

APPROVED Meeting Minutes

Via Remote Participation

January 25, 2022

7:30 PM

Present: Christopher Bajdek, Chair; Rebecca Weissman, Vice Chair; Jennifer Buttarro, Eilish Corey, Utah Nickel (*arrived 7:33 PM*), Ann Marie Pilch, Allen Rutberg, Commissioners

Ryan Clapp, Conservation Agent

Absent: Rick Shansky, Alternate Commissioner

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:	Present
J. Buttarro:	Present
E. Corey:	Present
U. Nickel:	Absent (<i>Arrived 7:33 PM</i>)
A. Pilch:	Present
A. Rutberg:	Present
R. Shansky:	Absent

General Business

Review/Approve Minutes of 1/11/2022

- R. Clapp noted there was discussion on how to reflect that R. Shansky was present at the meeting on 1/11/2022, but did not vote as there was a full Commission present. R. Clapp and C. Bajdek are working with the Town Clerk on this issue. Therefore, the minutes are not ready to be voted on this evening.

Vote to authorize Christopher Bajdek to sign all documents issued by the Holliston Conservation Commission on 1/25/2022

A. Pilch made a motion to authorize Christopher Bajdek to sign all documents issued by the Holliston Conservation Commission on 1/25/2022. A. Rutberg seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken.

C. Bajdek:	Aye
R. Weissman:	Aye
J. Buttaro:	Aye
E. Corey:	Aye
U. Nickel:	Aye
A. Pilch:	Aye
A. Rutberg:	Aye

Introduction: Robert Walker – Deputy DPW Director

- R. Walker introduced himself to the Commission. He has been working for the Town for 15 years and is taking over for Tom Smith, who has retired. He plans to be more “by the books” than the previous staff, and will be making changes at the DPW.
- A. Pilch inquired if there was anything the Commission could do to make his job easier. R. Walker noted that communication is key, and will coordinate with R. Clapp on any future projects.
- C. Bajdek inquired if there were any current projects going on. R. Walker noted that the major issues right now are snow and beavers. He would like to install some beaver deceivers in the next few months, and noted that there is a drainage structure on North Mill Street that will need to be addressed soon.
- The Commission thanked R. Walker for speaking with them this evening. They congratulated him on the new position and look forward to working with him in the future.

Tree Removal Request: #86 Christopher Road

- R. Clapp noted that the homeowner at #86 Christopher Road is requesting to remove 7 trees of concern on his property abutting wetlands. The trees are large, and he has had Stumpy’s assess them, who confirmed the hazard. R. Clapp has also reviewed the trees and agrees with the assessment.
- Matthew Berg, property owner, is willing to replant with whatever plants the Commission may find appropriate.
- A. Pilch is concerned about the large number of trees to be removed. She inquired if there would be any large trees left, which M. Berg confirmed there would.
- A. Pilch may have some suggestions on appropriate mitigation plantings, and will coordinate with R. Clapp
- The Commission approved the tree removals.

Tree Removal Request: #10 Trailside Court

- R. Clapp noted that there was a tree of concern on the Daniels Property adjacent to #10 Trailside Court. The tree is heavily damaged and within striking distance of the new house. There are no wetlands, but the tree is on town property.

- The Commission agreed that the tree was a hazard and approved its removal, requesting that it be left as a snag if possible.

Review of FY23 Budget

- R. Clapp presented a draft budget for FY23 for a level-service budget. He reviewed each line item and the amount requested.

A. Rutberg made a motion to approve the draft budget for FY23. A. Pilch seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken.

C. Bajdek:	Aye
R. Weissman:	Aye
J. Buttaro:	Aye
E. Corey:	Aye
U. Nickel:	Aye
A. Pilch:	Aye
A. Rutberg:	Aye

Review Correspondence

- R. Clapp noted Town Hall was getting security upgrades. The locks and keys will be changing in the next few week.
- J. Buttaro announced that she would be resigning from the Conservation Commission, citing personal reasons. She noted that this would be her last meeting. The Commission thanked her for her service and contributions to the Town.

Public Hearings/Public Meetings

Notice of Intent for DEP #185-XXX: #66 Elm Street (Assessors Map 8A-3-2) for proposed replacement septic system – *CIVILized Solutions*, representing *Kathleen O'Brien*

Documents: WPA Form 3; Plan of Land entitled “Septic System Construction, 66 Elm Street, Holliston” dated 12/8/2021

- R. Clapp read the legal advertisement into the record.
- Karon Skinner-Catrone presented the project to the Commission. The existing septic system is failing, and needs replacement. The entire lot is within the 100’ buffer zone, as well as the Riverfront Area associated with the Winthrop Canal. The applicant proposes the replacement system in the same location as the existing system, approximately 11.6’ off the edge of wetlands.
- R. Clapp noted the presence of a nearby retaining wall, and expressed concerns regarding its stability. He also noted that beyond the wetland line, the site was heavily overrun and dominated by multiflora rose. A. Pilch suggested that since the project is a replacement system, and therefore improving site conditions, it may be more appropriate to educate the homeowner on invasives as opposed to requiring their removal. R. Clapp will return to the site to gauge the full extent of multiflora rose.

A. Pilch made a motion to continue the public hearing for DEP #185-XXX: #66 Elm Street until the next meeting on 2/8/2022. R. Weissman seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken.

C. Bajdek:	Aye
R. Weissman:	Aye
J. Buttaro:	Aye
E. Corey:	Aye
U. Nickel:	Aye
A. Pilch:	Aye
A. Rutberg:	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

- Joyce Hastings gave an overview of the project and reviewed the revisions. Previously, roof runoff was to infiltrate into culvert chambers, and as a result, the septic system could not be raised above ground. Now, there will be a basin in front of the garage to store floodwaters from 100-year storm events, which will be planted with native vegetation.
- E. Corey has reviewed the stormwater report and is satisfied with the revisions and responses from J. Hastings.
- U. Nickel inquired regarding snow storage. J. Hastings noted there was no space onsite to store snow, so it will be hauled out to another location. R. Clapp will revise a boilerplate condition in the Order of Conditions to reflect temporary storage away from the wetlands.

A. Pilch made a motion to close the public hearing for DEP #185-909: #599 Concord Street until the next meeting on 1/25/2022. A. Rutberg seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken.

C. Bajdek:	Aye
R. Weissman:	Aye
J. Buttaro:	Aye
E. Corey:	Aye
U. Nickel:	Aye
A. Pilch:	Aye
A. Rutberg:	Aye

- R. Clapp will prepare an Order of Conditions for the next meeting.

Notice of Intent for DEP #185-910: #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 noted that the applicant requested a continuance until 2/8/2022.

A. Rutberg made a motion to continue the public hearing for DEP #185-910: #16 Timber Ledge Drive until the next meeting on 2/8/2022. R. Weissman seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken.

C. Bajdek:	Aye
R. Weissman:	Aye
J. Buttaro:	Aye
E. Corey:	Aye
U. Nickel:	Aye
A. Pilch:	Aye
A. Rutberg:	Aye

A. Pilch made a motion to adjourn at 9:11 PM. A. Rutberg seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken.

C. Bajdek:	Aye
R. Weissman:	Aye
J. Buttaro:	Aye
E. Corey:	Aye
U. Nickel:	Aye
A. Pilch:	Aye
A. Rutberg:	Aye

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