

**Minutes
Northampton Conservation Commission
Remote Online Meeting
June 11, 2020**

| Members | Present | Time |
|---------------------|---------|------|
| Kevin Lake, Chair | x | |
| Mason Maronn | x | |
| Randy Krotowski | x | |
| Jack Finn | x | |
| Jason Perry | x | |
| Alec Bernstein | x | |
| Elizabeth Wroblicka | x | |
| Staff | Present | Time |
| Sarah LaValley | x | |

Meeting Opened At:

By:

5:32 p.m.

Kevin

Minutes Approved:

Motion By:

Second By:

Unanimous:

February 27, 2020

Mason

Randy

Yes, by roll call

Public Comment

None

5:30 PM – Request for Determination of Applicability to determine if invasive species management within riverfront area (Mill River) is subject to the Wetlands Protection Act or Northampton Wetlands Ordinance. Smith College Facilities Mgmt, from West St/Rt 66 bridge north to Paradise Pond dam.

Gary Hartwell, Smith College Facilities, stated that invasives control efforts began with the synthetic turf field installation, which permit required this as mitigation within the riverfront area. An expansion both up and downstream is now proposed. Focus will be on knotweed that is present off Smith's property. Kevin asked about the needed duration of treatment. Gary replied that control efforts began ten years ago and are still needed in those areas. Sarah stated that MassDevelopment is not supportive of herbicide use on property that they currently own, but these open space areas will be transferred to the Conservation Commission later in 2020. Gary added that Smith would like to treat knotweed in those areas as well. The Commission agreed that this would support goals of the open space plan. Alec moved to issue a negative determination by checking box 2; to include the areas in the application as well as the adjacent parcel upstream of Smith College on the South side of the Mill River that is soon to be City open space. Seconded by Jason, the motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Request for Extension of Order of Conditions – 1260 Westhampton Road, Craig Weise, DEP File 246-700

The Commission discussed details of the project; which included alteration within the Protected Zone for a limited project driveway crossing, and agreed that an extension would be appropriate due to the challenging and costly nature of the project, but for a

period less than three years due to the age of the wetland boundary delineation. Jason moved to issue an extension for 18 months from the current expiration date. Seconded by Randy, the motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Conservation Restriction Approval

The Commission discussed two conservation restrictions that are to be held by the Leeds Civic Association (LCA). Required since Community Preservation Act funds were involved in the acquisitions, these will cover the Williams/Talon parcels in Roberts Hill, and a parcel recently acquired from the Diocese of Springfield in the Beaver Brook Greenway at the rear of St. Mary's Cemetery. Sarah stated that conservation is important to LCA's mission, and the group's board formally updated their mission statement to demonstrate this. Elizabeth moved to approve both restrictions. Seconded by Alec, the motion carried unanimously.

All other business not foreseen when agenda was published

Jack stated that he will be moving from Northampton, and asked the Commission to think about a replacement for the designated representative to the Community Preservation Committee in 2021.

As there was no further business the meeting adjourned at 6:08 PM