

Conservation Commission Meeting
Virtual Meeting
June 2, 2022

Roll call was taken of members and staff present included: Chair, Peg Arguimbau, Vice Chair, Meredith Avery, Jon Wasserman and Stephen Cremer. Alan Westman arrived at 7:32pm. Keevin Geller and Colin Barbera were not present. Staff present included Josh Philibert, Conservation Administrator and Jana Katz, Conservation Secretary.

Arguimbau opened the meeting by reading Governor Baker's Executive Order of March 12, 2020. As of June 15, the measure was extended in An Act Extending Certain COVID-19 Measures Adopted during the State of Emergency, allowing by Governor Baker to continue to permitting virtual public meetings until July 15, 2022. Per guidance from the State, Arguimbau noted that all votes would be taken by roll call. She then reviewed the ground rules for the meeting.

The remote meeting was called to order at 7:30pm.

7:30 PM	Continued Public Hearing NOI 61 Eisenhower Dr – Deych, Wetland Replication
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The applicant sent an e-mail requesting a continuance to the next meeting.

<p>Motion: To continue the hearing until June 16, 2022</p>

<p>Cremer moved</p>

<p>Wasserman seconded</p>

<p>Avery- Aye, Cremer – Aye, Wasserman – Aye, Westman – Aye, Arguimbau – Aye</p>
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<p>5-0-0 Motion Passed</p>

7:33 PM	Discussion Item	Harold Street Violation
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The property owner, Dave Conforto was present and fully cooperative. He expressed his interest to work with the commission to remedy the situation. Conforto apologized for the mistakes made on his property. He expressed his interest in doing the work as soon as possible.

Conforto moved to Sharon in 2010 and installed the first round of plantings in 2014. He purposefully avoided fences and unnatural materials. Rows of spruces on both sides of the property provide privacy. Conforto has performed the majority of the work himself. In 2020, he continued with his landscaping design plan bringing in lilacs, butterfly bushes, and a butterfly house. In 2022 Conforto added chairs and a fire pit. A 100 linear foot berm about 2 ft high and 3 ft wide also separates the lawn into parcels. The berm and a shed are both located within the wetland area.

Philibert discussed soil composition and the presence of machine use remnants' of a red maple that was cut down. He shared his screen with photos illustrating the slope of the lawn. Arguimbau praised Conforto's willingness to work with the commission to bring the site into compliance.

Avery, Arguimbau, and Philibert discussed the order for the remediation: first, removal; second, plantings; and third, work closer to the house. She recommended Conforto remove the shed and the patio before the July meeting and come back before the commission with a

planting plan. Conforto needs to wait until July to remove the shed because that was the earliest appointment he could get for help with the removal. Arguimbau suggested removing what he could in the meantime and allowed him to be able to stockpile the crushed stone in a different part of the lawn. Avery discussed the potential need for an RDA for the replanting plan with specific reference to the potential of a shed in the buffer.

8:15 PM	Discussion Topic	Conservation Administrator Update
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Philibert reported back to the commission on his work with Colin and the LMAC preparing for reports of algae blooms and other matters. Leandra McLean will make the ultimate decision with the Board of Health. Philibert is prioritizing following state guidelines and avoiding beach closures for misidentified green algae. He explained that if the bacteria was there last year, it will be there this year. He noted he put a cloudy water sample and observed microsites once, a blue-green algae not associated with anything other than stomach update or rash. Another time he noticed gilatricketia, which is not safe to drinking but its presence does not warrant a beach closure.

Philibert also reported back that he devised a new digital filing structure and progress is being made on expanding the system. He also attended a DEP GPS Survey training that would allow Philibert to check a wetland line digitally and create a data file that the DPW could overlay onto the digital representation of a surveyed wetland. Avery Philibert discussed the accuracy of the instrument when used in the field in varying weather conditions.

He then gave an update on discussions and correspondence with residents of Beach Street who recently received a letter regarding beach privileges on town land. When Memorial Park Beach was created it was taken my eminent domain and as such certain deeds and easements have special conditions written into them that would allow for certain property owners to utilize town owned beachfront property. Additional research is necessary, not everything is available online. It is unlikely residents with property on town land will remove their items.

Cremer asked if the owners of the property left on town land have been identified and stated one of his concerns was if residents began to make improvements to the property. Philibert has observed stabilization measures along the lake's shoreline. And noted that one resident said a portion of the shore was degraded on the west side of the lake.

8:25 PM	Discussion Topic	Clerk Position Hours
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Members discussed increasing the clerk position to a 24 hour per week job to assist with department digitization and to handle additional workflow related to the Conservation Commission overseeing SWM hearings in town. The position would remain a designated OC-3B in the SMEA contract classification, there would be no request for a step change. The next step would be to go before the Personnel Board.

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Motion: To approach the Personnel Board about increasing the clerk position's hours within the OC-3B Classification

Cremer moved

Westman seconded

Avery- Aye, Cremer – Aye, Wasserman – Aye, Westman – Aye, Arguimbau – Aye

5-0-0 Motion Passed

8:36 PM Other Business Approve May 5, 2022 meeting minutes

Members voted to approve minutes.

Motion: To accept meeting minutes from May 5, 2022.

Cremer moved

Wasserman seconded

Avery - Aye, Cremer – Abstain, Wasserman – Aye, Westman – Abstain, Arguimbau – Aye

4-0-1 Motion Passed

8:39 PM Motion to go into Executive Session and Adjourn at the end of the meeting

Motion: To go into Executive Session to discuss land negotiations and adjourn at the end of the meeting

Cremer Moved

Wasserman Seconded

Avery - Aye, Cremer - Aye, Wasserman - Aye, Westman - Aye, Arguimbau - Aye

5-0-0 Motion Passed