



City of Westfield Municipal Conservation Commission

JULY 26, 2022 AT 6:30PM
WESTFIELD CONSERVATION COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES

Conservation Commission members in attendance: Chairman David Doe (DD), Tom Sharp (TS), Robert Florek (RF) and Lauren DiCarlo (LD). Also in attendance: Anna Meassick, Conservation Coordinator and Karen Leigh, Conservation Consultant.

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Chairman Doe calls the meeting to order at 6:30 PM and takes attendance. Commissioners Grobe and Fagnand and Vice Chairman Murphy are not in attendance.

2. OPEN PARTICIPATION

Chairman Doe asks if there are any audience members that would like to address anything not on the agenda. Seeing none, Chairman Doe moves to item 3.

3. PUBLIC MEETINGS

- A. 240 Russellville Road (62R-)-Oscar Naula
Installation of a new septic system.

Chairman Doe asks for an update. Coordinator Meassick says there are none and recommends a motion to continue for six months.

Commissioner Florek motions to continue for six months. Commissioner DiCarlo seconds. Rf=yes, TS=yes, LD=yes, DD=yes
The motion passes.

- B. 445 Root Road – Sarah and Paul Cabral
Proposal: Addition to home, installation of in ground pool, construction of shed, removal of tree stumps, and closing off one side of driveway
Dan Nitchze of GZA and Sarah Cabral, the homeowner, are present

Chairman Doe asks for an update. Mr. Nitchze presents a new plan from July 14, 2022 with the information the commission requested. Consultant Leigh address that the project is in riverfront area. A notice of intent would typically be required. The pros and cons of issuing a determination or require a notice of intent are weighed.

Chairman Doe asks for public comment. Seeing none, he entertains a motion to issue a determination of applicability.

Commissioner Sharp motions to close the public meeting. Commissioner DiCarlo seconds. RF=yes, TS=yes, LD=yes, DD=yes.
The motion passes

Commissioner Sharp motions to issue a determination of applicability as a positive 5 with no notice of intent required and a negative 2 with special conditions. Commissioner DiCarlo seconds. There are no additional comments.

RF-yes, LD-yes, TS-yes, DD-yes

The motion passes.

The conditions are read into the record.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

- A. 558 & 590 Granville Road (26R-20 and 26R-21) – John Patterson
Proposal: Maintenance of existing drainage ditch

Ryan Nelson from RLA is present as the representative.

Mr. Nelson requests a continuance until August 9, 2022.

Commissioner DiCarlo motions to continue to August 9, 2022. Commissioner Sharp seconds. RF-yes, LD-yes, TS-yes, DD-yes
The motion passes.

- B. 216.5 Belanger Road (269-10, Lot 9B) DEP File # 333-816 – Gregory Boisvere
Proposal: Installation of Nitrex I/A nitrogen removal system

Gary Rubenstein of Lombardo Associates is present to explain the proposal.

Chairman Doe reads the legal language. Mr. Rubenstein details the plans given to the Commission. Chairman Doe asks for DEP comments. There are no comments. Commissioner Florek, Commissioner Sharp, and Consultant Leigh ask questions specific to the system itself and the impact on the environment. Mr. Rubenstein provides clarification.

Chairman Doe asks about a site visit. Coordinator Meassick explains the site and sees no problem with the location.

Chairman Doe asks from any further questions from the Commission. Seeing none, he asks for comments from the audience.

Lori-Ann Jones of 216 Belanger Road speaks up against the proposal and questions its legality. Mr. Rubenstein attempts to explain that the land survey is legal. Coordinator Meassick steps in to review the plans with Mrs. Jones and asks how the problems she is addressing relate to the wetlands protection act. Consultant Leigh suggests a site visit to field verify the measurements. Coordinator Meassick will coordinate with the Health Department to attend the site visit as well to measure the distances of the well to the septic.

Commissioner Sharp motions to continue to August 9, 2022 in order to approve measurements. Commissioner Florek seconds. RF-yes, LD-yes, TS-yes, DD-yes
The motion passes.

- C. 300 Union Street (35R-22) – Armand Cote
Proposal: Buffer Zone restoration and parking improvements

Ryan Nelson from RLA is present as the representative.

Chairman Doe entertains a motion to take item 5B out of order. No motion is made.

Chairman Doe reads the legal language. Mr. Nelson gives a detailed explanation of the site plans for restoration and expanding parking. Chairman Doe and Consultant Leigh question the size of the wetland. Mr. Nelson explains historical photos show a small barrier around the wetland that has changed over time. Consultant Leigh says the wetland was larger and has been filled. Commissioner Sharp would like to make site improvements on top of the restoration effort, but none are possible. Coordinator Meassick reads the DEP comments. Mr. Nelson explains that the gravel would be inlaid, providing no change to the flood zone. Consultant Leigh and Coordinator Meassick would like to do a site visit to review the delineation.

Commissioner Florek motions to continue to August 9, 2022 for a site visit. Commissioner DiCarlo seconds. RF-yes, TS-yes, LD-yes, DD-yes
The motion passes.

5. ENFORCEMENT

- A. 0 Bayberry Lane (46R-68) - Sergey Novenko
Violation: Removal of trees near an intermittent stream.

Ryan Nelson from RLA is present.

Mr. Nelson requests an extension till August 9, 2022.

Commissioner Sharp motions to continue to August 9, 2022. Commissioner Florek seconds. RF-yes, TS-yes, LD-yes, DD-yes
The motion passes.

- B. 300 Union Street (35R-22) – Custom Railing/Armand Cote
Violation: Filling of wetland and clearing trees

Chairman Doe entertains a motion to close out the enforcement and handle it under the notice of intent. Coordinator Meassick suggests the NOI should have a timeline for the restoration to happen. Commissioner sharp motions to close out the enforcement with the condition. Commissioner DiCarlo seconds. RF-yes, TS-yes, LD-yes, DD-yes
The motion passes.

C. 240 Russellville Road – Oscar Naula

Violation: Working outside the permanent limit of work

No one is present to represent the property. Coordinator Meassick has not heard from the consultant or Oscar and suggests continuing for two weeks.

Commissioner DiCarlo motions to continue till August 9, 2022. Commissioner Florek seconds. RF=yes, TS=yes, LD=yes, DD=yes

The motion passes.

6. CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE

A. 109 North Road – Local Ordinance Only – Yevgeniy Yunikov

Permit: Single family home

Mark Reed from Heritage Land Surveying and Engineering is present as the representative.

Mr. Reed addresses the items requested by the Commission at the prior meeting on July 12, 2022. He presents and explains the as-built plans and additions for stabilization that the Commission considered. He proposes native plant species be planted every 10ft along the slope and present it in 2 weeks to the Commission.

Commissioner Sharp motions to continue to August 9, 2022. Commissioner Florek seconds. RF=yes, TS=yes, LD=yes, DD=yes.

The motion passes.

B. Arm Brook Assistant Living - DEP File # 333-747

Permit: Storm water management system

Gail Cerscia is present on behalf of the applicant.

Consultant Leigh explains they need a letter from the engineer certifying the as-built plans and erosion controls have been removed. Mrs. Cerscia presents the as-built plans. There are questions on if the as-built plans are accurate. There is confusion on which DEP File she is requesting a certificate of compliance for. Only one request was received for 333-747 and not 333-647. Two applications, letters, and certifications are necessary to issue a certificate of compliance.

Commissioner DiCarlo motions to continue to July 9, 2022. Commissioner Sharp seconds. RF=yes, TS=yes, LD=yes, DD=yes

The motion passes.

7. OTHER ITEMS

A. Footbridge for NENST- David Conley

Mr. Conley presents to the commission a verbal proposal and his intentions to work towards a footbridge across the Westfield River to connect two trails.

8. COMMISSION DISCUSSION

A. Regulations & Procedures Q & A

B. Tree Policy

We are waiting for Vice Chairman Murphy to return in order to discuss.

C. Authorized Signature Form Boards/Commissions

Commissioner Sharp motions to give Chairman Doe the authorizing signature on behalf of the Commissioner. Commissioner Florek seconds. RF=yes, TS=yes, LD=yes, DD=yes. The motion passes.

D. Remain in person or return to Zoom

The commission will continue to meet in person

E. Minutes from June 14, 2022

Commissioner Sharp motions to approve the minutes of June 14, 2022. Commissioner DiCarlo seconds. RF=yes, TS=yes, LD=yes, DD=yes. The motion passes

F. Minutes from June 28, 2022

Commissioner Sharp motions to approve the minutes of June 28, 2022. Commissioner DiCarlo seconds. RF=yes, TS=yes, LD=yes, DD=yes the motion passes.

9. MOTION TO ADJORN

Commissioner DiCarlo motions to adjourn at 8:45pm. Commissioner Florek seconds. RF=yes, LD=yes, TS=yes, DD=yes The motion passes.

A true record, Attest:
Anna Meassick
Westfield Conservation Coordinator

