

APPROVED Meeting Minutes

Via Remote Participation

March 30, 2021

7:30 PM

Present: Christopher Bajdek, Chair; Rebecca Weissman, Vice Chair; Jennifer Buttarro, Shaw Lively, Utah Nickel, Ann Marie Pilch, Allen Rutberg, Commissioners

Ryan Clapp, Conservation Agent

Absent:

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:	Present
Mr. Lively:	Present
Mr. Nickel:	Present
Ms. Pilch:	Present
Dr. Rutberg:	Present

General Business

Review/Approve Minutes of 3/16/2021

- Mr. Bajdek and Mr. Nickel offered minor typo corrections.
- Ms. Weissman noted that the discussion regarding the baseline documentation report for the Community Farm Conservation Restriction needed clarification.

Ms. Pilch made a motion to approve the minutes of 3/16/2021 with edits as discussed. Dr. Rutberg seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken.

Mr. Bajdek:	Aye
Ms. Weissman:	Aye
Ms. Buttarro:	Aye

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

Vote to Authorize Christopher Bajdek to sign all documents issued by the Conservation Commission on 3/30/2021

Mr. Lively made a motion to authorize Christopher Bajdek to sign all documents issued by the Conservation Commission on 3/30/2021. Mr. Nickel seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken.

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

Review: Article XXX Regulations S. 4.04

- The Commission reviewed and revised the draft of the proposed Article XXX Regulations.

Request for Administrative Update to Plan of Record: DEP #185-863: #113 Mitchell Road

- Mr. Chris Barrett, homeowner and applicant, presented the project revisions to the Commission. He noted several items within the landscaping plan has changed: increasing the size of the patio and deck at the back of the house, constructing a retaining wall and grading, and keeping an existing retaining wall instead of removal as approved. He also noted that he is looking to remove 4 trees: 3 of them are white pine, 1 is a plum.
- Mr. Clapp noted that the deck and patio, as they were further than 50' from the wetlands meet the criteria for an exemption under the Wetlands Protection Act and Article XXX. The tree cutting, grading, retaining wall, and tree cutting were the items of discussion.
- Ms. Pilch inquired if the tree cutting would result in conversion of the area to lawn. Mr. Barrett noted that the area was all currently existing lawn. He also noted that there is a significant replanting plan proposed as well for the future, which would help offset any loss from removing these trees. Mr. Chris Johnston, Ahronian Landscaping, noted that the plum tree has black knot as well. The Commission found no issue with removal of the plum tree.
- Ms. Pilch and Dr. Rutberg expressed concern regarding the pine tree cutting resulting in further encroachment closer to the wetlands. Mr. Lively also noted that the pines are the only evergreens in the area, making it unique habitat.
- The Commission separated the pine tree removals from the rest of the work proposed for approval.

Mr. Lively made a motion to accept the plan changes for DEP #185-863: #113 Mitchell Road with the exception of the removal of the three white pine trees as an administrative update. Ms. Pilch seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken.

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

Request for a Certificate of Compliance: DEP #185-800: #1 Norfolk Lane

- Mr. Clapp noted that the Order of Conditions this Request related to was for landscaping and tree removals at #1 Norfolk Lane. He has inspected the site, and found it in substantial compliance with the Order.

Mr. Lively made a motion to issue a Certificate of Compliance for DEP #185-800: #1 Norfolk Lane. Dr. Rutberg seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken.

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

Review Correspondence / Other

- Mr. Clapp noted that he had received a request for support for a Citizen's Petition Article for May Town Meeting for the development of a Comprehensive Long-Range Planning Committee.

Ms. Pilch made a motion to support the Town Meeting Article for the development of a Comprehensive Long-Range Planning Committee. Dr. Rutberg seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken.

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

- Mr. Clapp noted that the MACC Annual Conference was beginning next week. Any Commissioners interested in taking any sections should send Mr. Clapp the information and he will register them.
- Mr. Clapp received several notices from Algonquin Gas Transmission noting that they will be conducting utility line clearing during 2021 in easements on land owned by the Conservation Commission.

Public Hearings/Public Meetings

Request for Determination of Applicability for #D-691: #220 Hopping Brook Road (Assessors Map 4-6-13) for proposed parking lot expansion – *BSC Group*, representing *Web Industries*

Documents: WPA Form 1; Plan of Land entitled “Site Plan” dated 2/16/2021

- Mr. David Biancavilla presented the project to the Commission. Web Industries is looking to expand the parking lot to accommodate additional employees as they increase their production of COVID-19 testing. The proposed expansion area is currently overgrown lawn, with an access road and a slope down to the wetlands. A total of approximately 900 square feet of encroachment is proposed, largely grading, with approximately 350 square feet impervious as parking lot. The project is also being reviewed by the Planning Board and has a stormwater report that has been peer reviewed and found to be in compliance with Massachusetts Stormwater Standards.
- Mr. Lively inquired regarding the extent of the grading. Mr. Biancavilla noted the area would be slightly raised to make it flat for parking.
- Mr. Bajdek inquired if the access road would be affected. Mr. Biancavilla noted that it would not.
- Ms. Pilch requested confirmation that snow storage would be located outside of the 100’ buffer zone. Mr. Biancavilla confirmed that it would be located outside the 100’ buffer zone.

Ms. Pilch made a motion to issue a Negative #3 Determination for #D-691: #220 Hopping Brook Road. Ms. Weissman seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken.

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

Request for Determination of Applicability for #D-692: #11 Wingate Road (Assessors Map 11-8-267) for proposed replacement septic system – *CIVILized Solutions*, representing *Scott Abbott*

Documents: WPA Form 1; Plan of Land entitled “Septic System Construction, 11 Wingate Road, Holliston” dated 1/24/2021

- Mr. Clapp read the legal advertisement into the record.
- Ms. Karon Skinner-Catrone presented the project to the Commission. The existing septic system is failing and needs replacement. The applicant proposes the system in the same location as the existing, noting that they are outside of the 100' buffer zone to wetlands, but within the 200' Riverfront Area associated with Jarr Brook. She noted the area is existing lawn, with a swimming pool between the limit of work and the wetlands.

Ms. Weissman made a motion to issue a Negative #3 Determination for #D-692: #11 Wingate Road. Ms. Buttaro seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken.

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

Ms. Pilch made a motion to adjourn at 9:08 PM. Mr. Nickel seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken.

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

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