

APPROVED Meeting Minutes

Via Remote Participation

December 28, 2021

7:30 PM

Present: Christopher Bajdek, Chair; Eilish Corey, Ann Marie Pilch, Allen Rutberg, Commissioners;
Rick Shansky, Alternate Commissioner

Ryan Clapp, Conservation Agent

Absent: Rebecca Weissman, Vice Chair; Jennifer Buttarro, Utah Nickel, Commissioners

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

C. Bajdek read the following into the record:

Pursuant to the Governor's June 16, 2021 Act relative to extending certain COVID-19 measures adopted during the state of emergency suspending certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law G.L. c 30A paragraph 20, 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 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.

C. Bajdek:	Present
R. Weissman:	Absent
J. Buttarro:	Absent
E. Corey:	Present
U. Nickel:	Absent
A. Pilch:	Present
A. Rutberg:	Present
R. Shansky:	Present

General Business

Review/Approve Minutes of 11/30/2021 & 12/14/2021

- Minor revisions were offered to the minutes of 11/30/2021.

A. Pilch made a motion to approve the minutes of 11/30/2021 as corrected. A Rutberg seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken.

C. Bajdek:	Aye
E. Corey:	Aye
A. Pilch:	Aye
A. Rutberg:	Aye

R. Shansky: Aye

- Mr. Clapp has not finished drafting the minutes of 12/14/2021. Item continued until 1/11/2021.

Vote to authorize Christopher Bajdek to sign all documents issued by the Holliston Conservation Commission on 12/28/2021

A. Pilch made a motion to authorize Christopher Bajdek to sign all documents issued by the Holliston Conservation Commission on 12/14/2021. A. Rutberg seconded. A roll call vote was taken.

C. Bajdek: Aye
E. Corey: Aye
A. Pilch: Aye
A. Rutberg: Aye
R. Shansky: Aye

Eagle Scout Project Completion: Connor Wood

- C. Wood reported to the Commission that his Eagle Scout project was to mark trails on the Poitras and Mellen Street Conservation Areas, as well as the construction of a kiosk at the entrance to the Mellen Street Conservation Area off of Winter Street. He marked the trails using existing maps, putting up reflective markers and color coding the trails on the map. The kiosk was built in the parking lot and securely anchored.
- R. Shansky asked what the intervals on the markings were. C. Wood noted they are at intersections and bends in the trails.
- A. Pilch inquired if the markers were flush to the tree or if there was wiggle room. C. Wood noted there was room provided to accommodate tree growth.
- The Commission thanked C. Wood for his efforts and directed R. Clapp to sign off on his project completion.

Rail Trail Drainage Near 354 Woodland Street: Robert Weidknecht

- R. Weidknecht reported to the Commission that there were recent drainage issues on the rail trail. With the rain this past season, the trail has washed out near 354 Woodland Street and he would like to put in a detention basin or other drainage structure, but was looking for input from the Commission as to the type of filing.
- A. Pilch inquired how far the drainage structure would be from the wetlands. R. Weidknecht noted approximately 10-12' from the wetlands. A. Pilch is concerned with parking lot runoff being contaminated. R. Weidknecht noted runoff has historically flowed into the wetlands or infiltrated into the groundwater. Since this is now closer to the wetlands, he will consider utilizing an oil and gas separator.
- E. Corey noted a dumpster in close proximity to the wetlands. R. Weidknecht noted it belonged to an abutter, but they are working with the abutter so he will request the dumpster be relocated.

- E. Corey inquired if there was enough vertical distance to add a rim to the basin to avoid overtopping. R. Weidknecht suggested using curbing as a weir to that effect.
- Commission had no preference on an NOI or an RDA. If complications arise, an RDA can lead to an NOI.

Review of NSTAR Parcel Site Visit

- R. Clapp provided a brief overview of the site visit on Saturday, December 18. He, A. Pilch, R. Weissman, R. Shansky, and R. Weidknecht were in attendance and observed the trail issues.
- A. Pilch inquired if R. Clapp spoke to Kevin Keenan of NEMBA. R. Clapp had spoken to him a week prior, and will follow up in a few weeks to address the excavation issues.
- A. Pilch noted that perhaps the excavated areas could be filled in by hand, but it would require great effort.
- R. Shansky noted that the Trustees of Reservations have demarcated the bounds of the Conservation Restriction since the previous site visit. He is unsure as to the efficacy, as they are small markers, but R. Clapp noted that the issues have at least not gotten worse since the previous site visit.

Request for a Certificate of Compliance: DEP #185-890: #61 Dodd Drive

- R. Clapp noted that this Request was in relation to an Order of Conditions for the construction of a pool at #61 Dodd Drive. He has inspected the site, and noted that it was constructed in accordance with the plans and the Order of Conditions, except for the wetland bound markers. The bounds were required to be placed on boulders or concrete posts, but were instead zip tied to the chain link fence.
- The Commission did not find this to be an adequate substitution, and did not issue a Certificate of Compliance.

Review of Draft Article XXXI Regulations

- This item was tabled until the meeting on 1/11/2022 to allow for extra time to review and the opportunity for input from more Commissioners.

Review Correspondence

- A. Pilch noted that the Comprehensive Long Range Planning Committee is performing a survey, but have so far gotten few responses. The Economic Development Committee suggested a town wide mailing, but there is no funding for that. She suggested that perhaps the Conservation Commission could supply some funds if there is any unused in the budget. R. Clapp will review and place this on a future meeting.

Public Hearings/Public Meetings

Notice of Intent for DEP #185-XXX: #16 Timber Ledge Drive (Assessors Map 5-1-23K) for proposed in-ground pool, patio, and spa – *Goddard Consulting, Inc.*, representing *Alexander & Melissa Armento*.

Documents: WPA Form 3; Plan of Land entitled “Proposed Pool Plan of 16 Timber Ledge Drive in Holliston, MA” dated 11/22/2021

- R. Clapp read the legal advertisement into the record.
- Evan Petrillo, Goddard Consulting, presented the project to the Commission. The applicant proposed an in-ground pool with an associated patio and spa, noting that the area is within existing lawn. The project encroaches on the 100’ buffer zone, but not on the 50’ No Disturbance Zone. E. Petrillo further noted that the pool was to stay full year-round. Any dewatering would be for repairs only, and a truck would be brought in that would cart the water offsite.
- C. Bajdek inquired as to the material to be used for the proposed patio. E. Petrillo is unsure, but noted it will be the same as the material used on the existing patio.
- R. Clapp inquired if there will be fencing, as this is required of Building Code. E. Petrillo will confirm with the applicant.
- A. Pilch inquired if there were to be any tree removals. E. Petrillo noted no nearby trees that would impact construction.
- A. Rutberg inquired how far the lawn extends towards the wetlands. E. Petrillo noted it goes almost all the way to the edge, but there is a shrubby area approximately 20’ wide between the grass and wetlands.

A. Pilch made a motion to continue the public hearing for DEP #185-XXX: #16 Timber Ledge Drive until the next meeting on 1/11/2022. A. Rutberg seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken.

C. Bajdek:	Aye
E. Corey:	Aye
A. Pilch:	Aye
A. Rutberg:	Aye
R. Shansky:	Aye

Notice of Intent for DEP #185-909: #599 Concord Street (Assessors Map 14-4-6) for proposed addition and detached garage – *GLM Engineering*, representing *Tony Cruz, Cruz Solutions, Inc.*

Documents: WPA Form 3; Plan of Land entitled “Proposed Addition Plan, 599 Concord Street, Holliston, Massachusetts” dated 10/12/2021

- R. Clapp noted that the applicant had requested that this hearing be continued until 1/11/2022.

A. Pilch made a motion to continue the public hearing for DEP #185-909: #599 Concord Street until the next meeting on 1/11/2022. A. Rutberg seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken.

C. Bajdek:	Aye
E. Corey:	Aye
A. Pilch:	Aye

A. Rutberg:	Aye
R. Shansky:	Aye

A. Pilch made a motion to adjourn at 8:40 PM. A. Rutberg seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken.

C. Bajdek:	Aye
E. Corey:	Aye
A. Pilch:	Aye
A. Rutberg:	Aye
R. Shansky:	Aye

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