

# Minutes of the Meeting for the Halifax Conservation Commission April 25, 2023

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These minutes are an abstract of the Conservation Commission meeting held Tuesday, April 25, 2023, which are on file with the Conservation Department and posted on the Town of Halifax website and Area58 Halifax's YouTube page. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3B4GX7xhlSg>

**Present at the Meeting:** Edward Lane, Co-Chair, Kimberley King, Secretary, Steve Goodman, Member.

**Absent:** Kathy Evans, Chair.

Co-Chair Lane calls the Halifax Conservation Commission meeting into session, states members present and announces that the meeting is being recorded by Area 58 and can be viewed on YouTube.

**The Conservation Commission meeting opened at 7:00pm**

## **Hearings(s):**

- **7:00 PM NOI Hearing Continued:** 0 Highland Circle & 69 Summit Street: Proposal to construct a wetlands crossing to allow access to existing uplands. Peer Review by Eco System discussed at 03/23/23 meeting, revision requested.

A motion was made to continue the hearing for 0 Highland Circle & 69 Summit Street to May 24, 2023.

**Motion:** Kimberley King

**Second:** Steve Goodman

**ALL in favor 3-0**

- **7:15 PM RDA Hearing:** 3 Sixth Avenue: To remove 10 dead trees. Homeowner(s) Kenneth & Susan Nelson were present.
  - Owners and Board discussed the removal of 10 dead trees, leaving all stumps in place to deter erosion and contacting the tree warden/Selectmen's office regarding the dead tree on town property.

A motion was made to approve the removal of the 10 trees on the property with the condition that all stumps be left in place.

**Motion:** Steve Goodman

**Second:** Kimberley King

**ALL in favor 3-0**

## **Discussions and Actions to be Taken:**

- **7:30 PM – Appointment:** 21 Plymouth Street: Building an addition for an in-law apartment. Scott Clawson, owner.



- Board looking to see the plan. Board will recall when owner returns with plan.
- Board recalled 21 Plymouth Street. Mr. Clawson reviewed the plan with the Board for his proposed in-law-addition. Board determined the proposed addition is not within any wetlands.
- 416 Plymouth Street: Agricultural use for a green house in a business zone. Kozhaya Nessralla, owner was present.
  - Owner and Board discussed the greenhouse location, temporary structure & wetland area.
- 265 Monponsett Street/Halifax Trails:
  - Anonymous walk-in with concerns and photos of box turtles that may possibly be disrupted with the new construction.
    - Board discussed the complaint regarding concerns of box turtles being harmed during construction/development on the land. The Administrative Assistant will look into who owns the property for a site-visit. Commission does not want to trespass. Continued to next meeting.
- River Street Solar: Certificate of Compliance.
  - Board discussed their availability to do a site visit. Administrative Assistant will check May 4 availability with owners. Board also discussed the need to receive a copy of the owner's updated turtle plan/turtle crossing which was discussed at a previous meeting.
- Levy Break at Robbins Pond: Update.
  - Administrative Assistant updated the Board on the Emergency RDA to remove the riprap & boards from culvert and place on side to control erosion. Continued to next meeting for signatures.
- 250 Ligan Street: Morse Bros. Update.
  - The Board discussed the site-visit done on Monday, 04/24/23 with Brendan Moquin, Morse Bros., Chair Evans, Member Goodman, and Health Agent Valery. Member Goodman stated he will file a report of his opinion. DEP will also be filing a report. The Conflict of Interest/State Ethics filing when voting was also discussed. Member Goodman stated he will refile his Conflict of Interest/State Ethics.
- Carver Street Flooding: Update.
  - Administrative Assistant updated Board that an email was sent to the Highway Department on 04/25/23 asking for a status update on the Hanson Highway Department coming with their auger for the pipe/drain. Continue to keep Board apprised.
- 132 Fuller Street: Complaint Follow-up.
  - Board discussed their availability to do a site visit. Administrative Assistant will coordinate a site-visit.
- 0 Walnut Street: Complaint Follow-up.
  - 0 Highland Circle & 69 Summit Street (abuts 0 Walnut), they were delineated and that was the activity at the property.
- 0 Pine Street North/Snow Street: Complaint Follow-up. Letter sent to owner(s) on 04/19/23.
  - Administrative Assistant updated Board that a letter was sent to the owner of 0 Pine Street North/Snow Street that a complaint was filed and Conservation is requesting their presence at a meeting to discuss the matter and possibility do a site-visit.



There was no response. The Board discussed the original complaint and lack of cooperation from owner. Board discussed DEP also wanting Conservation to do a site-visit. Board requested Administrative Assistant contact the Town Administrator for guidance for Conservation next step on this matter.

- Cedar Street: (Halifax (M131, L1B)/Middleboro (M7, L3254) Complaint Follow-up.
  - Administrative Assistant updated Board on the Health Agent's site visit and the Board reviewed Agents notes and pictures. Co-Chair Lane will do a site-visit next week with Member Goodman.
- Agent/Consultant Discussion.
  - Continued to next meeting.
- Discuss and possibly vote to revise Conservation Fees (*Including but not limited to wetlands fee, Filing fees, stormwater management fees, etc...*)
  - Board discussed the possibility of raising Conservation fees.
    - The Board discussed the pros and cons of raising Conservation fees and would like to review the numbers more. Conservation may want to raise the fee a little bit, but also use discretion when requiring application that need fees, to strike a balance between the two.
  - Continued to next meeting.
- Vote to change the Conservation Commission meeting day/dates.
  - Beginning Wednesday, May 24, 2023, all Conservation meetings will fall on the 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of each month. The time will remain the same, 7-9pm.
    - The Board discussed the possibility and the benefits of changing the Conservation Commission meeting day/dates.
    - Continued to next meeting.

A motion was made to approve Invoice# A11978CL – 03/17/23 Legal Ad# 14245 – 3 Sixth Avenue.

**Motion:** Edward Lane

**Second:** Steve Goodman

**ALL in favor 3-0**

#### **Admin. Report:**

- 32 White Island Road: Update. Owner, Jayson Peterson, Kevin Paquette, Timberline Builders, and Mr. Tucker Borthwsh, 2A-1C Hoisting Operators License.
  - Administrative Assistant updated the Board on the retaining wall removed and replaced at 32 White Island Road. Owner presented statements regarding the degrading and erosion of the railroad tire wall and before and after pictures.
  - Board requested "After-the-Fact" paperwork be submitted to the Conservation office along with the filing fee. Administrative Assistant will email owner the appropriate paperwork.
- 18 Cherry: Update.
  - Not discussed.

#### **Bills to be Approved and Signed:**

- Express Newspaper – Invoice# A11978CL – 03/17/23 Legal Ad# 14245 – 3 Sixth Avenue – \$45.00.

A motion was made to approve Legal Ad# 14245 for 3 Sixth Avenue.

**Motion:** Steve Goodman

**Second:** Kimberley King

**ALL in favor 3-0**

**Signatures:** 0 & 314 Plymouth Street: Order of Conditions Signature Page.

Member Goodman signed Signature Page for 0 & 314 Plymouth Street Order of Conditions, Chair Evans needs to sign.

**Interoffice Memos or Other Correspondence**

- None

**Meeting Minutes to be Approved and Signed:**

- December 2022, Meeting Minutes (KK)
- January 2023, Meeting Minutes (KK)
- February 2023, Meeting Minutes (KK)

Secretary King signed the meeting minutes for 12/2022, 01/2023 and 02/2023.

A motion was made to Adjourn at 8:30PM.

**Motion:** Edward Lane

**Second:** Steve Goodman

**ALL IN FAVOR 3-0**

Respectfully typed and submitted by:  
Peggy Selter, Administrative Assistant  
Conservation Commission

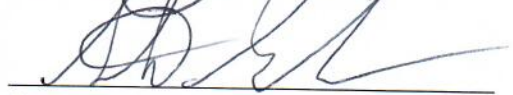
Approved Date: May 23, 2023



Edward Lane, Co-Chair



Kimberley King, Secretary



Steve Goodman, Member

**Next Meeting:** May 09, 2023.