

MINUTES OF MARCH 23rd, 2022 MEETING

Access via phone (646) 558 8656 or via web at www.zoom.us with Meeting ID 867 9109 7276 / Password 726014

A meeting of the Longmeadow Conservation Commission was called to order at 7:17 P.M. on March 23rd, 2022 and was again conducted remotely, this time consistent with Governor Baker's Chapter 22 of the Acts of 2022 extending certain provisions that were previously held during the state of emergency.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chair Al Laakso, David Dumais, Patrick Carnahan, John Bresnahan, Kimberly Barton. **Absent:** Andrea Chasen, Christopher Nolan, Kiernan Mulcahy.

OTHERS PRESENT: Frank & Rebecca Vatrano, Dan Nietzsche and Cora Ottaviani from GZA, Bill LaPlante, Sam Farhadi, Dr. Dave Marinelli.

MINUTES OF PRIOR MEETING: Chair Al Laakso made a motion, and was seconded by Mr. Bresnahan, to accept the minutes of March 9th, 2022 as amended. Roll call vote - Mr. Laakso, yes; Mr. Dumais: yes; Mr. Carnahan: yes; Mr. Bresnahan: yes. Motion passed 4-0.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Salary \$1,479.64, Maintenance: \$596.77, Office Supplies \$100, Miscellaneous \$104, Wetlands Protection Fund \$7,758.15, ConCom Trust Fund \$9,615.09.

NOI – DEP 205-337 – CONSTRUCTION OF SINGLE-FAMILY DWELLING UNIT AT 220 ARDSLEY RD.: A site visit was recently performed where some commissioners and the applicants' representatives to review the approximate location of the dwelling unit and its outdoor amenities. Discussions over water runoff and invasive species were discussed with the commission recommending that any runoff from roofs and impervious surfaces be directed away from the house or provide mitigation with solutions such as dry wells. Additionally, even though there is evidence that chlorine dilutes after exposure to air for over 30 minutes and it binds to sand particles, commissioners suggest that any pool wastewater is to be handled in a way that is directed away from the resource area.

Abutter Dr. Dave Marinelli (9 Overbrook Lane) informed all parties that he has been involved, along with other neighbors, with invasive species management by periodically cutting Japanese Knotweed in this area, some of which originates on the vacant lot in question and that has continued to expand over time., therefore he encourages the new property owners to be a part of the eradication efforts to ensure the health of the resource area.

With no further opinions from other members of the public, Chair Al Laakso made a motion, and was seconded by Mr. Bresnahan, to issue an Order of Conditions for the NOI filed for DEP 205-337 with the following conditions: (1) implement a plan to eradicate invasive plant species along the stream bordering the property, the use of herbicide by a licensed applicator is authorized; and (2) no pool water is allowed to be drained into the wetland resource area and/or nearby storm drains; the applicant is to present a more detailed pool design and adequate drain specifications to the conservation Commission when said design phase occurs. Roll call vote - Mr. Laakso, yes; Mr. Dumais: yes; Mr. Carnahan: yes; Mr. Bresnahan: yes. Motion passed 4-0.

Documents presented: Wetland Site Plan for 220 Ardsley Rd. dated 12/6/2021

RDA – TREE REMOVAL AT 73 CAPTAIN RD.: Ms. Farhadi presented a map showing the location of two very tall pine trees that are leaning and are within striking distance of her and her neighbor's home. The backyard is sizable and the area where the trees are located is significantly steep, so the commission prefers that the stumps be left in place to mitigate erosion. The lot is also located near the area where a road collapse occurred several years ago.

Chair Al Laakso made a motion, and was seconded by Mr. Dumais, to issue a Negative Determinations #2 and #6 for the project of tree removal at 73 Captain Road tree logs left in place do not roll over and no slash to be left in the area. Roll call vote - Mr. Laakso, yes; Mr. Dumais: yes; Mr. Carnahan: yes; Mr. Bresnahan: yes. Motion passed 4-0.

Documents presented: Map and images from RDA dated 03/16/2022.

DISCUSSION – REQUEST FROM DR. DAVID MARINELLI TO PLANT PERENNIAL TREES IN COMMUNITY GARDENS: Dr. Marinelli wishes to combine his fondness for the Longmeadow-Johnny Appleseed historical connection and his hobby of apple tree grafting by creating a perennial plot where he would grow American Chestnut and apple trees. If at all possible, he requests permission to create a plot just southeast of the existing perennial plot, a location that would help avoid creating shadows on other gardeners’ plots. Chair Al Laakso made a motion, and was seconded by Mr. Bresnahan, to authorize the planting of perennials near the existing perennial plot for apples. Roll call vote - Mr. Laakso, yes; Mr. Dumais: yes; Mr. Carnahan: yes; Mr. Bresnahan: yes. Motion passed 4-0.

OTHER BUSINESS – The following items were discussed:

1. Commissioner Carnahan has been working on developing a Scout Guide for working with the commission on scouting conservation projects as well as doing research on an online Chronolog where people could upload pictures of a designated Conservation Land location and the catalog of images can show the area’s transformation throughout the seasons. He also notified the commission of the discovery of a large trash dump site which includes potentially hazardous material located along Turner Park’s Longmeadow Brook, to the east of the park’s access road, which will be looked at in the coming days.

Meeting adjourned at 8:26 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Bianca Damiano