article XXX regulations. After speaking with Ms. Greendale, he suggests a Google Doc edited by the Commission, noting that for Open Meeting Law compliance the Commission needed to be on Zoom during the review.
- Mr. Lively expressed concerns about the efficiency of this option. The Commission agreed, noting that this does not seem to be any better than the first review.

- Ms. Pilch suggested editing manageable portions of the regulations per meeting, similar to what was previously done but with less material each review. The Commission found this to be a better option.
- Mr. Clapp will divide the regulations and send out the portion to be reviewed at the 12/22 meeting.

#### **Discussion: Conservation Land Rules**

- Mr. Clapp presented draft Conservation Land rules to the Commission, noting that there had only been camping rules previously. The Commission offered various minor edits for clarity.

**Ms. Pilch made a motion to approve the rules for Conservation Lands. Dr. Rutberg seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken.**

Mr. Bajdek:	Aye
Ms. Weissman:	Aye
Mr. Lively:	Aye
Mr. Nickel:	Aye
Ms. Pilch:	Aye
Dr. Rutberg:	Aye

#### **Tree Removal Request: #54 Turner Road**

- Mr. Clapp noted that this request was for two large pine trees located outside the 50' buffer zone, but within the 100' buffer zone. These trees had split trunks near the bottom, and the weight of growth was starting to crack the trunks where they split. There is significant die-off near the top of the tree and it is currently shedding large branches.
- Mr. Lively inquired if stump grinding was proposed. Mr. Clapp noted that a standard condition was to prohibit stump grinding. Ms. Pilch noted that with the trees so far from the wetland and within existing lawn, she had no concerns with stump grinding. The Commission agreed with this assessment.
- The Commission approved the tree removal request.

#### **Request for Certificate of Compliance: DEP #185-856: #7 Liberty Lane**

- Mr. Clapp reported that this project was for a single family house. Since the project was within the 100' no disturbance buffer zone to vernal pools, there was significant mitigation required. The project has been constructed in compliance with the Order of Conditions, with the only item outstanding is the final certification of the vernal pool. He noted that NHESP is currently backlogged, and the pool is approved for certification.

**Ms. Pilch made a motion to issue a Certificate of Compliance for DEP #185-856: #7 Liberty Lane. Ms. Weissman seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken.**

Mr. Bajdek:	Aye
Ms. Weissman:	Aye
Mr. Lively:	Aye

Mr. Nickel: Aye  
Ms. Pilch: Aye  
Dr. Rutberg: Aye

**Request for Certificate of Compliance: DEP #185-868: #82 Wedgewood Drive**

- Mr. Clapp reported that this project was for a septic system installation. The system has been installed in compliance with the Order of Conditions, and the lawn has stabilized.

**Ms. Pilch made a motion to issue a Certificate of Compliance for DEP #185-868: #82 Wedgewood Drive. Mr. Lively seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken.**

Mr. Bajdek: Aye  
Ms. Weissman: Aye  
Mr. Lively: Aye  
Mr. Nickel: Aye  
Ms. Pilch: Aye  
Dr. Rutberg: Aye

**Review Correspondence / Other**

- Mr. Clapp noted that CMMCP would be doing some ditch clearing on the Cohen Conservation Land in the next few months. They require a permission slip for access. The Commission agreed that this was a good project and Mr. Clapp will send the signed permission slip.
- Mr. Clapp noted that MACC will not be increasing their dues for next year. More information will follow as FY22 approaches.

**Public Hearings/Public Meetings**

**Request for Determination of Applicability for #D-686: #33 Avon Street (Assessors Map 8A-3-38) for proposed detached garage – *Linda Ciampa***

**Documents:** WPA Form 1; Annotated Plan of Land, 33 Avon Street, n.d. (annotated 11/24/20)

- Mr. Clapp read the legal advertisement into the record.
- Mr. Clapp presented the project to the Commission. The applicant is looking to demolish an existing shed outside of the 50' no disturbance buffer zone and build a slightly larger, 24'x24' garage.
- Mr. Lively inquired if the shed would be on a slab. Mr. Clapp showed the architectural designs, showing that it would be.
- Mr. Nickel inquired if this project would encroach on the septic system. Ms. Ciampa noted that she has confirmed with the Board of Heath that there will be no issue with the septic system.
- Dr. Rutberg inquired if there would be additional paving. Ms. Ciampa noted there is an existing path that will be paved.

**Ms. Pilch made a motion to issue a Negative #3 Determination for #D-686: #33 Avon Street, pending plan revisions showing increased paving. Dr. Rutberg seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken.**

Conservation Commission Minutes 12-8-20  
Drafted for the Commission by: Ryan Clapp  
Approved by the Commission: 12-22-20

Mr. Bajdek:	Aye
Ms. Weissman:	Aye
Mr. Lively:	Aye
Mr. Nickel:	Aye
Ms. Pilch:	Aye
Dr. Rutberg:	Aye

**Notice of Intent for DEP #185-892: #45 Washington Street (Assessors Map 12-2-11)** for proposed commercial building – *Legacy Engineering, LLC*, representing *Gill Realty Trust*

**Documents:** WPA Form 3; Plan Set entitled “45 Washington Street, Holliston, MA Site Plan,” dated 9/8/2020

- Mr. Clapp noted that the applicant had requested a continuance until the meeting on 1/5/21.

**Ms. Pilch made a motion to continue the public hearing for DEP #185-892: #45 Washington Street until 1/5/21. Ms. Weissman seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken.**

Mr. Bajdek:	Aye
Ms. Weissman:	Aye
Mr. Lively:	Aye
Mr. Nickel:	Aye
Ms. Pilch:	Aye
Dr. Rutberg:	Aye

**Notice of Intent for DEP #185- 866: #1569 Washington Street (Assessors Map 5-3-62)** for proposed gravel storage area – *GLM Engineering*, representing *Michael Alves*

**Documents:** WPA Form 3; Plan Set entitled “Site Plan of Land, Scooby Truck Sales, 1569 Washington Street, Holliston, Massachusetts,” dated 2/24/20 (rev. 3/8/20)

- Mr. Clapp noted that per the previous meeting, this hearing has already been continued until 1/5/21.

**Mr. Lively made a motion to adjourn at 9:00 PM. Dr. Rutberg seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken.**

Mr. Bajdek:	Aye
Ms. Weissman:	Aye
Mr. Lively:	Aye
Mr. Nickel:	Aye
Ms. Pilch:	Aye
Dr. Rutberg:	Aye

***\*\*All documents shall be kept in the Conservation Commission Office files\*\****