

Minutes
Northampton Conservation Commission
Hearing Room 18, City Hall, Northampton, Mass.
Oct. 13, 2016

Members	Present	Time
Kevin Lake, Chair	X	
Mason Maronn	X	
Tim Parshall		
Jack Finn	X	
Jason Perry	X	
t.b.a.		
t.b.a.		
Staff	Present	Time
Sarah LaValley	X	
Aleta DeLisle	X	

Meeting Opened At:

By:

5:30 p.m

Kevin

Minutes Approved:

Motion By:

Second By:

Unanimous:

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Order of Business:

5:30 PM Request for Determination of Applicability to determine if an area is subject to the Wetlands Protection Act or Northampton Wetlands Ordinance. Northampton Office of Planning & Sustainability, Glendale Road, Map ID 41-32.

Wayne Feiden, Director, Planning & Sustainability reviewed the project stating that they are carving off four building lots of the previously approved 24 lot subdivision off Glendale Road. The purchase will be CDBG funded and the lots will be given to Habitat for Humanity. Wayne asked the Commission for confirmation that there is no wetlands on the property. Wayne reviewed the soils and stated that building won't begin until 2018 or 2020. Upon motion by Jack and second by Jason the Commission voted all in favor to close the hearing. Upon motion by Mason and second by Jack the Commission voted all in favor to issue a Negative Determination of Applicability by checking Box 1 and Box 6.

5:35 PM Request for Determination of Applicability to determine if an area is subject to the Wetlands Protection Act or Northampton Wetlands Ordinance. Northampton Office of Planning & Sustainability, Burts Pit Rd, Map ID 29-10.

Wayne Feiden, Director, Planning & Sustainability reviewed the project stating that the City will be acquiring eight lots of the large parcel of land (Kohl's subdivision) on Burts Pit Road, noting the developer will keep two lots. Wayne stated that the previous developer had put GPS collars on turtles since it is in turtle habitat. Wayne reviewed the location of wetlands, vernal pools and red turtle habitat on the property and noted that the lots are away from them. Wayne reviewed the soil type and stated the long term goal is to connect the property with the bikepath network.

Upon motion by Jason and second by Jack the Commission voted all in favor to close the hearing. Following a brief discussion, upon motion by Mason and second by Jack the Commission voted all in favor to issue a Negative Determination of Applicability by Checking Box 1 and 6.

5:40 PM Request for Determination of Applicability to determine if roadway and pedestrian improvements are subject to the Wetlands Protection Act or Northampton Wetlands Ordinance. Northampton Office of Planning & Sustainability, Pleasant St right-of-way at Hockanum Rd.

Wayne Feiden, Director, Planning & Sustainability reviewed the project stating that grants are pending to redo the storm sewer under Holyoke St. and to do traffic calming on Pleasant St. Wayne reviewed the location of the work and funding stating that if they don't receive funding the project may not happen. Wayne also stipulated that the project has to be done in the 2017 construction year.

Upon motion by Mason and second by Jack the Commission voted all in favor to close the hearing. Upon motion by Kevin and second by Jack the Commission voted all in favor to issue a Negative Determination of Applicability by Checking Box 2.

Other Items:

Wayne stated that the Ridge Conservation Area has been renamed to Mineral Hills.

Wayne updated the Commission on a potential land acquisition on Rte. 66. The Commission agreed that this is a good acquisition and makes it closer to connecting to Mineral Hills.

Andy Church, 184 Spring Street, appeared before the Commission. Andy stated that he has been pulling trash out of the Florence Ice Pond for the last 20 years. Andy stated that fish have died due to shallow water and is pretty much dried up and has been silting in the past 50-100 years and would like to dig the pond out. Andy noted that there is an outlet into the Mill River.

Kevin stated that he would need to fill out an application with the Commission to determine the details of the work and that he may need to file applications with other agencies as well. Mason stated that he would need a dredging permit. Sarah stated that he would need a Water Quality Certification.

Executive Session under MGL C 30A §21(6) to 'Consider the Purchase, Exchange, Lease or Value of Real Property' for interests in conservation lands.

By roll call vote the Commission voted all in favor to enter into Executive Session at 6:25 p.m.

By roll call vote the Commission voted all in favor to adjourn Executive Session and return to Regular Session at 6:40 p.m.

As there was no further business the meeting adjourned.

<i>Meeting Adjourned:</i>	<i>Motion By:</i>	<i>Second By:</i>	<i>Unanimous:</i>
<i>6:43 p.m.</i>	<i>Mason</i>	<i>Jack</i>	<i>All in favor</i>