



TOWN OF WAKEFIELD

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

ConservationCommission@wakefield.ma.us

Minutes – 4/2/2024

Attendance: Chairman Jim Luciani; Bob Romano; Ken Alepidis; Teresa Belmonte; Haley McHatton-Ballou; Paul Wendelgass

Absent: Peter Miller

Agent: Elaine Vreeland

3/19/24 minutes – Ms. Belmonte made a motion to approve the 3/5/24 minutes.

Ms. MaHatton-Ballou made a second to the motion. After polling the Commissioners individually, the motion passed unanimously

DEP#313-631 – 94 Butler Avenue – Town of Wakefield – Notice of Intent - this matter was continued to 5/7/24 at the applicant's request.

DEP#313-XXX - Zero Preston Street – Rocco Scippa, Trustee 4 Old Colony Realty Trust – Public Hearing: Notice of Intent for the demolition of existing garage and construction of a two-family dwelling with associated utilities, grading and landscaping within the 100' buffer to a bordering vegetated wetland. Paul Finocchio of PJF Associates was present for the applicants.

Mr. Finocchio stated that there is an intermittent stream on the north side of the site. Roof runoff will be captured in the rear of the property. A silt fence will be installed on the street side as well as aside the existing fence.

Ms. Vreeland noted that the vines and invasive plants should be removed.

The Commission will conduct a site visit 4/5/24 at 6:00PM.

This matter was continued to 4/16/24.

8 Brandt Circle – tree removal request – A letter from Keith's Tree Service stated that the request was to remove 2 oak trees with signs of rot as well as 1 pine tree that lists toward the house.

Ms. Vreeland has conducted a site visit. The oak trees are 30' from the stream while the pine tree is 80'.

Mr. Luciani made a motion to approve the request with replication requirement of planting 3 mountain laurel shrubs.



Water Street – beaver dam removal – the Town has requested issuance of an emergency certification for the removal of 2 beaver dams.

Ms. Vreeland stated that the dams are causing flooding of properties on Water and Wiley Street.

Mr. Alepidis made a motion to approve issuance of this Certificate.

Mr. Wendelgass made a second to the motion. After polling the Commissioners individually, the motion passed. Ms. McHatton-Ballou dissented.

Ms. Vreeland felt that this problem will persist.

The Commission is interested in holding a future seminar regarding strategies for managing beaver conflicts.

DEP#313-638 – 457 Lowell Street – discuss, vote and issue Order of Conditions (OOC) – the Commission concurred that 25' would be the setback for all conditions requiring a stated minimum distance to the wetland. Special condition - Installation of native shrubs on the yard side of the fence at the rear of the property is required. The purpose is to create mounding and prevent runoff from the paved basketball court from sheet flowing to the wetland resource area. This work will be in consultation with the Agent.

Ms. Belmonte made a motion to issue the OOC with the special condition noted above.

Ms. McHatton-Ballou made a second to the motion. After polling the Commissioners individually, the motion passed unanimously.

Agent position – Ms. Belmonte will prepare a comment letter for the 4/11/24 Finance Committee meeting advocating for 30 hours for the primary Agent and the continuance of 5 hours for Ms. Vreeland.

Voke hearing – The hearing of the citizen group appeal will be held 5/9/24 10AM to 5PM. Ms. Vreeland, Mr. Luciani, Ms. Hatton-Ballou and possibly Mr. Wendelgass will attend.

2 Anjim Lane – the homeowner asked about an amendment to the previously issued Enforcement Order. Ms. Vreeland could not find note of that. She will investigate further.

Pedestrian path and boardwalk at Lake O – Eleanor Axelrod of Sheffield Road stated that this matter was discussed at the recent Town Council meeting.

Mr. Romano noted that any work in that area would require a filing with the Commission.

Wetland bylaw – The Commission expressed interest in reviewing a possible wetland bylaw.

Ms. Belmonte made a motion to adjourn. After polling the Commissioners individually, the motion passed unanimously.

