

MEETING MINUTES

Conservation Commission
July 23, 2020
6:30 PM
Zoom Remote Access Only

Members Present: Dave Lersch, Tali Maidelis, Richard Muckle, Geneva Renegar (6:39p.m.) and Michael Stankov. (2 Vacancies)
Members Absent: none
Alternates Present: Julie Wainscott (1 Vacancy)
Alternates Absent: Wade Thomas
Staff Present: Maureen FitzGerald, Environmental Planner
Katrina Kotfer, Recording Secretary

1. CALL TO ORDER AND APPOINTMENT OF ALTERNATES

R. Muckle called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Julie Wainscott was seated to fill a vacancy.

2. APPROVAL of the July 9, 2020 Meeting Minutes

Motion: Motion made by J. Wainscott, second by T. Maidelis to approve the July 9, 2020 meeting minutes.

Vote: 5-0

3. APPLICATION REVIEW

C-20-08 15 Leary Drive – In-Ground Pool – Kimberly Devlin/Robert Brule – Owner & Applicant

D. Lersch questioned what changed from the first proposal to the second alternative and asked if all alternatives were explored in accordance with section 10 of the regulations, or if there could be a reduction in wetland impacts. He raised concern over cumulative impacts due to precedent.

R. Brule indicated the initial plan included more clearing of vegetation east of the house for construction and that has been reduced to keep vegetation between the two house lots.

R. Muckle noted that the property owner had submitted a wetlands study and submitted an alternative proposal. The wetland report indicates this is not a significant impact activity.

T. Maidelis noted that the subdivision was created in 1958 that puts the homeowner at a disadvantage and the property owner has tried to satisfy minimizing impacts.

M. Stankov noted that he is concerned that the pool approval may be precedent setting and is concerned with wetland disturbance, edge effects, and the potential cumulative impacts but also respects the professional opinion that was submitted.

D. Lersch asked if the pool could be moved or the deck be removed to reduce the impacts to wetlands.

R. Brule stated that he could try to change the pool size, move it and reduce the deck and he does not want to be precedent setting. His intent was to delineate a straight line from the approved shed and he is only looking for the minimum he needs and felt it is a reasonable request.

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RECEIVED FOR RECORD
WATER COMMISSION

R. Muckle reviewed that the Commission felt comfortable enough at the previous meeting to request a draft permit, requested the area of temporary disturbance be reduced, it has been, and received a report from a wetland expert.

Motion: Motion made by T. Maidelis, second by J. Wainscott to approve the draft permit.

Vote: 4-1-1

R. Muckle did a role call for the vote:

J. Wainscott Approve

D. Lersch Deny

M. Stankov Abstain

T. Maidelis Approve

R. Muckle Approve

G. Renegar Approve

C-20-11 Hunts Brook Road – Two Lot Subdivision – Ellen Degaetano, Owner, Evan Degaetano, Applicant, Florek Surveying, LLC, Agent

Brian Florek, LS, and Evan Degaetano were available for the application. Mr. Florek stated he received a copy of the draft approval and has no comments.

The Commissioners reviewed the draft permit.

Motion: Motion made by D. Lersch, second by J. Wainscott to approve the draft permit.

Vote: 6-0

4. NEW APPLICATIONS

C-20-12 36 Butlertown Road – Woods Road Stream Crossing – Dennis Harlow, Owner
Dennis Harlow was present through Zoom.

Staff reviewed the application with the Commission. The property owner is looking to build a crossing offsite and have it transported to the site. She noted that there are no proposed modifications to the stream channel. Commission members reviewed the dimensions of the crossing and photographs of the existing stream channel conditions and stone lined embankments.

Motion: Motion made by M. Stankov, second by T. Maidelis to have staff prepare a draft permit.

Vote: 6-0

J. Wainscott asked what type of vehicle will be used to transport the timber deck, how the channel will be protected during installation and if the trail will need to be modified.

C-20-13 51 Shore Road – Vegetation Maintenance in wetland and non-encroachment area – Brian Vincenti Applicant & Owner

Staff reviewed the application with the Commission. She noted that with the previous property owners it had been the site of a wetland permit violation approved restoration plan. Commission members discussed the previous permit issued to correct the violation and whether the vegetation management proposed is a regulated activity that requires a permit rather than a permitted use, as of right, under Section 4.1 of the regulations.

Motion: Motion made by D. Lersch, second by M. Stankov that the proposed activity requires a permit and to direct staff prepare a draft permit with conditions.
Vote: 4-2 (T. Maidelis and R. Muckle)

C-20-14 14B & 18 Shore Road – Driveway Construction – David C. Mortimer, Owner & Applicant, Killingly Engineering Associates, Agent

Staff reviewed the application with the Commission. Commissioners accepted the application and expressed interest in a site walk.

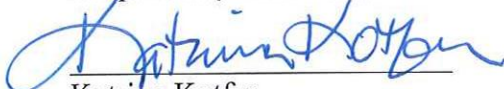
5. CORRESPONDENCE
No correspondence was received.

6. PAYMENT OF BILLS
No bills were acted upon.

7. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Motion made by M. Stankov, second by G. Renegar, to adjourn at 7:34 p.m.
Vote: 6-0

Respectfully Submitted,



Katrina Kotfer
Recording Secretary