

Holliston Conservation Commission

APPROVED Meeting Minutes

Via Remote Participation

July 25, 2023

7:30 PM

Present: Ann Marie Pilch, Chair; Eilish Corey, Vice Chair; Utah Nickel, Sneha Narayanan, Allen Rutberg, Nicole Smith, Commissioners
Ryan Clapp, Conservation Agent

Absent:

Ann Marie Pilch, Chair, opened the meeting at 7:30 PM.

A. Pilch read the following into the record:

Pursuant to the Governor's July 16, 2022 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 as soon as possible 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.

A. Rutberg:	Present
E. Corey:	Present
U. Nickel:	Present
N. Smith:	Present
S. Narayanan:	Present
A. Pilch:	Present

General Business

Interview Conservation Commission candidates: Sarah Morrissey & Tom Keefe

- T. Keefe introduced himself to the Commission. He has lived in Holliston since 2010 and wants to contribute to the protection of its natural resources. His interest in joining to Conservation Commission began with his involvement as an abutter to the project application at "0" Bartzak Drive, and has immense respect for the laws that the Conservation Commission administers. He has some educational background in environmental science, and enjoys doing field work. He has the capability to read engineering plans and to interpret regulatory laws.
- S. Morrissey was not present.

- The Commission reviewed the candidates for the seat on the Conservation Commission: Caitlin Newton and Tom Keefe.
- **A. Rutberg made a motion to recommend C. Newton to the Select Board for appointment to the Conservation Commission. N. Smith seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken.**

A. Rutberg:	Aye
E. Corey:	Aye
U. Nickel:	Aye
N. Smith:	Aye
S. Narayanan:	Aye
A. Pilch:	Aye

Review/Approve Minutes of 5/16/2023, 6/6/2023, 6/13/2023, 6/27/2023, and 7/11/2023

- **A. Rutberg made a motion to approve the minutes of 5/16/2023. N. Smith seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken.**

A. Rutberg:	Aye
E. Corey:	Aye
U. Nickel:	Aye
N. Smith:	Abstain
S. Narayanan:	Abstain
A. Pilch:	Aye
- **E. Corey made a motion to approve the minutes of 6/6/2023. A. Rutberg seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken.**

A. Rutberg:	Aye
E. Corey:	Aye
U. Nickel:	Aye
N. Smith:	Abstain
S. Narayanan:	Abstain
A. Pilch:	Aye
- The minutes of 6/13/2023, 6/27/2023, and 7/11/2023 were tabled until the next meeting on 8/8/2023.

Review Correspondence

- R. Clapp reported that there had been a sediment outwash from the recent storm at a Project at 501 Pond Street in Ashland that resulted in damage to resource areas in Holliston. The Ashland Conservation Commission has issued an Enforcement Order.
- R. Clapp reported that a Girl Scout named Sarah Walters in interested in a project marking trails off of Ridge Road. He will be meeting with her later this week.
- A. Pilch noted that she had received interest from a Boy Scout in performing an Eagle Scout project, and recommended the Commission put together a list of project ideas.
- N. Smith announced that she will be resigning from the Conservation Commission, as she will not be able to meet the time commitments. The resignation is not effective immediately.
- N. Smith recommended R. Clapp contact R. Walker about using a water bar as an option for mitigating erosion at the Adams Street parking lot.

- A. Pilch reported that a survey is needed for the Greenbelt section from the Rail Trail to the Town Forest. The owner of Highland Labs has expanded the parking lot into the right of way, making it impassible, and therefore it needs surveying. Tina Hein will attend the following meeting to discuss next steps and request support from the Commission.
- R. Clapp noted that he, A. Pilch, and S. Narayanan had visited 30 Amy Lane to review the reported encroachment into the Conservation Restriction. They confirmed that there was an encroachment of a fence, patio, and various debris, and R. Clapp will request attendance from the homeowner of 30 Amy Lane and 1803 Washington Street at an upcoming meeting.

Public Hearings/Public Meetings

Public Hearing – Notice of Intent for DEP #185-947: #2016 Washington Street (Assessors Map 4-6-11.3) for proposed addition to commercial building – *GLM Engineering*, representing *James Read*

Documents: WPA Form 3; Plan of Land entitled “Proposed Site Plan Amendment, ‘Proposed Accessory Garage,’ 2016 Washington Street, Holliston, Massachusetts” revised 6/14/2023

- R. Clapp reported that the applicant had requested a continuance to the next meeting on 8/8/2023.
- **U. Nickel made a motion to continue the public hearing for DEP #185-947: #2016 Washington Street until the next meeting on 8/8/2023. U. Nickel seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken.**

A. Rutberg:	Aye
E. Corey:	Aye
U. Nickel:	Aye
N. Smith:	Aye
S. Narayanan:	Aye
A. Pilch:	Aye

Public Hearing – Notice of Intent for DEP #185-948: #734 Adams Street (Assessors Map 4-2-58) for proposed 7-lot open space subdivision – *GLM Engineering*, representing *Dennis & Yvonne Ferreira*

Documents: WPA Form 3; Plan set entitled “Definitive Open Space Subdivision, ‘Beaver Brook Farm’, A 7 Lot Single Family Residential Subdivision, Holliston, Massachusetts” dated 3/6/2023

- R. Clapp reported that the applicant had requested a continuance until the meeting on 8/8/2023.
- **A. Rutberg made a motion to continue the public hearing for DEP#185-948: #734 Adams Street until the next meeting on 8/8/2023. S. Narayanan seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken.**

A. Rutberg:	Aye
E. Corey:	Aye
U. Nickel:	Aye
N. Smith:	Aye
S. Narayanan:	Aye

A. Pilch: **Aye**

Public Meeting – Request for Determination of Applicability for #D-727: #600 Central Street (Assessors Map 9-4-62) for proposed access road and battery energy storage facility – *TRC Companies*, representing *BWC Bogastow Brook, LLC*

Documents: WPA Form 1: Plan of Land entitled “Conceptual Site Layout Sketch” dated July 2022 (rev. June 2023)

- J. Lariscy provided an update to the Commission on this project. The peer review on the stormwater report has been completed by CMG Engineering on behalf of the Planning Board. The limit of work associated with this project has been relocated further away from the wetlands, buffer zone, and 100-year floodplain, and no longer has any encroachment in those areas.
- A. Pilch asked if this plan had been approved by the Planning Board. J. Lariscy responded that there may be small adjustments made to the fence, but nothing that would relocate any work closer to any jurisdictional areas.
- R. Clapp noted that this project could proceed with a Negative #4 Determination, as there is no work proposed within the Commission’s jurisdiction. Alternatively, the Applicant could withdraw the Request for Determination of Applicability.
- **A. Rutberg made a motion to issue a Negative #4 Determination for #D-727: #600 Central Street. U. Nickel seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken.**

A. Rutberg: **Aye**
E. Corey: **Aye**
U. Nickel: **Aye**
N. Smith: **Abstain**
S. Narayanan: **Abstain**
A. Pilch: **Aye**

Public Hearing – Notice of Intent for DEP #185-928: “0” Bartzak Drive (Assessors Map 14-4-21.4) for proposed construction of a solar power generation system and associated site work – *Beals Associates*, representing *John Clifford, Bartzak PV, LLC*

Documents: WPA Form 3; Plan Set entitled “Plans to Accompany Permit Documents for Large-Scale Solar Power Generation System, 0 Bartzak Drive, Holliston, Massachusetts” dated 7/27/2022, “Tree Inventory Plan” dated 7/27/2022; letter from Beals Associates, Inc., dated 10/7/2022; Preliminary Vernal Pool Assessment, 0 Bartzak Drive, Holliston MA, from Oxbow Associates, Inc., dated 12/8/2022; Vernal Pool Assessment and Resource Area Delineation, from Beals Associates, Inc., dated 5/25/2023; 2023 Spring Vernal Pool and Resource Area Assessment, from Oxbow Associates, Inc., dated 4/24/2023

- R. Clapp reported that the applicant had requested a continuance to the next meeting on 8/8/2023.
- **U. Nickel made a motion to continue the public hearing for DEP #185-928: “0” Bartzak Drive until the meeting on 8/8/2023. A. Rutberg seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken.**

A. Rutberg: **Aye**
E. Corey: **Aye**
U. Nickel: **Aye**

N. Smith: Aye
S. Narayanan: Aye
A. Pilch: Aye

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

A. Rutberg: Aye
E. Corey: Aye
U. Nickel: Aye
N. Smith: Aye
S. Narayanan: Aye
A. Pilch: Aye

All documents shall be kept in the Conservation Commission Office files