

Southampton Conservation Commission  
Meeting – July 6, 2020  
Via Zoom - Meeting ID: 834 2913 5879

**Present via Zoom:** Marla Hanc, Art Lawrence, Joy Piper (joined 6:15pm), Brittany Taylor, Dan LaValley, Mike Reed

**Absent:** Anna Breen

**Public Present via Zoom:**

Chris Fowles, Select Board  
Charlie McDonald, Associate ConCom Member  
Daniel Cannata, VHB  
John Furman, VHB  
Edward Gibson, Town Administrator

**6:04pm Meeting called to order**

**Open Time to the Public**

No items.

**New Business**

**Elect Chair, Vice-Chair/Clerk, Treasurer**

**6:06pm** Motion to nominate M. Hanc as Chair, B. Taylor as Vice-Chair/Clerk, and A. Lawrence as Treasurer made by D. LaValley, seconded by M. Reed.  
Lawrence (aye), Taylor (aye), LaValley (aye), Reed (aye), Hanc (aye).

**6:07pm** Motion to appoint B. Taylor as Master Plan Implementation Committee representative, J. Piper as Community Preservation Committee representative, and C. McDonald as Open Space Committee representative made by D. LaValley, seconded by A. Lawrence.  
Lawrence (aye), Taylor (aye), LaValley (aye), Reed (aye), Hanc (aye).

**6:08pm Partial Certificate of Compliance, DEP# 289-0193, 9 Birchwood Dr, Applicant: Richard Truehart**

A site visit on June 19, 2020 was attended by R. Truehart, A. Lawrence, A. Breen, M. Reed, B. Taylor, and M. Hanc. D. LaValley viewed the site on June 20, 2020. The house was constructed within the building envelope outside of the 200' Riverfront and 100' Buffer as had been specified in the approved plans. M. Hanc will remind R. Truehart that a pre-construction site visit should be arranged for 10 Birchwood Dr, also part of the same NOI, once the erosion control is in place.

A culvert (built in 1988) under the driveway was noted at site visit by D. LaValley. The culvert was mentioned in the original NOI as a pre-existing condition. The culvert is considered undersized by today's standards and efforts should be made to keep the inlet clear.

**6:23pm** Motion to issue Partial Certificate of Compliance made by M. Reed, seconded by B. Taylor.  
Lawrence (aye), Piper (abstain), Taylor (aye), LaValley (no), Reed (aye), Hanc (aye).

**Old Business**

**6:25pm Notice of Intent, East St Bridge, DEP# 289-0226 - continued, Applicant: Edward Gibson, Town Administrator, Representative: VHB, Inc.**

Updated plans were received on June 24 from J. Furman, and the NHESP letter was received June 25 from Emily Holt. J. Furman - Reviewed the plans and addressed comments from the DEP. Plans include adding a gas main replacement under the river rather than suspended from the bridge, new Stormceptor, grading swale and replacing the existing catch basin with a Stormceptor. Use of rip rap would be modified to provide wildlife crossings. In order to keep the flow rate down, stone check dams were added in the swale. They will function to hold back sediment that flows over the rip rap and down the swale. Sediment that flows over the grass will be retained, the stone check dams hold it back and filters the water through the stone. D. Cannata - The letter from NHESP stated that based on their review the project as proposed will not adversely affect the resource area habitat of state protected rare wildlife species. There will be an ongoing review with Natural Heritage to coordinate adding measures that will prevent any impacts to these species and their habitat.

**6:43pm** Request for continuation of Public Hearing was made by J. Furman.

**6:44pm** Motion to continue public hearing to 6:00 pm July 20, 2020 made by A. Lawrence, seconded by B. Taylor  
Lawrence (aye), Piper (aye), Taylor (aye), LaValley (ay ), Reed (ay ), Hanc (aye).

**Stewardship Projects**

**6:44pm Trail work/signs/geocaching**

Trail work - Commission is aware that there are downed trees, vegetation growing in and over trails. Per Chief of Police Commission needs to put a sign up at Szczypta Conservation area with regards to hunting practices, such as shooting in the direction of a structure. Verbiage needs to be similar to the sign up on the County Rd Southampton Wildlife Management Area property regarding hunting. B. Taylor to speak to Mark and Kate Raymond regarding placement of a sign on Clearwater Woodland/Raymond property boundary.

Geocaching - there was a discussion of the mapping of trails on town land. Current maps of town trails were designed by PVPC. M. Hanc explained that many of the current trails, such as those at the Clearwater Woodland Conservation Area, are old ATV trails and may not be the trails wanted to map/use. D. LaValley suggested placing geocaches at various places on conservation properties and offering a small reward. J. Piper asked for clarification on geocaching. M. Hanc recounted the Nov 4th, 2019 minutes discussion of the geocache process. Geocaching had been permitted it for Clearwater Woodland. D. LaValley will develop a plan for this to be discussed at the next meeting.

Manhan Meadows Sanctuary- waiting for Annual Town Meeting for approval of CPA funding for cleanup of downed trees from last year's microburst and for use as match with the Recreational Trails Program Grant if the RTP Grant is awarded.

Pending projects - Pomeroy Mountain/Durell's Path and Manhan Meadows

**7:05pm Volunteers**

D. LaValley gave an update on Tor Bashista's litter pickup project results. Nip bottles were the most common type of litter. Ten people contributed to pick up the 522 items collected.

J. Piper - no volunteer updates for trail work.

**7:14pm Regular Business**

**Conservation Agent discussion**

C. Fowles - no updates. Budget will be tight.

**Updates from Other Boards**

**Stormwater Code Review**

Representative A. Lawrence – Meeting July 8, then it moves on to the review process.

**OSRP Update**

Representative B. Gutermuth – M. Hanc is working on list of parcels questioned by PVPC rep on OSRP Committee.

**Open Space Update**

Representative C. McDonald – Email from D. Federman: The OSC voted to accept the charge of updating the OSRP every seven years and to expand the committee by 8 to do so. They voted to send Holyoke Water Works a letter informing them of about 200 acres for sale near the Tighe Carmody Reservoir in response to a letter HWW had sent to Southampton. Cindy Palmer - Committee has had discussions on developing a process on how to proceed when a landowner wants to give land to the town. Discussions have been initiated with an abutter to the Pomeroy Mt/Durell's Path property.

**MPIC Update**

Representative B. Taylor – survey is out and available online, at Town Hall and library. QR code available. Due August 31, 2020.

**CPC Update**

Representative J. Piper – No CPC meeting since last Conservation Commission meeting.

**7:28pm Review minutes from June 15 and June 29, 2020**

Motion to accept June 15 minutes as presented made by M. Reed , seconded by D. LaValley. Lawrence (aye), Piper (aye), Taylor (aye), LaValley (aye), Reed (aye), Hanc (aye).

Motion to accept June 29 minutes as presented made by J. Piper, seconded by D. LaValley. Lawrence (aye), Piper (aye), Taylor (aye), LaValley (aye), Reed (aye), Hanc (aye).

**7:34pm Treasurer's Report**

New fiscal year began 7/1/2020. Unsure of funding from the Town for FY21 since the Annual Town Meeting was delayed.

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**Signatures**

- Conservation General Fund (Act #015171.700, SCC-FY20-P1)
  - Payable to MACC for member dues, \$293.00

**7:37pm** Motion to accept Treasurer's Report made by B. Taylor, seconded by D. LaValley. Lawrence (aye), Piper (aye), Taylor (aye), LaValley (aye), Reed (aye), Hanc (aye).

**7:38pm Correspondence**

**Email**

- June 15, 2020, from David Paulson (FWE) – regarding East Street over Manhan River (NHESP 20-39405)
- June 17, 2020, from Joy Duperault (DCR) – regarding NFIP Premium Grace Period Reverts to 30 Days for NFIP Policies Expiring June 16th and Later
- June 17, 2020, from Joey Wigglesworth, MACC – regarding MACC: FREE Lunch & Learn: Managing Invasives - Thursday June 18<sup>th</sup>
- June 18, 2020, from Joy Duperault (DCR) – regarding Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Daily Digest Bulletin
- June 19, 2020, from Joy Duperault (DCR) – regarding Green infrastructure' can be cheaper than dams – report
- June 19, 2020, from Michele Grzenda – regarding MSMCP Week 14 - Wednesday zoom meeting recap, new resources, and we are going to take a little break..
- June 19, 2020, from Brian Selgrade – regarding Clearwater Woodland trail maps
- June 22, 2020, from Kara Sliwoski, SOLitude Lake Management – regarding Pequot Pond Certificates Of Liability Insurance
- June 22, 2020, from Mark Reed, Heritage Surveys, Inc. – regarding 9 Birchwood Drive request for Partial Certificate of Compliance, DEP# 289-0193
- June 24, 2020, from Joey Wigglesworth, MACC – regarding MACC Lunch & Learn: Thurs. 6/25 - Protecting Wetland Resource Areas and Wildlife Habitat along Electric Transmission Rights-of-Way
- June 24, 2020, from Amanda Mahaney, SOLitude Lake Management – Area of Pequot Pond, Southampton - Westfield
- June 24, 2020, from John Furman, VHB – regarding East Street Bridge-NOI Supplemental Information
- June 25, 2020, from Joy Duperault (DCR) – regarding FEMA Releases Guidance for Multi-Family Buildings
- June 25, 2020, from Emily Holt (FWE) – regarding East Street over Manhan River, Southampton
- June 25, 2020, from Marilyn Castriotta – regarding Kestrel Land Trust survey: 5-10 minutes of your time, please!
- June 25, 2020, to Mark Stinson (DEP) – regarding Southampton, 289-0225, Pequot Pond OOC replacement pages
- June 26, 2020, from Dorothy McGlinicy, MACC – regarding Helpline 2020-059: Conservation Commission Positions - Do we have to have a clerk?
- June 29, 2020, from Janet Brown – regarding 7 High Street cuttings
- June 30, 2020, from Joy Duperault (DCR) – regarding Spread the Word – DHS is Hiring

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- July 1, 2020, from MassWildlife – regarding MassWildlife Monthly July
- July 1, 2020, from Joy Duperault (DCR) – regarding Invest in Rivers report
- July 2, 2020, from Walter Marek – regarding 7 High Street cuttings
- July 2, 2020, from Joy Duperault (DCR) – regarding Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Daily Digest Bulletin
- July 2, 2020, from Emilie Edelblutte, Boston University – regarding Municipal Deer Survey Report
- July 2, 2020, from Joy Duperault (DCR) – regarding Climate & Weather Information For Water Utilities & Stormwater Managers - NOAA Virtual Workshop
- July 3, 2020, from Chris Volonte, Kestrel Land Trust - Kestrel Nest Box Project 2020 - Final Report
- July 3, 2020, from Janet Brown – regarding 7 High Street cuttings
- July 6, 2020, from Tor Bashista – regarding Litter Cleanup Project Results
- July 6, 2020, from Ed Gibson, Town Administrator – regarding Con Com 1/12th budget

**Hard Copy**

None.

**Any other necessary business that cannot await the July 20, 2020 regular Conservation Commission meeting.**

None.

**Other Site Visits**

15 Center St, RDA, pre-construction site visit to be scheduled.

**Upcoming Meeting Dates (subject to change)**

7/20/2020, 8/3/2020, 8/17/2020, 9/21/2020

**7:47pm Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn made by A. Lawrence, seconded by B. Taylor.

Lawrence (aye), Piper (aye), Taylor (aye), LaValley (aye), Reed (aye), Hanc (aye).