



**PAXTON CONSERVATION COMMISSION**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
*August 12, 2021*

Approved  
9/9/21

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**Location and Time:** Remote Meeting via Zoom, no public access, 7:00pm-8:12pm

**7:00 PM Meeting opened**

**Attendance:**

Commissioners: Lenny Anderson, Chairman, Mike Voorhis, Vice Chairman; Bob Ferguson, Commissioner; Donmarie Desrosiers, Commissioner; Jim Robert, Commissioner, Holly Robert, Assoc. Member

Others present: Mia McDonald, Cons. Agent, Colin Novik, Greater Worcester Land Trust, Richard Fenton, Paxton Land Trust, Megan Woytik, William Bartlett and Melissa Coady of Tighe and Bond, Carl Hultgren, Quinn Engineering.

Chairman Anderson read aloud the meeting guidelines.

**Minutes** of the July meeting were reviewed. BF found 3 typos and they were corrected at the meeting. DD motioned, MV seconded and by roll call BF, MV, JR, DD & LA voted in favor of accepting the minutes.

**Bills:**

Payroll \$648.90 for a total of \$648.90 for Mia McDonald

MV motioned, JR seconded and by roll call BF, MV, JR, DD & LA voted in favor of paying the bill.

**Correspondence:**

Email correspondence received from Chris Capone, MA DCR State Forester re: Forest Cutting Plan received for Suomi Street. Mr. Capone has received the Commission's comments and agrees any work within the excluded area that lies within 100 feet of a wetland resource area is jurisdictional under the MA Wetlands Protection Act and the Town of Paxton Wetlands Bylaw. Additionally, MA DCR shall require the area is not cleared for future development, as prohibited by their forestry laws. MM shall contact the owner and discuss work within the excluded area.

**Request for Determination of Applicability for 8 Pierce Circle** (Map 10, Parcels 21/J,) by Richard Bedard for replacement of a septic system and associated site work. Carl Hultgren of Quinn Engineering presented the project: the intent of the RDA was to determine that the proposed work lies outside the 100-foot buffer to the wetland resource areas. A plan was submitted showing the wetland delineation and limit of work outside the 100-foot buffer. MM visited the site and confirmed the wetland delineation and that the proposed work is outside the buffer.

LA asked for public comment; none provided. JR motioned, MV seconded and by roll call BF, MV, JR, DD & LA voted to issue a negative determination of applicability.

**Request for Certificate of Compliance for Eames Mill Pond Dam at Moore State Park Sawmill Road** (Map 5, Parcel 17A,) DEP File #257-0312, 3/1/2018. Megan Woytik, William

Bartlett and Melissa Coady of Tighe and Bond presented the request: work is complete and the site is stabilized. MM visited the site and agreed it was completed as approved and is stable. Photos were provided by MV and the applicants.

LA asked for public comment; none provided. JR motioned, DD seconded and by roll call BF, MV, JR, DD & LA voted to issue a Certificate of Compliance.

Request for Certificate of Compliance for Lot 3 Suomi Street (Map 13, Parcel 5 portion,) DEP File #257-0280, 9/12/2013; continued to September meeting.

Other Business:

**Informal discussion: Map 12, Parcel 28 possible Conservation Land**

Colin Novick of Greater Worcester Land Trust and Richard Fenton of Paxton Land Trust attended to continue the discussion of the request to transfer the 25.7 acre Parcel to the care and custody of the Conservation Commission. The Commission discussed the conservation values of the Parcel: adjacent to the Difley Family Forest (72 acres) to the south with conservation restriction by GWLT; to the east is a parcel at the end of Shanandoah that the GWLT is currently working with the owners to purchase and/or protect. With the addition of the Shanandoah parcel, there would be a large connection from the Illigs Pond Conservation Area to the Difley Forest. The Parcel is not developable due to lack of frontage. The Parcel is currently owned by the Town and provides no tax revenue. No access is proposed on Wildewood due to the residential area. Access would be from existing trailhead and parking at the Illig Pond Conservation Area. Once transferred to the Conservation Commission, the Parcel would be protected under Article 97. MV inspected the 20-foot frontage on Wildewood: it was unrecognizable and landscaped by adjacent single-family homes. No cart paths visible and only 1 iron pin was found. JR made a motion, DD seconded and by roll call all voted yes to send a letter to the Board of Selectman to request the transfer of the parcel to the care and custody of the Conservation Commission.

**Informal discussion: Update on Friends of Moore State Park**

Volunteer Service Plan has been drafted and is awaiting approval by DCR. Once approved, a small group of volunteers led by Steve Hair shall begin the work of removing invasive species along an approved trail route. This work shall not require a permit from the Conservation Commission because even though it is within the 100-foot buffer to wetlands and within Riverfront Area, the removal of invasive species by hand within resource areas is exempt.

Reorganization: The Commission discussed the annual reorganization.

Chairman: LA expressed interest in the position and no one else expressed interest. MV motioned, JR seconded and by roll call BF, MV, JR, DD & LA voted to keep Leonard Anderson as Chairman.

Vice Chair: MV expressed interest in the position and no one else expressed interest. JR motioned, DD seconded and by roll call BF, MV, JR, DD & LA voted to keep Michael Voorhis as Vice Chairman.

Clerk: JR expressed interest in the position and no one else expressed interest. MV motioned, DD seconded and by roll call BF, MV, JR, DD & LA voted to keep James Robert as Clerk.

The Commission thanked the officers for their continued service.

**Building Permits:**

56 Davis Hill Road

143 Davis Street (has Order of Conditions)

**Board of Health Plans:**

277 Grove Street

8 Pierce Circle

9 Walbridge Road

**Sites Visited:**

16 Eagle Lane – no site work observed

8 Eagle Lane – RDA site visit

9 Walbridge Road – BOH plan

280 Pleasant Street – encroachment and restoration inspection for GWLT

9 Shanadoah Road – proposed pool

**Reminder of Upcoming Meeting Dates (confirm quorum):**

- Thursday, September 9, 2021
- Thursday, October 14, 2021

New Commissioner: James Lacasse has been appointed by the BOS and shall be sworn in by the Town Clerk.

JR motioned and DD seconded and JR, LA, DD, BF and MV voted by roll call to close the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 8:12PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Mia McDonald,

Agent for the Conservation Commission

**Reference Documents:**

\*As noted in the minutes, on file with the Paxton Conservation Commission.

PAXTON TOWN SERVICE  
RECEIVED  
11:08 AM OCT 18 2021