

## EAST LONGMEADOW CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Wednesday, January 13, 2021

6:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Zoom Webinar



### MINUTES

Chair Craig Jernstrom opens the meeting at 6:00 PM and called the roll.

#### CALL THE ROLL

Present: Craig Jernstrom, Chair  
Tom O'Brien, Vice Chair  
Jeffrey Bosworth, Clerk  
Anthony Zampiceni  
Frances Corgnati  
Elizabeth Stoughton  
Absent: William Arment  
Staff Present: Bethany Yeo, Planning & Community Development Director

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

December 23, 2020

**Motion to approve minutes as amended minutes made by Commissioner Anthony Zampiceni; second by Commission Member Frances Corgnati and approved by roll call vote five (5)-zero (0).** *Vice Chair Tom O'Brien abstained as he was absent.*

#### CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE

- 1. CC 2020-20: Request for Certificate of Compliance for 53 Old Farm Road (Mass DEP File #150-259)** –Request for Certificate of Compliance for 53 Old Farm Road (Assessor's Parcel ID 54-31-17). Applicant Representative: Elizabeth L George, Esq., P.O. Box 937, Wilbraham, MA 01095. (Cont. 12/23/2020)

Mike Smith of Smith Associates was present for discussion. He stated he did not record the revised plan as he was waiting for approval from the Commission. All Commissioners approved and had no further comment.

**Motion to approve Certificate of Compliance with the condition that the revised plan be recorded with the Hampden County Registry of Deeds made by Clerk Jeffrey Bosworth; second by Commissioner Anthony Zampiceni and approved by a vote of six (6)-zero (0).**

- 2. CC 2020-20: Request for Certificate of Compliance for 8 Bella Vistas Drive (Mass DEP File #150-383)** –Request for Partial Certificate of Compliance for 8 Bella Vista Drive (Assessor's Parcel ID 44-10-22). Applicant: Edward Bellerose, 8 Bella Vista Drive, East Longmeadow, MA 01028.

Chair Craig Jernstrom reported that no site visit was done on this location. Clerk Jeffrey Bosworth stated that the permanent markers are set. No further comment from the Commission.

**Motion to approve Certificate of Compliance made by Clerk Jeffrey Bosworth; second by Board Member Anthony Zampiceni and approved by a vote of six (6)-zero (0).**

### **CONTINUED PUBLIC HEARING**

3. **ANRAD 2020-1: Request for Abbreviated Notice of Resource Area Delineation for 43 South Bend Lane (Assessor's Parcel ID 54-6, 55-8, 55-7, p/o 66-23A, 54-7, 55-37)** for review and confirmation of resource area boundaries on a 69 +/- acre site. Applicant: Ms. Marlene Goldstein, 43 South Bend Lane, East Longmeadow, MA 01028. Applicant Representative: Heather Comee, Wetland Consultant, 572 East River Road, Huntington, MA 01050. (Cont. December 23, 2020)

Applicant representative Heather Comee was present for discussion. Chair Craig Jernstrom opened the meeting for public comment.

**Hearing no comments, motion to close the public comment made by Clerk Jeffrey Bosworth; second by Commissioner Anthony Zampiceni and approved by roll call vote six (6)-zero (0).**

At this time, Chair Craig Jernstrom entertained comments from the Commission. Clerk Jeffrey Bosworth stated that the second site visit provided a better view of the landscape without snow. He further opined that the delineations looked good. Mr. Jernstrom stated that it was helpful that the site visit occurred immediately after significant rainfall and that the high water mark and wetlands lines were satisfactory in his opinion. Mr. Jernstrom explained that the only condition needed in this Order of Conditions was that no work in the resource area shall be done without filing of Notice of Intent. Commissioner Frances Corgnati asked about a fallen tree across the river to which Mr. Jernstrom replied that the Department of Public Works should be notified if it caused damage or flooding in the roadway. Planning Director Bethany Yeo informed Ms. Corgnati that this can be discussed should a Notice of Intent be filed. No further comments from the Commission

**Motion to approve Abbreviated Notice of Resource Delineation for 43 South Bend Lane with the condition that no work in the resource area shall be done without filing a Notice of Intent made by Clerk Jeffrey Bosworth; second by Commissioner Frances Corgnati and approved by a vote of six (6)-zero (0).**

Chair Craig Jernstrom later proposed an additional condition, which is that the existing flagging must be maintained. He further stated that this Order of Conditions will be much different and Bethany Yeo, Planning Director stated that she will be working with Mark Stinson, of the Massachusetts DEP, to ensure the form is completed properly.

### **PROJECT MONITORING**

Projects [See Project Monitoring spreadsheet]

- a. 90 Denslow Road

Property owner John Maybury was present for discussion. Chair Craig Jernstrom gave a brief overview of the project. He noted that this project is being done adjacent to the buffer zone. He entertained comments from the Commissioners regarding the necessity of filing a full Request for Determination of Applicability. The Commissioners agreed that the work is far enough away from the wetlands buffer zone that no filing is necessary. Mr. Maybury stated that he is hoping to take advantage of the mild winter and begin construction once he receives Planning Board approval.

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### **b. Hidden Ponds**

Chair Craig Jernstrom stated that he spoke with Rob Levesque about doing a core sample in the basin. He stated that he would like to go during a rainstorm to monitor the outflow from the basin but that plan is currently on hold until R. Levesque Associates prepares a report regarding the same. He further opined that the basin was professionally designed but the construction was not in compliance with the design. Vice Chair Tom O'Brien questioned Mr. Jernstrom's opinion. Commissioner Frances Corgnati requested clarification regarding the pre-construction and post-construction drain and requested a report explaining the water flow.

### **c. 176 Chestnut Street**

Chair Craig Jernstrom stated no site visit was conducted as scheduled but feels as though the Commission should send a letter notifying the homeowner that the Conservation Commission should be contacted prior to any future work done on the property.

### **d. 0 Baldwin Street**

Preconstruction meeting occurred on January 7, 2021 and was attended by Commissioners William Arment, Frances Corgnati and Clerk Jeffrey Bosworth. Planning Director Bethany Yeo stated that there will be an extension order filed and Mr. Bosworth clarified that the current Notice of Intent expires on June 13, 2021. Flagging has been redone and is clearly marked. The Commissioners walked along the river, which is the only area that has impact on the wetlands. It was agreed that they can go forward with tree cutting but no stumping or soil disturbance until the erosion controls get put in place. Once they are installed, the Commission will conduct another site visit to inspect the land. Commissioner Frances Corgnati stated that there is a large depression that will be filled in as to level the area. Mr. Bosworth stated that Rob Levesque put white surveyor's tape around the trees that are close to the delineation line, which they agreed would need to be removed due to poor tree health. Vice Chair Tom O'Brien asked why the trees were approved to be cleared before installing a silt fence Mr. Bosworth responded that the bulk of the trees being cut are nowhere near the buffer zone and are right along the edge of the buffer zone. The remainders of the trees are scrub trees and gray birch trees. Most are 6 inches in diameter or less. Mr. O'Brien expressed concern that the heavy machinery should not be used until the silt fence is installed. Chair Craig Jernstrom confirmed that no work is being done within the 50 foot buffer zone and at the closest point; it appears that the limit of work line is about 60 feet from the wetland boundary. The Commissioners agreed to keep this project on Project Monitoring.

### **e. 53 Old Farm Road**

No comment from the Commissioners.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

### **1. 2020 Annual Report**

Chair Craig Jernstrom stated that he has drafted the Conservation Commission's submission in the past. Bethany Yeo, Planning Director offered to draft the report and would circulate to the Commission. Mr. Jernstrom stated that the number of applications received should be included along with other projects spearheaded by the Conservation Commission.

**2. Scantic River Watershed Plan**

Ryan O'Donnell of the Connecticut River Conservatory was present for discussion. He explained that the Conservatory just applied for a grant through the Connecticut DEEP to do a water based plan for the Scantic River. Should the grant be accepted, the parts of the watershed located in Massachusetts will be included. Mr. O'Donnell stated that there will be stakeholders meetings and that an invite to these meetings will be extended to the Commission members. Chair Craig Jernstrom confirmed that the Commission was indeed interested in the project as proposed and requested that the Commission be kept apprised as to the grant's development.

**3. PVPC MassTrails Regional Grant Invitation**

Planning Director Bethany Yeo introduced the proposed grant, which would a phone app that would map all the existing trails in the region. Ms. Yeo stated that this would help residents gain awareness of the trails available in East Longmeadow. Chair Craig Jernstrom asked about an older trail map but Ms. Yeo stated she has been unable to find anything of the sort. Clerk Jeffery Bosworth requested clarification about the grant's request for fund matching. Ms. Yeo clarified that the hours volunteered by the Commission and Planning Department staff would be converted to a dollar amount or a cash contribution equaling \$2,500.00. Further discussion ensued regarding the funding match. The Commissioners agreed that this would be a great initiative for local residents. Ms. Yeo stated she will be drafting a formal letter of support on behalf of the Commission.

**Motion to made to be involved in the PVPC MassTrail Regional Grant by Clerk Jeffrey Bosworth; second by Commissioner Anthony Zampiceni and approved by a vote of six (6)-zero (0).**

**4. Eagle Scout Project-Brown Trail benches**

The Commissioners discussed the photos submitted by Jason Chartier. There was question about the application of a clear protective coat. Rebecca Jones., Planning Administrative Assistant, stated she was unaware if Mr. Chartier had applied any finish. The Commissioners entertained a motion to approve the benches so long as there be a protective finish is applied.

**Motion to approve benches installed by Jason Chartier as part of his Eagle Scout project by Vice Chair Tom O'Brien; second by Commissioner Anthony Zampiceni and approved by a vote of six (6)-zero (0).**

**5. Policies and Procedures of the Conservation Commission**

Chair Craig Jernstrom requested that electronic materials for meetings be circulated in lieu of the paper packets that have been being prepared by the Planning Department staff. Bethany Yeo, Planning Director confirmed that site plans will still be distributed in paper form and all other documents will be sent via e-mail.

Chair Craig Jernstrom also requested that the legal fees generated by the Conservation Commission for the Open Meeting Law violations and review of 53 Old Farm Rd be circulated to the Commissioners. He further reviewed the opinion received by the State Attorney General's office and gave a brief reminder of using "reply all" when responding to emails.

Planning Directory Bethany Yeo invited the Commission members to an upcoming visioning session for the Master Plan Steering Committee, which will be hosted by Bethany, PVPC and the

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engagement consultant retained through this project. The goal is for interested parties to create a vision for the Town's future.

**ADJOURN Motion to adjourn made by Clerk Jeffrey Bosworth; second by Commissioner Anthony Zampiceni and approved by roll call vote six (6)-zero (0) at 6:59 PM.**

Respectfully submitted.

Rebecca Jones

Planning and Community Development Administrative Assistant