



Medfield Conservation Commission

Town Hall · 459 Main Street · Medfield, Massachusetts 02052-2009

Medfield Conservation Commission PUBLIC MEETING

Zoom

Minutes of Thursday, February 16, 2023 at 7:00pm

Members Present: Chair Deborah Bero, Michael Perloff, Bobby Kennedy, Cat Scott, Kirsten Poler

Members Absent: Mary McCarthy

Staff Present: Interim Agent Bob Hartzel, Town Planner, Sarah Raposa

Others Present: John Woodhall

At approximately 7:00pm, Chair Deb Bero called the Conservation Commission meeting to order and performed a roll call for attendance.

Announcements:

- An applicant for a position on the Conservation Commission (John Woodhall) is in attendance at tonight's hearing.
- ConComm is still seeking Associate Members to join the Commission.
- All Conservation Commission meetings are remote; however, the office is still open. Please call ahead if you need to come in.
- There is a possibility that in-person public meetings of the Conservation Commission will resume after March 31, 2023. Please check with the town website for any updates.

Hearings:

Request for Determination of Applicability

Applicant: Sean Devlin

Project Location: 11 Donnelly Drive, Map 81-Parcel 017

Project includes removal of 5 trees located within the 100-foot buffer zone to bordering vegetated wetlands.

The applicant was not present for the hearing. Mr. Hartzel shared his screen and summarized the proposed tree removal project. CEI's site visit confirmed that the 5 trees proposed for removal are either dead or dying, and present a risk to the property. Mr. Hartzel recommended a Negative Determination of Applicability for this project.

Ms. Scott made a motion to issue a Negative Determination of Applicability.

Ms. Poler seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL VOTE: 5-0 (Ms. Scott, aye, Ms. Poler, aye, Mr. Perloff, aye, Mr. Kennedy, aye, Ms. Bero, aye)

Continued Hearings:

Continued Hearings Request for Certificate of Compliance

Applicant: Mayrock Development

Project Location: 50 Peter Kristoff Way

Ms. Bero stated that the applicant is now seeking a Certificate of Compliance to document that work at the site has been completed in compliance with the Amended Order of Conditions for the site. Mr. Hartzel noted that CEI inspected the site on February 9, 2023 and CEI found the site to be in compliance with the updated as-built plan. Mr. Hartzel recommended the issuance of a Certificate of Compliance.

Ms. Poler made a motion to authorize the issuance of a Certificate of Compliance

Mr. Kennedy seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL VOTE: 5-0 (Ms. Scott, aye, Ms. Poler, aye, Mr. Perloff, aye, Mr. Kennedy, aye, Ms. Bero, aye)

Introduction

Ms. Bero welcomed Mr. Woodhall and asked the Commission members to introduce themselves. Mr. Woodhall summarized his professional background and his interest in joining the Commission. Ms. Bero asked if the Commission members would support submittal of a letter of recommendation to the Select Board to appoint Mr. Woodhall to the Commission.

Ms. Poler made a motion to recommend that the Select Board appoint Mr. Woodhall to the Conservation Commission.

Mr. Kennedy seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL VOTE: 5-0 (Ms. Scott, aye, Ms. Poler, aye, Mr. Perloff, aye, Mr. Kennedy, aye, Ms. Bero, aye)

Minutes

February 2, 2023.

Ms. Poler made a motion to approve the February 2, 2023 minutes.

Ms. Scott seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL: Ms. Poler, aye, Ms. Scott, aye, Mr. Kennedy, aye, Mr. Perloff, aye, Ms. Bero, aye. (5-0)

Administration

Commission Follow Up – Drafting, Signing, Recording

- Ms. Bero is expecting an appeal to State Superior Court for the Elm Street case, but has no updates at this time. She checked with the State Superior Courts and has not found anything on this matter as of now. The Applicant has filed an appeal with MassDEP.

- A site visit will be conducted at the North Street (Norfolk Hunt Club property) in the spring to confirm that work was performed in compliance with the conditions of the Negative Determination of Applicability for the site.
- Ms. Bero discussed the Lincoln Court file. She believes that there needs to be more research into this as there are several Certificates of Compliance that seem to be incomplete or incorrect. Ms. Bero is working on this to get it completed.
- Ms. Bero noted that a Certificate of Compliance for 50 Peter Kristoff Way will be mailed on February 17, 2023.
- Ms. Bero stated that the Negative Determination of applicability for the Medfield Sewer Rehabilitation project was mailed on February 16, 2023.

Commission Follow Up – Inspection, Enforcement, Monitoring

- Mr. Hartzel explained that a request for a partial Certificate of Compliance is anticipated from DCAMM within the next month for the Medfield State Hospital wetland mitigation areas. He has been in contact via email in the past week with Weston & Sampson, DCAMM’s consultant for the wetland mitigation.
- There were discussions on the possibility of replacing the beaver deceiver pipe at Echo Pond/Rocky Woods. Ms. Bero is going to look for the existing Notice of Intent and Order of Conditions at the ConComm office.
- Mr. Hartzel summarized a meeting held on February 15, 2023 with Medfield Parks & Recreation and a group interested in developing an 18-hole disc golf course at McCarthy Park. The meeting focused on wetland resources areas proximate to the proposed site and the wetland permitting process.
- Mr. Hartzel summarized a meeting held on February 9, 2023 with Solitude Lake Management to discuss the proposed pond herbicide treatments planned for summer 2023. Solitude will be submitting a more detailed proposal that is specific to the target species and proposed herbicide for each pond. Discussion included whether, prior to the 2023 treatments, the Town may want to assess the plant community in each pond and develop a long-term plan for vegetation management which balances multiple goals including pond ecology, public recreational uses, aesthetics, and other factors. A follow-up meeting with Solitude was scheduled for February 23, 2023. Ms. Bero stated that the Commission should consider proposing an FY 2024 warrant article, ready when the warrant opens in December 2023, to seek additional funding for pond management.

Commission Authority, Organization, Finances

Land Management

- Ms. Bero stated that the New England Orienteering Club should be returning in April for their event. She asked if anyone in the Commission would be interested in handling the paperwork, inspections and possible licensing for this upcoming event.
- Ms. Bero discussed the need to certify vernal pools during the early spring breeding season for vernal pool species. She would like everyone on the Commission to come up with at least one or two vernal pools for potential field assessment to collect information

for vernal pool certification with the MA Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program.

Reports

- Ms. Scott discussed the draft Medfield Open Space and Recreation Plan (OSRP). Mr. Hartzel recommended that a particular area of focus for review by the Conservation Commission is Inventory of Open Space, Conservation, and Recreation Facilities, which is currently pending from the Town's consultant.

Other

- Wayne Carlson has put together a plan/map regarding Hinkley Pond Property Research. Ms. Bero summarized the division of responsibilities for this property between Parks & Recreation and the Conservation Commission, noting that of the approximately 19 acres of the site, the Conservation Commission has care, custody and control of 2.72 acres, the location of which needs to be confirmed. .
- The Charles River Watershed Association, Neponset River Watershed Association, Sustainable Medfield, and the continued hearing for the 26-30 Millbrook Road NOI will be on the agenda for the March 2nd meeting.
- Massachusetts Open Space Network is holding its Annual Open Space Conference with online seminars held on Thursdays in February.
- Mr. Kennedy announced that that the people who maintain the mill dam at Kingsbury Pond are offering a tour to the Conservation Commission and plan to introduce themselves at a future Conservation Commission meeting.

Adjournment – At approximately 8:20 PM, Ms. Scott motioned to adjourn the meeting.

Ms. Poler seconded.

ROLL CALL VOTE: 5-0 (Ms. Scott, aye, Ms. Poler, Mr. Perloff, aye, Mr. Kennedy, aye, Ms. Bero, aye)

Respectfully submitted,
Cara Wise, Administrative Assistant