

# GEORGETOWN CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Memorial Town Hall ♦ One Library Street ♦ Georgetown, MA 01833

## MEETING MINUTES FEBRUARY 16, 2023

<b>Committee:</b>	Conservation Commission
<b>Meeting Date:</b>	February 16, 2023
<b>Meeting Time:</b>	7:00pm
<b>Meeting Location:</b>	Zoom
<b>Commissioners Present:</b>	Rachel Bancroft, Chris Candia, Tom Howland, Logan Umberger, and Carl Shreder
<b>Staff Members Present:</b>	Julie Cantara (Administrative Assistant)
<b>Minutes Transcribed By:</b>	Julie Cantara
<b>Meeting Called to Order:</b>	7:03pm

---

### ***BUSINESS / DISCUSSION ITEMS***

---

1. Items not reasonably anticipated by the chair 48 hours in advance of the meeting.
2. Community gardens invasive species management – *Continued from January 19, 2023.*
3. Community gardens (CPC) project proposal – *Continued from January 19, 2023.*
4. Certificate of Compliance request for 30 Spofford Ave (DEP# 161-0406; GCC# 2000-24).
5. Violation letter for 36-38 Jackman Street.
6. Open Space projects (on-going and potential future projects).
7. Temporary Conservation Agent.
8. Illegal ATV riding at Hampshire Woods Conservation Area.

---

### ***HEARINGS***

---

**175 Central Street** (161-0908; GCC# 2022-17) – NOI – *Continued from January 19, 2023*  
Repair existing building into home office / single-family.

**38 Brook Street** (DEP# 161-0930; GCC# 2022-18) – NOI – *Continued from January 19, 2023*  
Septic system upgrade.

**51 West Main Street & 13 Prospect Street** (DEP# 161-0931; GCC# 2023-01) – NOI - *New*  
Proposed installation of a water fountain to improve water quality.

# GEORGETOWN CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Memorial Town Hall ♦ One Library Street ♦ Georgetown, MA 01833

## MEETING MINUTES FEBRUARY 16, 2023

**Carl:** It being on or after 7:00 on February 16, 2023, I'm going to open the meeting of the Georgetown Conservation Commission. And this public meeting is being conducted in a way that is an attempt to satisfy the open meeting law and other State laws pertaining to the public hearings of the town's public bodies. It's a good faith best effort to comply with the new law, Chapter 22 of the acts of 2022, signed into law on February 15, 2022. On July 16, 2022, Governor Baker signed into law an act relative to extending certain state of emergency accommodations which, among other things, extends the expiration of the provisions pertaining to the open meeting law to March 31, 2023. Specifically, this extension allows public bodies to continue holding meetings remotely without a quorum of the public body physically present at a meeting location, and to provide adequate alternative access to remote meetings. The act does not make new changes to the open meeting law, or other, extending the expiration date of the temporary provisions regarding remote meetings from July 15, 2022 to March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2023.

**Carl:** We only have about another month that we can do this anyway. We have a number of business items on the agenda this evening, and also, we have several hearings as well.

### HEARING: 175 CENTRAL STREET

#### **175 Central Street** (DEP# 161-0908; GCC#2021-01) – NOI – *Continued from 1/19/2023*

Replace an existing septic system, upgrade and renovate existing building, site work, and replacement of drain pipe.

#### **Present:**

Brian Farmer (applicant)

Brigham Lee (abutter)

**Carl:** So, it being on or after 7:00, I want to probably start off with the hearings, and we can then tackle a number of the business items. It being on or after 7:00, I'm going to reopen 175 central street; GCC# 161-0908, and actually that's probably the DEP. The GCC number is 2022-17, and that's to repair existing septic into a building, a single-family home. And if you could have the applicant and/or consultant, and if you could identify yourself for the record. I think, as far as this hearing is a concerned, we still have to do the third-party review. I've got the information, but we haven't they haven't conducted that, and that's really the next phase of this. Is Mr. Farmer out there?

**Julie:** Yeah, he's on the call. Mr. Farmer? Oh, he was on the call.

**Carl:** So again, the third-party review has not been done, to my knowledge, at this point.

# GEORGETOWN CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Memorial Town Hall ♦ One Library Street ♦ Georgetown, MA 01833

## MEETING MINUTES FEBRUARY 16, 2023

- Julie:** No, I sent the proposal.
- Carl:** Right, I saw that. It shouldn't take them long to do that, but there's probably not a lot of additional detail we have at this point. So, is Mr. Farmer out there in the audience?
- Julie:** It says he is. I don't know if he can't hear us.
- Carl:** I notice there's someone else on the waiting room, too.
- Brigham Lee:** Brian's here. He says he has no audio, so he can't hear you; he says he can't hear you.
- Carl:** Okay. He can't hear me?
- Brigham:** No, and therefore we can't hear him.
- Rachel:** You're breaking up too, sir; we're only hearing parts.
- Brigham:** Is that better?
- Rachel:** That's better, thank you so much.
- Brigham:** Yep. So sorry about that. But, Brian, just text me to say that he doesn't have audio, so I guess that's something to work on.
- Julie:** Carl, do you want me to try to type it in the chat?
- Brigham:** I can text him to do so.
- Carl:** I get from the 175 Central Street standpoint, there's not a lot of new information on that until we do the third-party review. I did get a comment that you may be doing some expansion of the property; a building at this point, which is a little bit separate - but, that's another issue.
- Rachel:** Can he log out, perhaps, and then try to log back in? Sometimes that works.
- Carl:** It does sometimes. For whatever reason the computer just doesn't work. I know that happens on mine occasionally that the audio just won't work on it, and I'll have to re-plug everything in and try it again. Let's see, I'm not seeing anything in the chat.
- Brian:** Brian farmer here by audio.

# GEORGETOWN CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Memorial Town Hall ♦ One Library Street ♦ Georgetown, MA 01833

## MEETING MINUTES FEBRUARY 16, 2023

- Carl:** Okay, we can hear you. Thank you. So, Mr. Farmer, do we have any updates, from your perspective on 175 (Central Street)? Again, we haven't had the third-party review done, and normally to make the next level of progress, if we get that done, then we can bring this to fruition.
- Brian:** Yeah, I have no updates, Mr. Chairman. I reached out, but my understanding is they have everything, but they just haven't completed their review.
- Carl:** Okay.
- Rachel:** Do you think we should continue it?
- Carl:** Well, absolutely. I don't want to waste a lot of time on the hearing until we get the third-party review. I just wanted to ask Mr. Farmer - is there any construction going on out there at this point?
- Brian:** Not at this point, no.
- Carl:** Because someone had...
- Brian:** A repair permit was issued, and some repairs were made, but this you can't really do any more. There's no more work that could be done until you get to the...
- Carl:** You're talking about to the building, per se?
- Brian:** The inside of the building, yes.
- Carl:** Okay. Because someone commented and said it looks like they're building something, and I said they shouldn't be doing anything; expanding or anything, until we issue permits, etc.
- Brian:** Right. There's been no activity for 45 days at least, and there's not any activity now.
- Carl:** Okay. As far as moving this forward, I would recommend that we continue to next month. It's likely they'll have the third-party done at that point.
- Julie:** At 7:10; I think the two 47 West Street applications are 7:00 and 7:05 for next month.
- Rachel:** Okay. Mr. Chairman, I'd like to make a motion to continue 175 central Street to March 16, 2023 at 7:10.

# GEORGETOWN CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Memorial Town Hall ♦ One Library Street ♦ Georgetown, MA 01833

## MEETING MINUTES FEBRUARY 16, 2023

**Tom:** Second, Howland.

**Carl:** We have a motion, and it's been seconded to continue the Notice of Intent for 175 Central Street to... what was the date again?

**Rachel:** March Sixteenth.

**Carl:** March Sixteenth at 7:10 pm. And we have a motion on the table, but before we do that; are there any abutters to 175 central sheet that would like to make a comment?

**Carl:** Okay, hearing none. I'll call the question, all in favor, roll call vote:

### ROLL CALL

<b>Rachel Bancroft</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>Chris Candia</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>Tom Howland</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>Logan Umberger</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>Carl Shreder</b>	<b>AYE</b>

Motion carries.

# GEORGETOWN CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Memorial Town Hall ♦ One Library Street ♦ Georgetown, MA 01833

## MEETING MINUTES FEBRUARY 16, 2023

### HEARING: 38 BROOK STREET

**38 Brook Street** (DEP# 161-0930; GCC# 2022-18) – NOI – *Continued from 1/19/2023*  
Septic system upgrade.

**Present:**

Brian Farmer (applicant)

**Carl:** It being on or after 7:05, I'm going to reopen a Notice of Intent for 38 Brook Street; DEP# 161-0930, GCC# 2022-18. And, as I recall before on this one, we still had an open Order of Conditions that we had to resolve.

**Brian:** That's correct, Mr. Chairman, Brian Farmer.

**Carl:** Okay. So, have you made any progress on that?

**Brian:** I sent a blank...typically, the Conservation Commission is the one that signs off on a Certificate of Compliance. I sent a blank form to the Conservation Commission for them to fill out; that's really where it's at.

**Julie:** Excuse me, I'm sorry. We receive the request, but everything needs to be filled out by you. We need to check for a \$150 or \$250 if it's more than 3 years old, and you need an as-built plan. So, there are many requirements, it's all on our website; but, that's always how a Certificate of Compliance is initiated. I don't remember seeing any blank form. I can double check.

**Brian:** Yeah, I can look at my email. But there was no construction, nothing was ever done on that; so, there's no as-built plan.

**Carl:** Right, but just from a matter of legality, we're not supposed to move forward with an NOI, with an open Order of Conditions – we have to resolve that to move this thing forward. The quicker you can do that, the faster this thing is going to move.

**Brian:** Okay, I understand.

**Carl:** When you think you can get that to us; by March Sixteenth?

**Brian:** Definitely. I'll fill it out, and hopefully it'll be done tomorrow on Monday; but definitely before March Sixteenth.

# GEORGETOWN CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Memorial Town Hall ♦ One Library Street ♦ Georgetown, MA 01833

## MEETING MINUTES FEBRUARY 16, 2023

- Carl:** If there's any problem, please let the office know, because we would like to move that forward right away. Okay, again, I would entertain a motion to continue this if we have a time - and before we do that, are there any of butters to 38 Brook Street? If you would like to make a comment, please do so and identify yourself with the record, please.
- Logan:** Mr. Chair, I have a question. This is Logan here. So, since this is connected to 175 (Central Street), and we've asked for a third-party review, are we positive that's going to be finished by next meeting?
- Carl:** Not positive, but we would continue to the next meeting. Obviously, if they're not finished, we would still continue. I don't necessarily want to push it out any further for the applicant; I want to get it to the next meeting - because if it's not, then we can discuss what we can discuss and move it forward. But I don't want to pick a date far out into the future, and it might get done in in a week from now for all I know; and then that will leave us in a difficult situation.
- Logan:** Is that up to the applicant's responsibility to schedule that and ensure that goes through, or is that the Commission's role?
- Carl:** It's the Commission to make sure to push the third-party to make sure they get it. I mean, we have to call them and make sure they're on track to get it; the applicant ultimately pays for that, but we're contracting with them, and you know they're going to be sending it to us. So, we have to do that.
- Julie:** I can get the paperwork done and ready for the next meeting, in no time. So, as soon as all that's filled out and I have the payment, I can certainly put it on right away for the next meeting.
- Carl:** And the 175...these are two separate hearings; the third-party is not really for 38 (Brook Street), that's for 175 (Central Street).
- Julie:** Yeah, this was just that we can't hear this new one until the old one is closed out.
- Logan:** Thank you for the clarification; I thought they were connected.
- Carl:** Well, I mean originally the sites were kind of linked cause they were part of one, as I recall in the past. But these are two distinct hearings, so there's no third-party on this particular one, it's only on the other one. The other one had some flooding issues and other things going on with it over the years, so that's why it was a bit more complicated. Okay, so I'll entertain a motion to continue this, and I would probably look to March Sixteenth again.

# GEORGETOWN CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Memorial Town Hall ♦ One Library Street ♦ Georgetown, MA 01833

## MEETING MINUTES FEBRUARY 16, 2023

**Rachel:** What time?

**Julie:** 7:15.

**Rachel:** Mr. Chairman, I'd like to make a motion to continue 38 Brook Street to March Sixteenth at 7:15.

**Chris:** Second, Candia.

**Carl:** There is a motion, and it's been seconded to continue the Notice of Intent for 38 Brook Street to March Sixteenth at 7:15 pm. Is there any further discussion? All in favor. Roll, call, vote.

### ROLL CALL

<b>Rachel Bancroft</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>Chris Candia</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>Tom Howland</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>Logan Umberger</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>Carl Shreder</b>	<b>AYE</b>

Motion carries.



# GEORGETOWN CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Memorial Town Hall ♦ One Library Street ♦ Georgetown, MA 01833

## MEETING MINUTES FEBRUARY 16, 2023

### HEARING: 51 WEST MAIN STREET & 13 PROSPECT STREET

**51 West Main & 13 Prospect (DEP# 161-0931; GCC# 2023-01) – NOI – New**  
Proposed installation of a water fountain to improve water quality.

**Present:**

John Colantoni (applicant)

Michael DeRosa (consultant from DeRosa Environmental for the applicant)

Paul Ruvido (owner of the pond)

Walt Gancarz (resident)

Joe Perusse (abutter)

**Carl:** And what's the time? It is on or after 7:10 pm. I'm going to open up a new Notice of Intent for 51 West Main Street and 13 Prospect Street; DEP# is 161-0931, GCC# 2023-01. That's the proposed installation of a water fountain to improve water quality. If I could have the applicant and/or consultant, if you identify yourself for the record, please.

**John:** John Colantoni, applicant.

**Mike:** And Mike DeRosa, consultant.

**Carl:** Okay. And Julie, so we have green cards for this?

**Julie:** We didn't get all the green cards, but he did send all the certificates of mailing, so they did send all the proof.

**Carl:** All right. Well, if you want to give us a quick overview of this again, and then, you know we can take the next steps. I briefly reviewed what you had submitted from the NOI.

**Mike:** Yeah. I think John wants to make some opening remarks, and then I'll go through the technical piece.

**Carl:** Sure, go ahead.

# GEORGETOWN CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Memorial Town Hall ♦ One Library Street ♦ Georgetown, MA 01833

## MEETING MINUTES FEBRUARY 16, 2023

**John:** Mr. Chair, thank you for having us back. We appreciate it, and really want to thank Julie; I know she's in that office by herself right now, and thank her for all the work that she's done with the NOI, and walking us through it and everything. Thank you, Julie. I'm going to say a few words, and then I'm going to turn it over to Mike. All I ask through the Chair is, if we can finish our presentation before we take on some questions, because I think our presentation may answer a lot of questions to make things easier. As you know, what we're trying to do is put a water mover in the wetland/pond, whatever we want to call it back there, and I've knocked on some doors over the last 24hrs to the neighbors in the area. They had some good questions. No one was against it whatsoever, so I just wanted to share that with the Commission. I got to talk to 4 or 5 neighbors in person, at their doors, explaining what we're trying to do. One excellent question that came up, was one of the first questions that I asked when I started looking into it - and that is, would this affect the present wildlife that is there? Would it hurt any of the wildlife that is present? Would it stop that wildlife from being present? And when I've asked that question to any Wetlands Scientists, including Mike, or any engineer or anyone that's been doing this a long time, the answer is no; it would not affect any wildlife that is presently there, or scare off any wildlife that was there. That was one of the questions that the neighbor asked, because they like the wildlife that's there, and they actually loved that the townhouses that we built helped sound proof the neighborhood and some of the lights on the main street. In addition, we really want to thank the Commission for the last meeting, and spending the time to put us down the right track. That's why we filed the new NOI, as much as that was frustrating for us, out of respect for the Board on their request, and saying that that would be the right avenue to take with this; that's why we did that, so thank you for getting us down the right avenue. I just want to share before I turn it over to Mike. I'm personally invested in this, because of finishing the vision back there; but not only the vision that makes it even better to add to that meadow that we've done. And with that, Thad Berry, our engineer for over 40 years recommends this. He has also been a peer reviewer for the town of Georgetown. Mike DeRosa, I think over 40 years, recommends this. Dave Varga, who is the inspector for the Planning Board of all these type sites - and Steve has gone to Dave at times, including our sites, to ask Dave's opinion and to oversee and look at certain things, even though he's doing the site stuff for the Planning Board. Dave Varga, you might have seen something that he submitted today, has been watching this very closely, and knows this site like the back of his hand, and he's in favor of it as well. And then two people that are very important to this site, and that's Ray who owns the Fraser Company; he's actually an engineer, and he's the site company that's done a lot of work there, is very much in favor of it. And then Angelo, who's the owner of ERA, he's done a lot of the site work there, also recommends it. Now, both of those people aren't public officials or anything, but Angelo's been in business over 31 years; Ray's been in business I think over 45, and they've worked on a lot of wetland sites. So, I just want to show to the Board that this isn't just some off the cuff, let's make this look pretty, you know, with the water movement shooting up the water - that's not the case at all. We've spent a lot of time on this. I've been physically on the site and involved in 2017, and then we physically bought it March of 2018; so, I've spent a lot of time there, and you know we very much like to see this happen. With all that said, I want to thank the Commission again. I want to turn it over to Mike with some of the details that the Commission had asked for at the last meeting.

# GEORGETOWN CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Memorial Town Hall ♦ One Library Street ♦ Georgetown, MA 01833

## MEETING MINUTES FEBRUARY 16, 2023

**Carl:** Go ahead.

**Mike:** Just one more administrative thing is, we do have a file number from DEP: 161-0931, and there's no technical comments at this time from DEP. I did want to start with two videos. You know, pictures are worth a thousand words, so I wanted to start with a video of the pond itself. This was a couple of years ago. It was 2020, I think. But what we did was, we went out, we were just assessing the pond; it was one of the things the Commission had asked us to do. So, Tyler went out with a GoPro camera that we use. You'll see we attach them to our little remote-control boats, and then we use this for monitoring our ponds and vernal pools and streams. And I wanted to give you a visual of the water quality of the pond. This is April, so this is the beginning of vernal pool season, and you'll see the suspended solids are very high. There's almost no visibility until you get up close to things like this stick. So, it really is poor. Remember, it's getting most of its run-off water from downtown Georgetown. So, a lot of this comes into play, and this is what John wants to help; he wants to help clarify the water, get more bacteria going - and you do that by increasing the dissolved oxygen. Then, to compare this, I wanted to show a comparison to some of our other ponds that we monitor. So, this is a vernal pool and a yellow-spotted salamander; you can see the density of the macroinvertebrates in there. This is another pool in Framingham that we monitor.

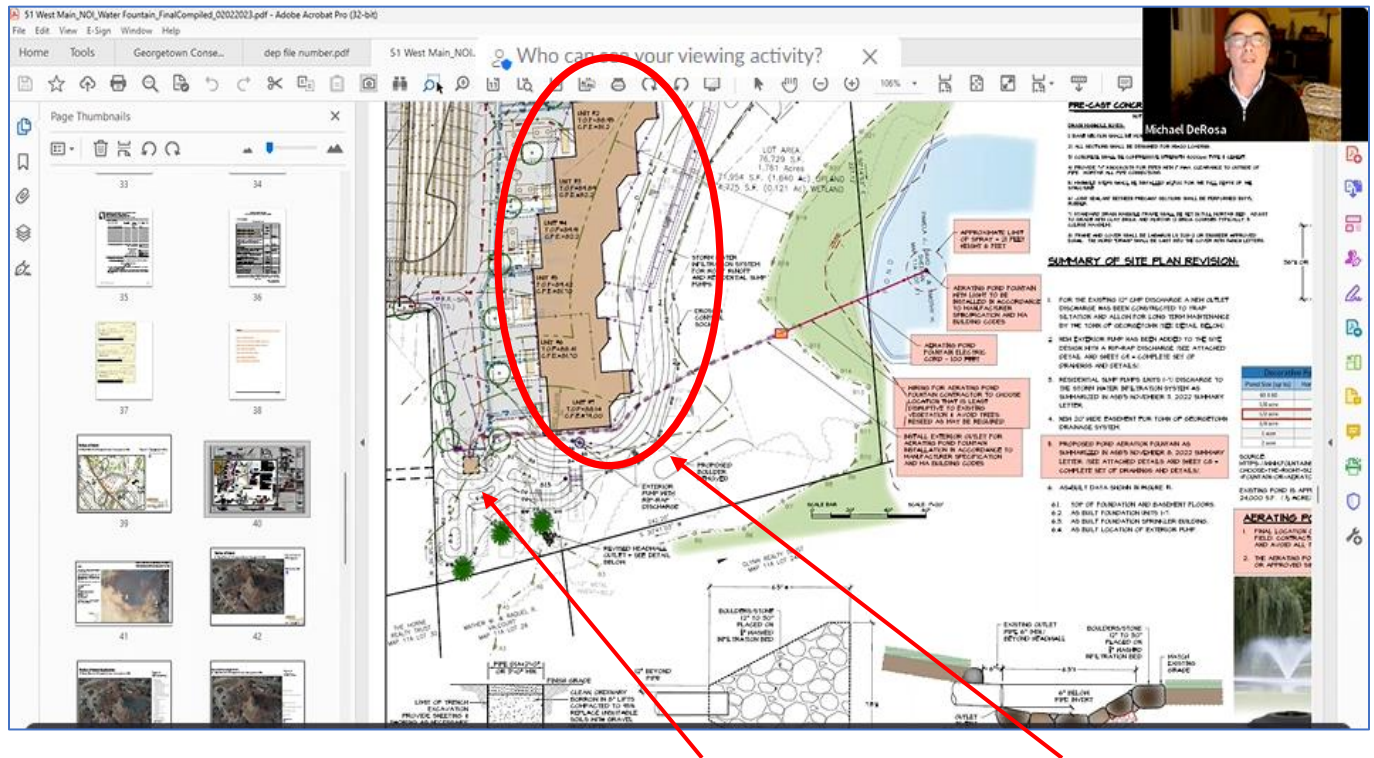
**Carl:** And this has a fountain in it?

**Mike:** No, no. These, I'm just comparing; this is what clear water, food water quality should be. So, these are just to give you a comparison to the existing ponds we're trying to fix. And I'm not saying it's ever going to be that clear, but it's going to help. Just to do an overview, this is the plan by Thad Berry:

# GEORGETOWN CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Memorial Town Hall ♦ One Library Street ♦ Georgetown, MA 01833

## MEETING MINUTES FEBRUARY 16, 2023

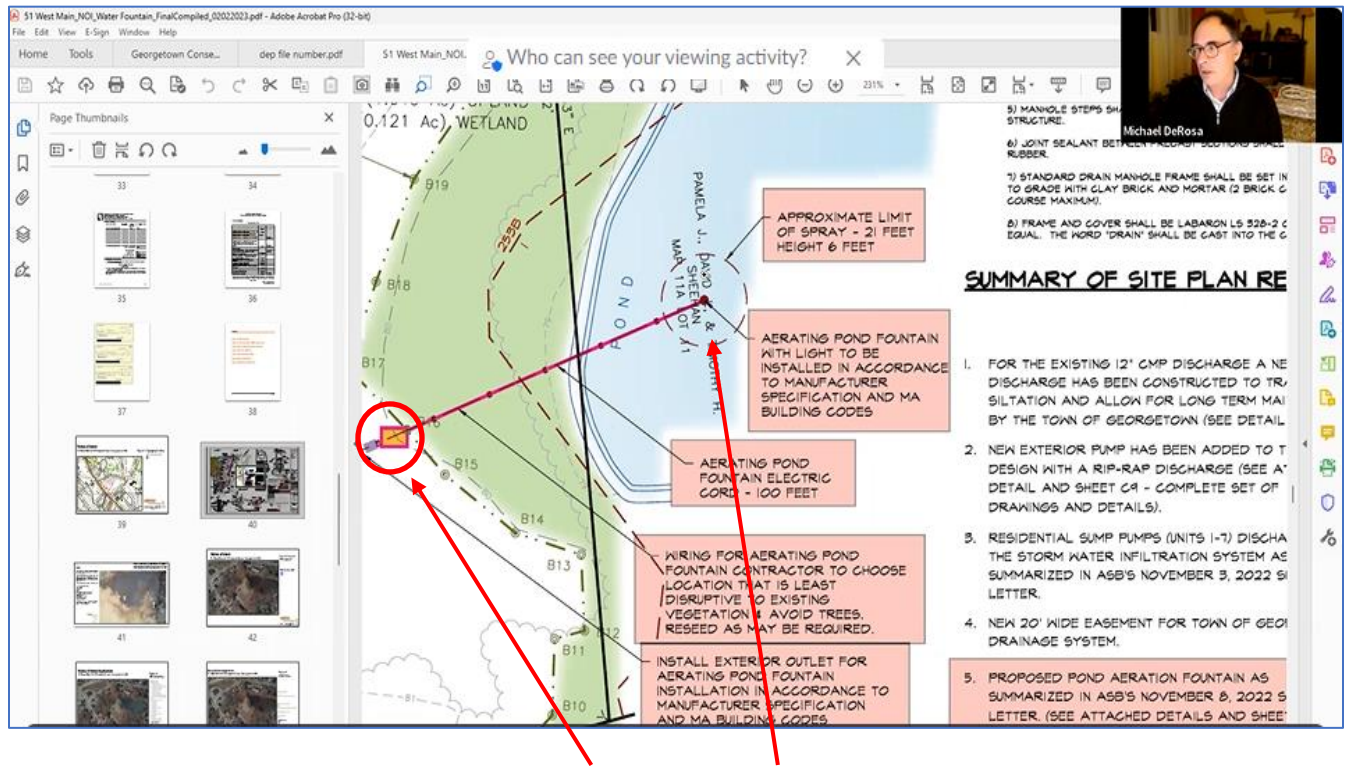


**Mike:** Essentially, we are going to start at the electric shed. These are the units, the parking, and then the electric sheds there that we're going to trench out to the BVW edge. So, we're not going to trench into the BVW. At the end of that trench the electricity will come up into a connection box, and then it'll just be the core that goes to the fountain head. I think what's important here, just to sort of demystify this for people, is this fountain is not going to be like one of these fountains that that you see at a golf course or anything like that. It's only a .75 horsepower motor. The ones that you see at the golf courses are 5 horsepower, so this is very small. It only shoots the water up about 5 or 6 feet, and a radius of about 20 to 21 feet. So, it's not going to be this big grandiose thing; it's really there to get oxygen in the water, move some of the surface water around - it's not going to be disruptive to the ecosystem at all from a velocity, or generating a lot of disturbance in that regard. So, that's the project as far as the contents.

# GEORGETOWN CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Memorial Town Hall ♦ One Library Street ♦ Georgetown, MA 01833

## MEETING MINUTES FEBRUARY 16, 2023



**Mike:** We're going to do a trench to here, a box to here, and then a core that's just going to lay out to the to the fountain. There'll be a couple of couple of anchors to keep it in place, but that's all standard.

Now, part of this is one of the things the Commission was really talking about at the last meeting, is monitoring and water quality data. We've only got one month of data because we've only sampled it once, but we sampled it February first, and we're going to do it every month on a monthly schedule and look at the influent water coming in from the street, and then also approximately where the fountain is going to be. And it was very interesting to look at these, even just one sampling time, and I'll go through that now with the data. Let's see if there's anything else I wanted to show you. It's just not that much to be said as far as what we're doing; it's just the fountain and the trenching.



# GEORGETOWN CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Memorial Town Hall ♦ One Library Street ♦ Georgetown, MA 01833

## MEETING MINUTES FEBRUARY 16, 2023

**Mike:** Here's the water quality data, and I'll go through it. There's a lot of parameters.

Michael DeRosa

**Table 1. Summary of Water Quality Testing**

Sampling Location					S1	S2
Sampling Date					2/1/2022	2/1/2022
Mass EPA Water Quality Standard	Units	Class A	Class B	Class C	-	-
Water Quality Parameters						
Total Dissolved Solids (TDS)	ppt	-	-	-	0.56	0.39
Conductivity	( $\mu$ S/cm)	-	-	-	502.35	352.69
Temperature	C	<20	<20	<29.4	3.05	3.64
Salinity	psu/ppt	-	-	-	0.41	0.28
pH	pH	6.5-8.3	6.5-8.3	6.5-9.0	4.93	5.44
DO (Dissolved oxygen, concentration)	mg/L	>5	>5	>5	9.34	9.91
DO (Dissolved oxygen, saturation)	%	-	-	-	68.13	74.82
Oxygen (partial pressure)	Torr	-	-	-	108.48	119.05
Chlorophyll-a	RFU	-	-	-	0.07	3.37
BGA (blue green algae)		-	-	-	0.02	0.61
Barometric pressure	mBAR	-	-	-	1021.04	1020.88

- S1, as you remember, was the influent one; the one we're calling influent, it's the one from the stream. And then S2 is where the fountain is going to be, and this is the February date. We're hoping to continue this through the year because it's going to be very illustrative as we get into the season, the dry season, and we start to see more run off.
- So, total dissolved solids - that's the suspended solids that we saw in that video; that's kind of what this is measuring. And here it's 0.56; definitely more at the influent than we see in the pond itself. This is a factor of the run-off, so as the run-off comes out of the storm drains, it's mobilizing some of the sediment, and that's why we're seeing it high there.
- Conductivity, again, the same story. You've got 502 units here, and then 352 out, where the fountain is going to be. So again, we have not great influent water coming in.
- Temperature is about the same, it's actually cooler as you come in.
- The salinity is about double at the influent to the where the fountain is going to be.
- Ph is low, very low. I should say we're comparing these to class A, B, and C class State water quality standards, Federal water quality standards. We really want to be at a neutral at about 7, a little bit less than 7, and we're very lower at 5, 5.44. So, I'm not sure what's causing that acidification of the water as it comes in, but that's something I want to watch as we monitor into the future.

# GEORGETOWN CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Memorial Town Hall ♦ One Library Street ♦ Georgetown, MA 01833

## MEETING MINUTES FEBRUARY 16, 2023

- Dissolved oxygen is about 9 PPM, which is not horrible; 6 to 9 is really where you want to be.
- The dissolved oxygen saturation is low. It should be between 60 and 100, so that's a little bit low. We want to get more dissolved oxygen into the system. Partial pressure, I am not sure about this; I need to research this myself. I'll come back in one of our monthly reports to you and explain what that number means, but it's obviously lower at the influent, and a little bit higher at the location.
- These are chlorophyll numbers. These are very, very low action items are usually at around 10 parts per unit.

**Carl:** Wouldn't that depend on the time of the year you do that?

**Mike:** It is. So, you're going to see an increase in this likely in the summer, when the water temperature gets higher. And then Barometric pressure is just an error.

**Carl:** Yeah, that's not too relevant for this.

**Mike:** It's just part of what the unit gives us. So, that's really it. The main take homes here are, this is not a big fountain, it's a small fountain. A trench and then a cable, the impacts are very minimal, and it's not going to be a very turbulent kind of thing. The air gets dissolved into the water droplets as they're in the air, and then fall into the water.

**Carl:** Was it a different fountain you were talking about before? I seem to remember something about like 21 feet of spray. Is that a different fountain?

**Mike:** No, that's what I said earlier. It's 21 feet in radius. It's only about 5 or 6 feet in height; 5 and a half feet in height. It's a small motor. It's a small pump, so it's not going to be not going to be this Las Vegas type fountain with lights and everything.

**Carl:** It's not going to be like fountain hills in Arizona, huh?

**Mike:** No, it's not. I just came back from South Carolina visiting my parents, and every golf course down there has a fountain in it. So, it's a very common technology and a very common thing to do.

**Carl:** You answered one of my questions about the DO; that was helpful. I had a couple other questions relating to this. Are there any other examples that you've worked on around here? Fountains? I mean, I've been in this business a while, too, and I haven't seen any; so, are there any you can guys say, I did one here, and I did one in Andover, I did one in Norwell?

# GEORGETOWN CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Memorial Town Hall ♦ One Library Street ♦ Georgetown, MA 01833

## MEETING MINUTES FEBRUARY 16, 2023

- Mike:** Yes, absolutely. We work at Brooksby Village in Peabody, and they have two ponds similar to this.
- Carl:** I guess I'm also getting hung up on – we're calling this a wetland and then it's a pond; it depends.
- Mike:** Yeah, a pond is a kind of wetland, right?
- Carl:** Yeah, but it's not a traditional.
- Mike:** It's protected under the Wetlands Protection Act. It's protected as land under water body.
- Carl:** I get it, but I could say that Pentucket Pond is a wetland. I don't I don't have a fountain in that, either. But, if you've got any more examples that you could throw our way, that would kind of be helpful for me. And I got a question that I'm not sure you can answer, but it's something that I think about based on a small water body. What's the increased evaporation rate per day, if I'm looking at a 90-degree July day? Obviously, if I have a greater surface area of water molecules, I'm going to evaporate it at a much greater rate in the hot weather than I would now. So, how much quicker am I going to evaporate the water out of that, you know, in a dry period when I'm not having a lot of rain then without that?
- Mike:** Well, I'm sure there's numbers to do that. But again, this is a small fountain, it's not going to be shooting up water very high. I would think it would be. It would be de minimis. There will be some evaporation, especially in a hot day, but the operating times can be monitored, too. You could run this at night when it's not sunny, when it's not hot, and it's not going to evaporate. It'll do what it's supposed to do.
- Carl:** You referenced the monitoring, and you kind of talked about that; so that would be the kind of monitoring for the parameters you talked about? DO and salinity, that's what you'll be doing?
- Mike:** That's what we'll be doing on a monthly basis throughout the year.
- Carl:** Throughout the year? Because I wasn't clear whether it was just like a onetime thing.
- Mike:** No, I want to look at the trends. I want to look at the monthly changes.



# GEORGETOWN CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Memorial Town Hall ♦ One Library Street ♦ Georgetown, MA 01833

## MEETING MINUTES FEBRUARY 16, 2023

- John:** If I may jump in for just a minute. One of the ideas that was talked about is the best time of year to install this is over the next 30 days, because it's not going to create any problems. And then what I wanted to suggest to the Board is, we could have DeRosa Environmental, Mike's company, monitor this for a 12-month period. And maybe once a month take the readings of the water - I don't know all the technical details, and at the Board's request, if you tell us to come back once a quarter over the year or whatever it may be, we could come back and give you the feedback on everything. I think you're going to find that it's going to be extremely helpful. But this isn't something that's going to run 24/7, as Mike mentioned. It's not something that's obviously going to run 12 months a year.
- Carl:** Well, who would determine that, though? Who would determine what the schedule is?
- John:** Well, two things. As we mentioned at the last meeting, this is no cost to the Town or to any of the neighbors. The Condo Association will take care of this in regard to any repairs or maintenance that had to be done or anything, and they'd also be paying for the electrical fees as well to run it. So, that's why we also thought it was important to have Mike's company involved for the first 12 months, to help decide the hours of operation and things like that. And then, after a year, the Condo Association would take care of that, and monitor that. But that's why we thought it would be important for Mike to be involved with that first 12 months, to make sure that it's all done right, and we have it all smoothed out in regard to certain hours that it should run, not run what temperatures, that it gets shut off on, things of that sort.
- Carl:** My experience with Condo Associations is they don't function very well, but that's my opinion.
- John:** Well, you also have to remember that I'm physically going to be involved in the site for at least probably the next 2 or 3 years. So, I'm going to help with that situation. It's not a type thing where you can have a Condo Association take this over once it's installed, and then have to take care of it forever from day one; that that's not the case at all.
- Rachel:** Mr. Chairman, I'm wondering if it would be a good idea to have a third-party review just so that we're clear?
- Carl:** That wouldn't be a bad idea if we could get it done in a reasonable time. I had one more question for Mr. DeRosa. I'm unaware of one; is there a DO standard for Wetlands?

# GEORGETOWN CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Memorial Town Hall ♦ One Library Street ♦ Georgetown, MA 01833

## MEETING MINUTES FEBRUARY 16, 2023

- Mike:** Dissolved oxygen standard? No. The numbers we were comparing to are the EPA numbers, and they like to see it around 8 or 9.
- Carl:** For wetlands or water bodies?
- Mike:** For any water.
- Carl:** Again, if I've got a lake, I need high levels of DO for fish and things like that that have gills, versus other types of situations. Because I can guarantee in a traditional swamp, I'm not going to get that level of DO. But okay.
- John:** Mr. Chair, if I may just comment on what was just asked from the Board. So, I totally respect the member of the board suggesting a third-party review, but we would much rather put the money into monitoring this and seeing the positives of it, instead of spending money on a third-party review, because I think we're going to find that a third-party review is not going to find any negative of this; it's just a matter of if the Commission wants to do it. That would be our request, and I'm just curious what the other Commission members have to say.
- Carl:** Given that we're kind of without full staff right now; that's one of the drivers from my perspective. Any other comments from Commissioners?
- Logan:** What would be the question that would be answered by a third-party review?
- Rachel:** We would know exactly what type of wetland we were looking at. We would know what chances of it completely drying up, and how often it would be; where the lines were, etc., in the setbacks, and what they're reading for, because we also have to take into account that we also need that scientific data from a third-party as well.
- John:** So, if I may answer that - everything that you just said are all fantastic points, no disagreement at all. But everything that you just said, you already have the answers to, or we wouldn't have been able to do this project. We know the lines of the wetlands. I've been in town since I was 13 years old. This body of water has never dried up 100%. And let's take the present time. Since 2017, when I've been really involved. Not this past summer, but the summer involved before, was the driest summer, I believe in history, and this didn't dry up one iota. So, it's never going to completely dry up. The other items that you had mentioned are all facts that, again we wouldn't have been able to do the project; the meadow wouldn't have been able to be created. We have all those facts already, so.
- Carl:** It should be pretty easy to verify that, though, if I had someone take a look at it.

# GEORGETOWN CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Memorial Town Hall ♦ One Library Street ♦ Georgetown, MA 01833

## MEETING MINUTES FEBRUARY 16, 2023

- Mike:** Mike DeRosa again, to respond to that comment. We know what kind of wetland it is; you've got bordering vegetated wetland on a water body. And it's a pond. A pond is a kind of wetland under the Wetlands Protection Act. It's protected as land under water body. But yeah, it's an open water body. So, I think we know that, we know the setbacks from those wetlands, because those were all confirmed by your third-party reviewer during the process, the NOI process for the project. So, I think you have the answers to those questions, and yeah, I think this is a very minor situation. Fountains are used all over the place, to improve water quality. We're happy to do whatever you want to do, but I think you already have the information you need.
- Rachel:** I would also like to see what their opinions are, as far as putting it in this particular wetland. And when we asked if this was a pond or a wetland, that was not clarified in the beginning of this discussion. So, that's why I asked about that. When Carl asked; when the chair asked.
- Mike:** Understood.
- Carl:** I think someone was requesting that we do a third-party. Is that a motion? Is there a second? From my perspective, I want to find out definitively what the impact of the fountain is. I think we can figure out, based on the data, where the BVW starts, etcetera; but what is the implication on wildlife, based on the fountain?
- Paul:** May I talk, please?
- Carl:** Who is that?
- Paul:** Could I talk, please?
- Carl:** If you identify yourself.
- Paul:** Yes, I'm, Paul Ruvido, I'm actually the owner of the pond, and up 13 Prospect Street.
- Carl:** Okay. Go ahead, sir.
- Paul:** I'm not comfortable talking in front of other people, so please bear with me.
- Carl:** No problem.

# GEORGETOWN CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Memorial Town Hall ♦ One Library Street ♦ Georgetown, MA 01833

## MEETING MINUTES FEBRUARY 16, 2023

**Paul:** When John approached me for this idea, and to talk to me about if he can put the water mover in the pond, which a pond is a wetland, pretty much – lake, river, all wetland; but pretty much the benefits of it. It's not going in as being something pretty to look at. It's pretty much going in to improve the water. If you look back at the very first picture that John, I believe John put up - did you notice how green it was, and not very pretty to look at? The water mover will keep that from happening. If anybody's familiar with Crystal Lake in Peabody, the water mover was put in pretty much for the exact same reason as Michael was talking about. There is a lake, a pond, I should say in Lynn – I'm drawing a blank on the name, but it's right on 129.

**Carl:** Let's see, you have Brown's Pond and you have Slew's Pond.

**Paul:** I think it's Brown's Pond, I can't remember. But I don't know if anybody remembers that water fountain that was put in there; that wasn't put in there to look pretty, it was put in for the water quality. That was actually very disgusting water for years and years, and when that water fountain went in, it actually looks amazing now. It keeps the green gunk out; it kept all the Lilli pads out. It looks nice, and overall, it does improve the quality of the water, and it does bring wildlife back. Because Crystal Lake, it was losing the wildlife. It was losing the ducks; it was losing the goose. It was losing everything because it was so disgusting. So, to answer my neighbor right across the way here - it will not lose wildlife, it will actually bring in wildlife. The difference it made at Crystal Lake was amazing. And, like Michael said, it's not going to be this huge, monstrous thing. It's just simply to clean up the pond, to make it look nice. It's really all it's going to do, and it's not going to dry up the water. Water movers recycle water, not take water out.

**Carl:** Well, no; as you throw water up in the air, you do evaporate it.

**Paul:** It takes a lot to evaporate. It's coming back down in seconds.

**Logan:** Carl, you know the heat capacity of water. And the droplet sizes of that are not going to cause it to evaporate – we know this. As a Scientist, you know that. If that body of water didn't dry up last year in the drought, the likelihood of it drying out due to an aerator is highly unlikely.

**Paul:** And I did talk to all my neighbors. I'm relatively new, I just bought a couple of years ago, so I haven't seen the pond the past 50 years, like my neighbor has, but the way the pond looks right now is exactly what it looked like 50 years ago. It's not going anywhere. And to briefly talk about what John said, it is right - the earlier you start, the better. The only example I can give is a pool. I could be off key on this, maybe by thinking I could get corrected, but.

# GEORGETOWN CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Memorial Town Hall ♦ One Library Street ♦ Georgetown, MA 01833

## MEETING MINUTES FEBRUARY 16, 2023

- Carl:** If the goal is to add DO; I mean, anyone who's had a fish tank, usually you don't have a fountain, you have an aerator. You increase the dissolved oxygen by funneling bubbles through the water, not spraying the water. That's kind of a fact, but.
- Paul:** Yes, but that the fountain's been used for this everywhere. It's not used just because it's just to look at, it's used for reasons.
- Logan:** Yeah, but Carl, it's also about surface area as well, okay, and the size. So, a bubbler in a small location is not going to have the same impact on a large body of water.
- Carl:** It depends on how much area you're flowing in.
- Paul:** To pretty much sum it up - what the water mover does is just moves the water. It keeps all that gunk from growing, which over time will make the water quality better. It moves the water. That stuff can't grow; that's the whole reasoning behind a water mover.
- Carl:** I'd like to hear from some of the other Commissioners; what their thoughts are.
- Chris:** Carl, I was looking up on the website today, the Wetlands Protection Act, and I did notice a rather large paragraph about hypoxia. I haven't heard any of the scientists talk about that when it refers to a small wetland area moving the water, and the fish die off. It typically may happen when these elements are put into it, and it states it pretty clearly that hypoxia most often will have a massive fish kill. Would the scientist like to address that?
- Logan:** So, DeRosa, are there fish in that body of water?
- Chris:** It would not necessarily have to be any type of aquatic life.
- Logan:** Mr. DeRosa, in your investigation, were there any aquatic life in there?
- Mike:** We've not seen fish in there that doesn't mean there aren't any. But we didn't observe any in our investigation a couple of years ago. The hypoxia is the lack of oxygen in in a water supply, so this program...
- Chris:** Excuse me, the way that it read in the report was, when the waters become full of the bottom sediment, which, if the sediment across the bottom gets stirred up at any given point, any life within the wetland area will die off. So, I'm concerned about that.

# GEORGETOWN CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Memorial Town Hall ♦ One Library Street ♦ Georgetown, MA 01833

## MEETING MINUTES FEBRUARY 16, 2023

**Mike:** Yeah, I'd have to see the source that you're citing.

**Chris:** That was the Wetlands Protection site.

**Mike:** There are multiple ways to oxygenate a water body, and the fountain is one, the diffusers are another; we've used them both. This is just one tool in the toolbox. We want to start with this, see how it does, monitor it. That's what we have, the monitoring program set up on a monthly basis, and let's just see what happens; it's not going to hurt anything. It's a floating thing. If you know how this works, they float on the top of the water - they're not sucking water from the bottom of the pond. You probably end up with more diffusion of loose sediments in the bottom of the pond with a water diffuser, because that does sit on the bottom of the pond, and as the bubbles come up it disturbs the sediment. This is on the top of the pond, and it's at the surface water, which is going to be the least sediment latent.

**John:** And this was sized for this pond. The information was sent to the company, and they sized it for this pond. And, as Michael just explained, it's surface water, not water below, and that's the reason that we have this type of water mover as well. So, you know we've tried to take all the concerns into effect on what was chosen to do this.

**Carl:** Okay, so do we have any other comments from Commissioners? Again, we had a Commissioner request that we do a third-party on this; is there anyone else interested in doing that?

**Paul:** May I say one more thing? I'm sorry.

**Carl:** Sure.

**Paul:** When John approached me, obviously I'm no expert in this, I'm just the owner of the pond. But I did a good Google search that night, and I just couldn't find one negative thing from spending two hours online, over hundreds of websites. Not one negative thing about having a fountain in a pond for wildlife, for fish, for anything. I thought I would get at least half and half; some for, some bad. I just couldn't find one, and I went through multiple websites, and nothing turned me off from this idea from my simple Google search, and I can't see where this would do any harm to this pond. It's just a simple water mover, it just moves water. That's all it does; it helps the water.

**Rachel:** Mr. Chairman. While I'm not necessarily opposed to this, and I am hearing everything that is being stated, I would like to have it verified by a third-party review. So, I'd like to make a motion to have a third-party review done by BSC.

# GEORGETOWN CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Memorial Town Hall ♦ One Library Street ♦ Georgetown, MA 01833

## MEETING MINUTES FEBRUARY 16, 2023

**Chris:** Second, Candia.

**Carl:** Okay, we have a motion, is there a second?

**Chris:** Yes, second, Candia.

**Carl:** We have a motion, and it's been seconded to have BSC conduct a third-party review of the water fountain for 51 West Main Street and 13 Prospect Street. Is there...

**John:** Mr. Chair, is there any other public out there? We didn't give the public a chance.

**Walt:** I was wondering if I could speak.

**Carl:** If you identify yourself for the record, please, you can.

**Walt:** Sure, and sorry my camera is not working, so you don't get to see me. But I'm Walt Gancarz, a resident at the condos. Moved in about a month ago, my wife and I. I was on last month's meeting, and I'm just reiterating - I'm a school engineer, environmental engineer; been so for 45 years. I've spent a fair amount of time looking at things like this. I will say I'm pretty supportive of it. As Paul had been mentioning, I haven't seen any situation where adding oxygen to a water body has a negative effect. And again, it's a relatively small scale. Like I said, we're talking about a  $\frac{3}{4}$  horse power pump, which is probably the size of a sump pump in somebody's basement, and I just can't see any possible negative to it. The fact that in the summer there's so much algae out there clearly indicates that this pond is extremely oxygen deficient during certain parts of the year, and certainly that would have a negative impact on any wildlife there. As far as stirring up sediments - I think it's pretty obvious that just the storm water run-off from the street, and the velocity of that entering this pond, I'm sure, has much more of an impact on stirring up sediments than this floating  $\frac{3}{4}$  horsepower pump has. I think we'd really like to see it in, and I think it would be a value. I think it would be a value to the Town. You know, things that go anaerobic, my experience is, they tend to be unsightly, and they tend to smell. So, you know, from just my own standpoint, I would rather have something that that doesn't have an odor to it, and I think this is a good start. I just don't see you know a negative to it, and I don't see moving forward, that it would be better to operate it and monitor it for a year, and see what you come out of it. So, I just want to support it from both a resident and from as a professional.

# GEORGETOWN CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Memorial Town Hall ♦ One Library Street ♦ Georgetown, MA 01833

## MEETING MINUTES FEBRUARY 16, 2023

**Carl:** I appreciate your comments. A third-party review doesn't mean the Commission is voting against it; it just means that we're having our consultant look at the same data that you have, and evaluate it. And we're without an agent now, so we kind of have to do that. Are there any other comments from the public at this point? We do have a motion on the table.

**Joe:** I have some comments and questions. My name is Joe Perusse at 25 Prospect Street.

**Carl:** Okay. Sure, go ahead.

**Joe:** First, a general comment or request. I don't know if you call it a blueprint, but one of the things that you had shown there of how it's going to come - it mentioned a light, and I don't know if it's possible to request that there not be any light on that. The buildings are blocking what used to be an unsightly view of the Eagle Building and their floodlights, and I don't really want to bring the light back; so that's a request, if that's possible. The second is a question, and I think they've answered it - but they would obviously be trenching for the electrical conduit, and then it sounds like the last part of the electrical line is going to be, essentially an extension cord, kind of floating out. Is there going to be any construction or permanent construction in the pond itself? Like any excavation, or anything like that? They can answer that after I'm done, and my third question is a general concern, and I don't know if you have the answer; but what happens 3 to 5 years from now, when John or the engineers are out of the picture, and there's turnover at the Condo Association, and nobody wants to flip the switch every night, or nobody wants to pay for the pump when it gets replaced? What safeguards do we have in place that there's not going to be an unsightly, dead pump laying out there, or whatever is going to happen? Those are my questions.

**Carl:** Good question. Yeah, thank you. Can the applicant tackle a couple of those?

**John:** I'll be glad to answer it. The Condo Association question on turnover 4 or 5 years, that's a great question; and if we get permission to do the water mover, it will be part of the Condo Association docs. It'll be part of the maintenance program that will be part of the budget. The best example that I can give is: as everyone knows, that's been involved in this process of building this at 51 West Main Street, there's certain drainage things that are in place that have to be maintained. That's part of the Condo docs to be taken care of. This would be exactly the same thing. The one nice thing about this is, five years from now, if it's seen that this isn't helping the pond for some crazy reason, or whatever, it's easily removed. It's not something that's a townhouse being built that's like a permanent structure. So that's why monitoring it over the first 12 months is very important, so we can see the ups and downs. What question did I forget to answer? I apologize.



# GEORGETOWN CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Memorial Town Hall ♦ One Library Street ♦ Georgetown, MA 01833

## MEETING MINUTES FEBRUARY 16, 2023

- Joe:** John, I was wondering if there would be any impact to the bog or pond - whatever you want to call it, for any equipment that needs to be used for the installation, aside from the conduits.
- John:** Yeah, great question. No, there'd be no digging out of the pond to put this in, or anything like that. And the trenching that we're talking about for the electricity to go to the box is so minimal when it's done, that when it's done, three days later, you pretty much won't even know that it was done. I don't know if you've ever seen a low voltage cable wire run across the front lawn, and they use that little wedge thing, and then days later you can't even tell that it was done; that's how this would be installed very similarly, and that's why the best time to install it is before we get into, you know, real spring - because they would have a very minimal impact on the meadow. Great question, thank you.
- Carl:** And the question he had about a light. And normally you don't have lights in wetlands; that can impact the day and night cycle of animals and things like that, so that probably would not be the best of things.
- John:** I could care less about a light.
- Carl:** We kind of went out of protocol here - we have a motion on the table. We're not closing the hearing yet; we had a motion on the table to do a third-party review with BSC. Is there any further discussion from Commission at this point? And if not, I'll call the question and a roll call vote.
- Rachel:** Mr. Chairman, I just want to make it clear that I don't to start a precedent where we go forward, throw it in, see how it works; we haven't done that ever in the past, to my knowledge when I've looked back over the projects. So, that's why I want the third-party review. So, it's not a *let's see how it goes and throw it in, and hope it doesn't go incorrectly*. That's why I just want to dot all the I's, cross all the Ts with a third-party review, and see and make sure instead of throw it in and see how it goes. I'm not a I'm not opposed to any of what they're talking about, I just want to make sure that we don't upset precedent.
- John:** Right, so can I ask you a question on that, that I don't understand?
- Carl:** Okay, again, we're in the middle of a motion, and we're kind of going back to a discussion; we're kind of breaking protocol. We have a motion, it's on the table, it's been seconded. Any questions from Commissioners? And then we can move on. We're not closing the hearing yet; we just have a motion for a third-party. And if there are no more questions. I'll call the question, all in favor, roll call vote:

# GEORGETOWN CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Memorial Town Hall ♦ One Library Street ♦ Georgetown, MA 01833

## MEETING MINUTES FEBRUARY 16, 2023

### ROLL CALL

<b>Rachel Bancroft</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>Chris Candia</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>Tom Howland</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>Logan Umberger</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>Carl Shreder</b>	<b>AYE</b>

Motion carries.

- Carl:** That motion carries, now we can continue the discussion again. The whole purpose of third-party is not to deny, it's just to verify the information that is presented to us. So, Mr. Colantoni, you don't care whether there's a light on this or not, so maybe you want to nix that is part of the project.
- John:** Why don't we see what the third-party review has to say? Maybe there's a positive to the light that none of us realize, and if we're going to put so much weight on the third-party review, let's see what they say.
- Carl:** Well, I'm also looking into what neighbors have to say too, as you did earlier in in the presentation. So, we listen to both sides, and that's what we need to do.
- John:** I don't want you to think that I'm saying that there should be a light or not a light.
- Carl:** I get it.
- John:** But now the Commission has voted for a third-party review, which ultimately, I have to pay for. So now, let's see what they come back with.
- Carl:** Okay, that's fine. I'm okay with that. So, in the interim, can you get me a list of other examples that I could take a look at? Or, Mike DeRosa had mentioned there's a few others; I'd just be interested to look at some local fountains around here. I mean, I've seen a lot of them in the South, but I just haven't seen many here in the in the area, and I think one of the other gentlemen speaking was referencing some in Peabody. I know the Peabody area; I haven't been down to those ponds in a while, maybe they do have them down there. But I'm trying to gather some data on that.
- Paul:** Could I answer one of those questions, please? Yes, Joe did mention about neglect in the future. And I'm all for this project, and that was one of my concerns with John is neglect in the future. Ultimately, it is on my property, and if I do see neglect in the future, I will ask to have it taken out. So, Joe does not have to worry about that.

# GEORGETOWN CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Memorial Town Hall ♦ One Library Street ♦ Georgetown, MA 01833

## MEETING MINUTES FEBRUARY 16, 2023

- Carl:** So, as far as this agreement – if you asked the Condo Association and say “hey, it’s my pond, you guys aren’t holding up your end of it.” How would that work? I’m just trying to understand. What’s the legal agreement?
- John:** It’s his property. If he doesn’t like how it’s being taken care of; if he doesn’t like what’s happening, he could ask for it to be removed.
- Carl:** So, that’s like in the agreement that you guys have?
- Paul:** Yes.
- Carl:** Because people don’t always agree on stuff. So, you’ve got to have some sort of...
- Paul:** No, we do agree on it. And ultimately, like I said, I do agree with this water mover going in, but I do respect my neighbors. If I’m not happy and they’re not happy in 5 or 6 years, it’s coming out. But as far as what it could do for that pond, I’m all for it.
- Carl:** Okay, I appreciate that.
- Rachel:** Thank you.
- Carl:** Well, let’s see. Are there any more comments at this point? You’ve done a presentation, we’ve had comments from people, and we need to schedule this third-party as soon as possible and get it done, so we have the data and can move this forward. Any more comments from Commissioners?
- John:** Who is the third-party that the Commission uses?
- Carl:** BSC.
- Logan:** Yeah, I’ll just make a comment, Carl. I want to thank Mr. Colantoni for what he’s done to that property. The before and after pictures are astounding, and the quality; he’s brought that back to a quality level that you know, I think we all expect and strive for as a commission. And I think that continuing to make him spend more money, and he’s already spent a lot of money, I just think, is a little uncalled for at this time, and I don’t know. I thank Mr. DeRosa for his subject matter expertise of which no one is really listening to, which is a little concerning as well. So, thank you gentlemen.

# GEORGETOWN CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Memorial Town Hall ♦ One Library Street ♦ Georgetown, MA 01833

## MEETING MINUTES FEBRUARY 16, 2023

- Carl:** Well, everyone has an opinion, and we all do, so that's the nature of the beast. So, if there no more questions or comments at this point, I'd entertain a motion to continue this to March Sixteenth.
- Rachel:** What time?
- Julie:** 7:20.
- Rachel:** Mr. Chairman, I'd like to make a motion to continue 51 West Main Street, to March Sixteenth at 7:20.
- Tom:** Second, Howland.
- Carl:** We have a motion and it's seconded to continue the Notice of Intent for 51 West Main Street, to March sixteenth at 7:20 pm. Is there any further comment? If not, all in favor, roll call vote:

### ROLL CALL

<b>Rachel Bancroft</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>Chris Candia</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>Tom Howland</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>Logan Umberger</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>Carl Shreder</b>	<b>AYE</b>

Motion carries.

# GEORGETOWN CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Memorial Town Hall ♦ One Library Street ♦ Georgetown, MA 01833

## MEETING MINUTES FEBRUARY 16, 2023

### BUSINESS: COC REQUEST FOR 30 SPOFFORD AVE (GCC# 2000-24; DEP# 161-0406)

- Carl:** We probably should jump on the COC right away. And one thing I didn't see in our information was the actual Order of Conditions with that, so it makes it kind of hard to do that.
- Julie:** Oh, I didn't send that, Carl? The original? I'm so sorry.
- Carl:** I didn't see our Order of Conditions; I saw a lot of the BOH stuff.
- Julie:** Yeah, I apologize. I can send that to you after. It was approved and recorded; the Order of Conditions, I apologize.
- Carl:** From our perspective, that's what we really look at; the Board of Health stuff is helpful, but we have to go back, and what we're really trying to do is verify that the conditions we've imposed have been completed on these things, and obviously to move a property, that's most likely why this is being requested.
- Julie:** Sorry, that was my fault.
- Carl:** It's okay, we're in a little bit of a challenging situation right now with lack of staff. So, Okay, I'd entertain a motion for that.
- Rachel:** So moved.
- Carl:** And do we have a second, to issue a COC for 30 Spofford?
- Chris:** Second, Candia.
- Carl:** We have a motion, and it's been seconded to issue a Certificate of Compliance for 30 Spofford Street, DEP# 161-0406; GCC# 2000-24. Is there any further discussion? All in favor, roll call vote:

### ROLL CALL

<b>Rachel Bancroft</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>Chris Candia</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>Tom Howland</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>Logan Umberger</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>Carl Shreder</b>	<b>AYE</b>

Motion carries.

# GEORGETOWN CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Memorial Town Hall ♦ One Library Street ♦ Georgetown, MA 01833

## MEETING MINUTES FEBRUARY 16, 2023

### BUSINESS: TEMPORARY CONSERVATION AGENT

**Carl:** All right. Let me jump around here trying to figure out what we can do quickly, and maybe we'll tackle our conservation agent temporary issue. So obviously we're lacking staff and it's becoming apparent we need some staff, so.

**Rachel:** Carl, we can't hear you.

**Carl:** Can you hear me now?

**Rachel:** Now, yes.

**Carl:** I must've hit the button. We're lacking Conservation staff, so we're looking at a few different options, and the immediate option we're looking at is maybe appointing a temporary consulting agent, and then a longer-term situation would be to appoint an agent, or a job share agent with another community. I've had some discussions with the Town Administrator, and the Chair of the Board of Selectmen; but I want to make it clear that it's actually the Conservation Commission that appoints its staff under the law, so the Commission itself appoints its agent, director, consultants, etcetera. I don't have any intention of wanting to be the temporary Conservation Agent, and I certainly don't have time to field calls all day long for the Town. Julie's doing an exceptional job, but some of the things are beyond her per view to answer, so it creates a challenge right now, and I'm exceptionally busy, and I cannot be answering calls all day long for the Town. I've called around and looked at a few different people, and an option has come up to us and I think it's a viable option for a temporary basis. One of the members of the Open Space Committee, John Lopez, who's a former Commissioner and also is the current Conservation for Rockport, and the former Conservation Agent for Amesbury, has offered his assistance, for pay, for a limited time to help us until we can transition to a more permanent situation. I would open that up to the Commission, but I think it's a viable option to keep us out of trouble in the short term; and the Commission would need to vote to do that – to have a temporary agent. This would be a situation that would not exceed ten hours a week, so it's not a benefited position; it's not a permanent position. It's someone who's a professional who can assist us, so we don't run into a situation where we're trying to do this without any staff. Any comments at this point? We should do something.

**Rachel:** My comment would be that I've seen how deluged Julie is, and I think this needs to happen sooner than later.

**Chris:** I agree.

# GEORGETOWN CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Memorial Town Hall ♦ One Library Street ♦ Georgetown, MA 01833

## MEETING MINUTES FEBRUARY 16, 2023

- Rachel:** I'm more than willing to help, but I can see how it's becoming a beast.
- Carl:** Again, I can't be fielding calls all day; people calling about trees, what type of filing they should do, and calling consultants back during my work day – it's not appropriate. I would suggest doing it, but it's a vote by the Commission.
- Logan:** I agree that the urgency is there, I can tell by Julie's overwhelmingness; however, I don't feel comfortable voting on someone that I've never met or spoken with.
- Carl:** Again, this is not a permanent situation, it's a temporary situation so it's not like it's a hire of...it's almost like we hire a consultant. You know, you haven't necessarily met all of the consultants that we hire. This is just a case of someone to help us out in the interim, because as I said, calls aren't going to get answered in some cases.
- Rachel:** So, Carl, it's similar to a third-party review.
- Carl:** Yes, except this is someone that's going to be on an hourly...
- Logan:** Speaking for Georgetown; they're representing Georgetown. A third-party reviewer is not, so.
- Carl:** Actually, if we hire them, they are representing Georgetown.
- Logan:** That's exactly why I don't feel comfortable voting on someone I haven't to spoken to or met.
- Carl:** Well, I don't really have the option of waiting months on end trying to figure this out.
- Logan:** That's why we have multiple people; I'm one vote.
- Carl:** I get it.
- Rachel:** I've served with him for multiple years now in the Open Space (Committee), and I am incredibly impressed by his thoroughness, and I am incredibly impressed by his attention to detail; and the fact that he lives in Georgetown, he has a vested interest in this town as well - and I think all of those are definitely in the pro category.
- Carl:** And, obviously if it doesn't work out, you can revisit the issue. It's again not a permanent situation, but it's unfair to dump all this on Julie; it's unfair to dump it on me.

# GEORGETOWN CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Memorial Town Hall ♦ One Library Street ♦ Georgetown, MA 01833

## MEETING MINUTES FEBRUARY 16, 2023

- Rachel:** I think it's also unfair to dump it on the public as well; that it's starting to pile up, especially as we start to get into the busy season. It really won't be fair to people to not be able to help them.
- Carl:** And this is coming to the busy season, there's no doubt about it. The is coming on the real estate season; you're going to get lots of the tree issues; I've fielded a number of calls for what kind of permit filing they should do. Again, I have limited time right now to do that stuff, and it's really not even appropriate for me to try to do this all day long. So, I would entertain a motion to do that on a temporary basis. Again, not to exceed ten hours temporarily, and the goal is to hire someone in a permanent fashion. Again, we've talked about job shares with other communities, so it would be like a 50/50 (split) between Georgetown and another community. And the reality is that there are a lot of communities around here that are looking for agents. A lot of them are part time jobs, and that's why they have a difficult time filling them, because it's pretty hard to survive on a part time job in today's economy. So, when someone's offering a job of fifteen hours a week, and someone's looking for a full-time job, it doesn't really work out.
- Rachel:** And, Carl, we all have to agree on and come up with the application to put in the newspaper, too.
- Carl:** Yeah, it would have to be advertised internally and then you have to advertise it, post it, etcetera, and it be a legitimate application. This is a consulting agent type of situation. We have the funds.
- Rachel:** Mr. Chairman, I'd like to make a motion to appoint John Lopez the consulting agent, not to exceed ten hours a week.
- Tom:** Second, Howland.
- Carl:** There's a motion, and it's been seconded to appoint John Lopez as the consulting Conservation Agent for the Conservation Commission, with hours not to exceed ten hours a week. Any further discussion? I understand if you haven't met someone, I understand that; but, the difficulty of the way the Commission has to operate is a challenge. But again, I can't just sit here for months on end without having anyone in the office.
- Logan:** All fair points, all fair points.



# GEORGETOWN CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Memorial Town Hall ♦ One Library Street ♦ Georgetown, MA 01833

## MEETING MINUTES FEBRUARY 16, 2023

**Carl:** If it doesn't work out, then we can revisit the discussion again and say, *hey, this isn't working out*, and again – this isn't a contract that we're committed to a two-year term of service; it's to get us through an interim situation, and I welcome input from people as we look at bringing on someone part-time, full-time, however we want to work that – and again, that's our discussion, and I expect input from people on how we want to do this; but we need to do it, so. If there's no more comments or questions, I'll call to question; all in favor, roll call vote:

### ROLL CALL

<b>Rachel Bancroft</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>Chris Candia</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>Tom Howland</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>Logan Umberger</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>Carl Shreder</b>	<b>AYE</b>

Motion carries.

**Carl:** Motion carries.

**Logan:** And it's not because I have anything against the candidate; it's not having spoken to him, I don't feel comfortable.

**Carl:** John works on the Open Space Committee; I invite you to reach out to him and have some discussion with him. Again, he was a long-time agent in Amesbury, and the current agent in Rockport, so he does this for a living. He's familiar with our rules and regulations and what's going on here; he's familiar with our open space projects, and is working on them, so it's an easier step-in than someone who doesn't know anything about this town.

**Logan:** Carl, all great points and I completely agree with you; but that same thinking has not applied. As an example, in the previous case, we had a subject matter expert – an expert in wetland science speaking on a topic; you didn't believe him, and you called for a third-party review. So, it's a hypocritical comment.

**Carl:** He's a hard gun for that applicant. We're not talking about that case; we can't do that right now.

**Logan:** I'm just stating. You're obviously criticizing me for the decision I made, and it has nothing to do with the applicant.

# GEORGETOWN CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Memorial Town Hall ♦ One Library Street ♦ Georgetown, MA 01833

## MEETING MINUTES FEBRUARY 16, 2023

**Carl:** I'm not criticizing you, Logan.

**Logan:** You are.

**Carl:** I'm just saying, reach out to the individual...

**Logan:** I would have, but I only found out tonight and was expected to vote on it. That's not enough time, Carl; that's all I'm saying.

**Carl:** Okay, I get it.

**Logan:** It could've been brought up in the break between our last meeting and now, that we're considering this individual, and then if you have any questions, you can reach out to him. But, no one does that. No one speaks in between meetings; it's always at the meeting, and then we delay, and that's just not a good way to run business. And, this is also a lesson learned for our applicants as well; to be better communicators between meetings, and not at meetings. Anyway, let's move on.

### BUSINESS: COMMUNITY GARDENS INVASIVE SPECIES MANAGEMENT

**Carl:** Let's see. We have the Community Guards Invasive Species Management Project, and I think we have some folks online who are promoting this. If you'd like to identify yourself and introduce the project.

**Amy Smith:** Yes, Hi Amy Smith. First of all, it's just the invasive management. I thought the controlled burn was going to be on tonight, and that involves the community gardens. Two separate things.

**Carl:** Yeah, that's right.

**Amy:** Okay. Two separate projects. Okay. Project one, the controlled burn. Let's start with that. And, by the way, I just want to let everyone know that I'm very grateful to have Michelle Green here; she's the West Newbury/Merrimac Conservation Agent. She's here to back stop me on the CPC request I have about invasive mapping. She's also very interested in the controlled burn project. So, we'll start with that.

**Carl:** Okay, go ahead.

# GEORGETOWN CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Memorial Town Hall ♦ One Library Street ♦ Georgetown, MA 01833

## MEETING MINUTES FEBRUARY 16, 2023

- Amy:** The controlled burn project is part of the native species pilot project. It's not even a project. We just sought help for getting a controlled burn to get rid of the invasives there, in front of the wall; the stone wall along the road. DCR was there, at the time we met with acting Chief Savage. He was very excited about the possibility of training for our fire departments. DCR was very excited about that, too, as well, and the project quickly grew like wildfire from just getting rid of the invasives along the side of the road, which is where one of the pilot gardens is going to be for the native species project. But the DCR folks Fire Warden suggested that they also burn around the perimeter of the parking lot in the community gardens. And then also, the meadow in behind the community gardens, you know, that's over all overgrown?
- Carl:** Yes, I'm familiar.
- Amy:** They figured that would provide the best training. So, that's the project I presented to you. I think I sent you out a project write up. Originally, I was looking for help with leasing with the fire department, but I think your conservation agent will be doing that. And I'm more than willing to help with that. Basically, the fire department would manage interactions with DCR; they would set up the timing of the burn, the training, and all that. And then I said I would help; Eileen Sieberg and I would help with notifying the people around. There'll be a reverse 911, but we'd also make house calls, and maybe just to explain to people what's going on.
- Carl:** Yeah, I think that was the comments, If I recall from the last meeting; it was that we needed a decent window to notify abutters and things like that that. You know, so all of a sudden people don't show up, and the fire department is lighting things on fire, and people say "what's going on?"
- Amy:** Right, that's exactly it. But also, I did see Chief McKay the other night at the Town Hall, and he has some concerns about drought. So once, if you guys okay this, he will reach out to DCR, and they will come up with a good day. They want to do it before the turtles come out. I think there is a concern about turtles in the meadow behind the community gardens. But at the same time, they have to worry about, there's still a drought; we didn't even get any snow this year. So, even if we were to give this person the go ahead, it still may not happen fully. At the very least though, it would be great to have the pilot garden space; that's going to take 10 minutes.
- Carl:** So, they would do it like in two phases? Just the pilot garden in the front, and then, conditions permitting, in the back would be scheduled?

# GEORGETOWN CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Memorial Town Hall ♦ One Library Street ♦ Georgetown, MA 01833

## MEETING MINUTES FEBRUARY 16, 2023

- Amy:** That's a good question. I didn't ask Matt about that. The original vision, because DCR would have to come out too, and it'd be a big training thing – it would all get done in one swell swoop. I think the rest would depend on what Matt and DCR decide to do, because of the current drought conditions.
- Carl:** Yeah, as I said when we were talking about this before; I mentioned that if you were up in Georgetown Rowley State Forest this past summer, there was fire up there that got out of control because it got in the root system; it burned for weeks, and they couldn't stop it. Unless you excavate half of the forest. Obviously, we wouldn't want to create a situation in a drought that we end up spreading this fire into the actual forest back there.
- Amy:** Exactly. But I guess I'm just looking for an okay, because the community gardens are managed by the Conservation Commission.
- Carl:** It's actually part of Lufkins Brook conservation area. So, comments from Commissioners?
- Logan:** Carl and Amy, thank you for coming to the meeting. The only question I had was about notification to abutters, just to make sure so they're not caught off guard. Nor would any kind of smoke get in there? You know their home, or anything like that? But outside of that, certainly if you can repurpose it for a training opportunity, then yeah, I support it fully.
- Carl:** Yeah, I mean, I would like to see some parameters. Obviously, not on a windy day. And obviously you want to be careful burning poison ivy, because that can cause problems if you're going to inhale smoke. Especially if you've got respiratory issues.
- Amy:** That that didn't seem to be one of the major invasives, but it's probably there, right?
- Carl:** It's everywhere.
- Amy:** And they were talking about reverse 911, but I think for just for good neighbors, you know, Eileen and I will want to go around and hand out marshmallows, you know.
- Carl:** You could do like a flyer or something like that.
- Amy:** Yeah, that too. It would explain what we're doing and why we're doing it. And by the way, this would be for both fire departments in town; the training.

# GEORGETOWN CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Memorial Town Hall ♦ One Library Street ♦ Georgetown, MA 01833

## MEETING MINUTES FEBRUARY 16, 2023

- Carl:** So, this would be focal just in this area - it's not in other conservation areas; it's just this particular one by the community gardens? The invasive species, correct?
- Amy:** That's this one, because we were looking at this as pilot garden number one for the pilot for the native species project, and man, there's just such - we and we very few volunteers. It would just take us years to get those invasives out. And yeah, so that's why we thought maybe we could try controlled burn.
- Carl:** Thank you. Any other Commissioner comments? You know, yay, nay; they like it, don't like it?
- Tom:** I'm: okay with it.
- Carl:** Again, I'm okay, with it. I just don't want to get out of control and to come back and say, like "what did you guys do?"
- Amy:** With two fire departments there, I'm hoping they won't.
- Chris:** Yeah, I agree. Yeah.
- Amy:** Great. That's great, and with your permission, I'll reach out to Chief McKay, and then once John Lopez is on board, I can work with him and we can all just figure things out together.
- Carl:** I'm wondering if the Commission should vote. They're kind of in favor of this, I would think. Just so you can take that the CPC. I'd entertain a motion to approve.
- Rachel:** Carl, this isn't CPC. This wouldn't come out of any funds, Amy; correct?
- Carl:** This is from Open Space Committee, right?
- Amy:** No, this is a part of the original native species pilot project from last year. It's not going to cost anything. It may cost the project a police detail, but Matt and Don need to work that out. They haven't figured out what they want, but we got the funds for that. You guys are managing that.
- Carl:** Okay, so this was already a previous? Okay, so I'm okay if we have those parameters in place, it can be done. I'd want to get notified when they're going to do it, so I'm not driving to work and saying "what the heck, everything's on fire over here."
- Amy:** Exactly. No problem, I'll keep everyone totally in the loop.

# GEORGETOWN CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Memorial Town Hall ♦ One Library Street ♦ Georgetown, MA 01833

## MEETING MINUTES FEBRUARY 16, 2023

**Rachel:** Please do, as far as the money as well; and the bills.

**Amy:** I'm sorry?

**Rachel:** As far as the money and the bills for the police detail.

**Amy:** We don't know if we need one yet.

**Rachel:** Just keep us in the loop.

**Amy:** Oh, absolutely. As soon as I get a bill, you'll get it, no problem. Yeah.

**Rachel:** Thank you.

### BUSINESS: COMMUNITY GARDENS (CPC) PROJECT PROPOSAL

**Amy Smith:** Okay. Then the second project I'm coming to - we probably will need a vote. This is an Open Space Committee project. This is the invasive mapping project.

**Carl:** Okay, and let's see, we had the Community Gardens project. That was the...

**Amy:** I don't know. I'm not familiar with the Community Gardens project.

**Carl:** Yeah. This was actually a CPC project that Rachel, you're probably familiar with. I remember seeing the proposal to like re-envision the gardens, essentially; map them out, look at what could be done with them, and a number of other things like that, that put like a CAD cam drawing together, some outreach as far as what Town's people would like to see there. I mean, a lot of people may not really even have an opinion because they're not familiar with it. But there was a fee associated with that. Rachel, maybe you have some more details on that.

**Rachel:** Yes, it was started by Steve and Julie together. Now that we've lost Steve, he's no longer heading it, and he can't be the spearhead for it.

**Carl:** The question is, should we just continue until we can get our temp agent a little more involved in this?

# GEORGETOWN CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Memorial Town Hall ♦ One Library Street ♦ Georgetown, MA 01833

## MEETING MINUTES FEBRUARY 16, 2023

- Rachel:** That was what my concern was. Peter Burns picked it up from the Open Space, as the Chair of the Open Space, and championed it at the CPC. We do need two more bids to go in, and I have vendors that are very well versed with dealing with municipalities and community gardens that we can definitely send it to. But I would feel far more comfortable if we did this in the next CPC cycle, because we don't have Steve here to spearhead it, and I can't ask Julie to do that on top of everything else she's doing.
- Carl:** Yeah, I think that would be reasonable from my perspective at this point.
- Rachel:** And right now, we have one quote, and it's rounded up to \$50,000, and so we need two more quotes.
- Carl:** I think at the municipal/state level, at that level of funding you absolutely need – typically anything over \$10,000 you need multiple quotes, unless you have all pre-approved vendors.
- Rachel:** I think it's \$25,000, but yes.
- Carl:** At the state where I work at, it's \$10,000. So, I would suggest we continue this till we get some of those things ironed out; it's not a day project, it just can't go ahead.
- Rachel:** Do we want to pull it back to next year's CPC cycle?
- Carl:** What's the cycle dates on the CPC on this?
- Rachel:** Generally, the window opens to do the first round of, to see whether or not they qualify. Then they go to the second round, if they do qualify under the 3 arches; Affordable Housing, Open Space, and Historic. If they fall under those arches, then they go forward as the second stage of the project, and then the CPC will vote on them as to whether or not they then go to the Board of Selectman, who then votes to put them on the warrant for the townspeople to vote on whether or not the CPC funds get distributed to these projects.
- Carl:** So, if we need other bids and we don't have them, we probably have a fairly short window.
- Rachel:** And the town meeting is coming up rather quickly, and needing to be on the warrant.
- Carl:** My viewpoint is to try and keep it on the schedule, and see if we can't get the bids. Then if we can't, then it has to get postponed.

# GEORGETOWN CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Memorial Town Hall ♦ One Library Street ♦ Georgetown, MA 01833

## MEETING MINUTES FEBRUARY 16, 2023

- Rachel:** I don't see how that is going to be possible. They will open the window up next early fall to generally closes the weekend after Thanksgiving.
- Carl:** So, you're thinking the next cycle, which would be fall?
- Rachel:** Yes. Because then we can work on it all through the summer and ask for bids, and then have them all, and then be able to present it as one complete.
- Carl:** Okay, any thoughts from other Commissioners on that? Again, if we're kind of trapped into the cycle, it is what it is.
- Chris:** I agree.
- Tom:** Agreed.
- Carl:** So, this is this isn't a hearing, so I guess that would be the recommendation at this point. Or I guess you could have a vote to continue and pick it up in the next cycle.
- Julie:** Carl, I don't think you need to vote if it's not a hearing. I could just make sure that it's on the agenda. What did you say at Thanksgiving?
- Rachel:** What will happen is, CPC will open the project suggestion window generally at the end of September, going to the end of the weekend after Thanksgiving. They set it in stone when it opens, and they said it, and then they tell you the window going forward. I don't know exactly when they will open it up in the fall, but I would like to continue working on it; but just not have it in this cycle to try to ram it into the warrant for this spring.
- Julie:** Okay, so I will just have it as an ongoing on my draft agendas until someone tells me to actually put it on the next whatever agenda.
- Rachel:** Okay. Could you also email Peter Burns?
- Julie:** Okay, no problem.
- Rachel:** Thank you.



# GEORGETOWN CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Memorial Town Hall ♦ One Library Street ♦ Georgetown, MA 01833

## MEETING MINUTES FEBRUARY 16, 2023

### BUSINESS: VIOLATION LETTER FOR 36-38 JACKMAN STREET

**Present:**

Bob Grasso (Engineer from Engineering Land Services)  
Stephen and Matthew Gagnon (owners)

**Carl:** All right. Next on the agenda we have a violation issue on 36-38 Jackman. Do we have the landowner on online here, or the consultant representing the applicant, the owner?

**Bob Grasso:** Yes, my name is Bob Grasso from Engineering Land Services. I'm representing 36 Jackman Street. The current owner of the site, he purchased the site on September fifteenth of 2022. He received a violation notice on November twenty ninth of 22 from Steve, of some tree clearing, and some site work that was conducted on the site. He met with the owner, I believe Steve walked out there on the site by himself, once. He met the current owner there, twice - they discussed the issues that Steve had of the violation notice. The current owner, Matt Gagnon and Steve Gagnon authorized Steve to contact me, so I contacted Steve and said, what do you want? So, we discussed it on the phone. He said you'd like to have the Wetland line delineated and an existing site plan. So, I drafted one up, I did the field work at Norris Environmental - go out there, flag it. I did an existing site condition and we set up a meeting at the Town Hall the last week of Steve's employment, which was a Monday or Tuesday. I was unaware at the time that that was his last week; he told us at the meeting. At the meeting I was there, Steve Gagnon was there, and Matthew Gagnon was there. We discussed the site plan. I showed them some aerial photos from 2001 to 2014, and 2020 was unclear, but the 2014 was the best shot from the aerial photo. Steve was under the impression that there was a lot line, that there was some clearing done - I pointed out through the aerial photos that what he thought happened didn't happen. The site was in that condition from 2001, from as far as I can go back for aerial photos. We discussed the site plan; Steve wanted some remedial things done on the plan. I revised the plan. I can pull up the plan and show you.

**Carl:** Okay, but you haven't filed it as an NOI.

**Bob:** Well, Steve thought, because he thought it was worse as it was, but I proved the existing conditions from...

**Carl:** It was my understanding that there was some old fill and maybe some new fill combined, it was on two different properties.

# GEORGETOWN CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Memorial Town Hall ♦ One Library Street ♦ Georgetown, MA 01833

## MEETING MINUTES FEBRUARY 16, 2023

- Bob:** No, there was no new fill, no new fill. It was a truck that got his wheels stuck at the end of the property, and I think there was a loader that just dragged it, and just leveled it out. There were some rocks that were stacked up on the ridge line. Steve thought that a Notice of Intent wasn't required to just do this minimum work; he thought, just looming it, seeding it, removing the wall, the little bit of stones on the ridge line, and creating a rock line along the lot line, to not deter any activity past that line. And then loom and seed it with native mix, and he suggested that no Notice of Intent would be required - that an agent, the future agent, could just oversee the project, and then, and that would that would clear up the situation.
- Carl:** Well, he actually sent what? He sent you guys an Enforcement.
- Bob:** He said that he would write a memo to the Board, because I didn't know it was his last week as an agent; he said that he would definitely write a memo to the Commission, for the future agent to oversee this project.
- Carl:** I think the last parting words he sent out were that they probably should file an NOI. Right now, I think you've got an Enforcement letter, you don't actually have an EO issued against the site. So, he started off with an Enforcement letter, which is...
- Bob:** A violation notice.
- Carl:** Right, it's a little different than an actual EO.
- Bob:** So, the current owner wanted to work with Steve, and say, "hey I'm the new owner, I'll do whatever we have to do to clean this up." He removed some rubbish from the previous owner from the site, cleaned up the site, and he just wants to clarify, you know; clean it up.
- Carl:** Understood. We have worked with land owners in the past on Enforcement type issues. We don't always, you know, throw out an EO if the owner is willing to work with us.
- Bob:** Which we were. We met with them in Town Hall, together in the conference room.
- Carl:** I'm not saying they weren't; I'm just saying that we're kind of in a little bit of a vacuum here when we don't have the agent - but I'll open it up to comments from Commissioners. We have, and do work with landowners if we identify a violation and they're willing to work with us; we've done it many, many times.

# GEORGETOWN CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Memorial Town Hall ♦ One Library Street ♦ Georgetown, MA 01833

## MEETING MINUTES FEBRUARY 16, 2023

- Rachel:** So, you were saying wetland markers - are we speaking the granite bounds?
- Bob:** No. What we were going to do, was there were some boulders on site – Steve suggested that we place the boulders in a continuous line, along the lot line, to deter any further activity past that line. And then put some plaques, 3 plaques on the boulders on that line; conservation monuments, saying, conservation restrictive area - the plaques that you that you give out, on the boulders. And to lightly loom and seed the disturbed area, which was disturbed since in the 2000's, that the owner agreed to loom and seed it with native wild mix.
- Carl:** Where are you Reading that from? Is that from an email from Steve?
- Bob:** No. We met at Town Hall, the second floor.
- Carl:** So, you took notes?
- Bob:** No, it's on my plan. I revised the plan for Steve.
- Carl:** Okay, I'm just looking at the information that I had; I was just trying to figure out where you were getting that from.
- Bob:** No, it's on my plan. It's due to the meeting that we had at Town Hall, and the owners, both owners are here. They can chime in, and you know verify what I've said.
- Stephen:** Yeah, this is Steve Gagnon, one of the owners over at 36 Jackman. Thank you all for hearing us and having us here. We had met with your agent, Steve on this issue, and we came up with a plan, essentially with what Steve was looking to do. We hired Bob to go ahead with the plan, so that's what Bob has prepared - I don't know if you guys have copies of that. But we followed Steve's instructions on that, and you know we hired Bob to do that.
- Carl:** Okay, thank you. Comments from Commissioners? As I said, if there's a violation situation, and the owner is willing to work with us, from my perspective we can work with them; and the goal isn't to penalize people, but to protect the resource.
- Rachel:** Carl, I think we lost Mr. Umberger.
- Carl:** Oh.
- Rachel:** Do we still have a quorum? I just want to make sure we still have a quorum.

# GEORGETOWN CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Memorial Town Hall ♦ One Library Street ♦ Georgetown, MA 01833

## MEETING MINUTES FEBRUARY 16, 2023

- Carl:** Let's see.
- Rachel:** There are four of us.
- Carl:** I think we still have a quorum.
- Rachel:** Okay.
- Carl:** We lose anyone else, we won't.
- Rachel:** Nobody move.
- Carl:** So, what are the Commissioner's thoughts? As I said, you know normally, the agent would be going over this, but, if the owner is willing to work with us, and you know we can corroborate this information. So, has the work been done at this point, or are you still?
- Bob:** No, we're waiting for the Commission – that's why we pressed it to be on the agenda.
- Carl:** The only thing that's a little unusual is that boulders can work for delineation, but usually we use bounds. But I have seen occasionally that we've used gigantic boulders as markers.
- Bob:** Well, Steve had suggested a continuous line to stop any further activity in that area.
- Rachel:** How big are these boulders?
- Bob:** They're two to three feet long in diameter, sometimes four.
- Carl:** So, definitely not something that someone's going to be able to pick up and just move.
- Bob:** No, you need a machine to do that.
- Rachel:** Just checking. Thank you.
- Carl:** So, what our Commissioner's thoughts? Is this the acceptable way you're willing to go forward?

# GEORGETOWN CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Memorial Town Hall ♦ One Library Street ♦ Georgetown, MA 01833

## MEETING MINUTES FEBRUARY 16, 2023

- Chris:** I think that's a very viable plan. I mean boulders, nobody's going to be crossing over those or taking them off. And with the plaques I think it's well stated what they're there for. So, I think it's a good plan.
- Bob:** And we're also putting plaques on the boulders. Steve suggested 3, so we'll do 3.
- Rachel:** And Chris, I agree with you, since it's going to be a continuous line of boulders, and it won't be just one boulder. Correct me if I'm wrong, Mr. Grasso - it won't be one boulder, space...
- Bob:** Continuous.
- Rachel:** Continuous. Sort of like a stone wall of boulders?
- Bob:** It's on my plan, which is dated 26 of January and revised. Yes.
- Rachel:** Okay, I just wanted to make sure verbally. Thank you.
- Bob:** Yes, Thank you.
- Carl:** Okay, yeah. I'm okay with this is as a venue. I mean, my goal with these enforcement issues is to work in a cooperative way with people, and you know not to slap you with a \$300 fine per day. And if you will only work with us, I mean, the goal is to protect the resource, not to generate revenue and penalize people.
- Bob:** I think we've done due diligence. We've done what Steve wanted; we had the wetland flagged, and I had the all the buffers marked on the plan. Take the boulders out on the ridge line; take those boulders, put them on the lot line, and then take additional boulders from the site, and put them along the lot line for a continuous line.
- Carl:** The only question I had was, as I said, the last couple of comments that Steve sent was that he thought maybe an NOI; but again, that's a Commission decision.
- Rachel:** And Carl, would we do the standard procedure of not accepting the wetland line?
- Carl:** You could. But you know again, we have done corrective actions under an enforcement situation the whole way, and a perfect example is West Street; we did that for literally years under an enforcement action, so there's different ways to do it. As long as we hold the Enforcement letter type of thing, we can authorize this kind of work under that Enforcement action.

# GEORGETOWN CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Memorial Town Hall ♦ One Library Street ♦ Georgetown, MA 01833

## MEETING MINUTES FEBRUARY 16, 2023

- Bob:** Yeah. And I will do an as-built plan after the work has been completed, and I'll submit that to the commission.
- Carl:** If everyone's okay with that, I could live with that.
- Chris:** Yeah, I agree.
- Tom:** Agreed.
- Carl:** Okay, we're okay with your method to proceed forward.
- Bob:** Is that the Commission vote, or is that just?
- Carl:** Well, we probably should vote. I'd entertain a motion to accept the corrective action plan proposed for 36-38 Jackman, if someone would like to make a motion.
- Rachel:** So moved, to working with our interim consulting agent.
- Chris:** Second, Candia.
- Carl:** We have a motion and it's been seconded to authorize the corrective actions proposed for 36-38 Jackman Street, working with our consulting conservation agent. Is there any further discussion? If not, all in favor, roll call vote:

### ROLL CALL

<b>Rachel Bancroft</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>Chris Candia</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>Tom Howland</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>Logan Umberger</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>Carl Shreder</b>	<b>AYE</b>

Motion carries.

# GEORGETOWN CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Memorial Town Hall ♦ One Library Street ♦ Georgetown, MA 01833

## MEETING MINUTES FEBRUARY 16, 2023

### BUSINESS: ILLEGAL ATV RIDING AT HAMPSHIRE WOODS CONSERVATION AREA

**Carl:** And let's see, ongoing open space projects. I actually want to jump to the last one before I forget about it. I don't know if some of you some of you are aware of where Hampshire woods is, but we have a fairly large parcel in Hampshire Woods conservation area, and it's probably one of the only areas where we have a problem with illegal ATV riding activity, and it is gotten to be significant; and it's on both Georgetown Water Department land, Georgetown ConComm land, and also division of fish and wildlife land. I happened to be taking a walk out there on Sunday, and I was pretty much almost run over by multiple ATVs, and they were many of them out there. I summoned the Mass Environmental Police, and they had several units that could respond to me very quickly with their own ATVs. And because the ATVs are being stored in Groveland right off of the property line, they also call for backup from the Groveland police - and due to the number of people, there were probably 12 to 15 people involved here. I met them over there, they did chase down some ATVs, and it's going to be a continuing problem, and and difficult to stop. And we have rare endangered species, breeding habitats over there, and they are really ripping this place up, and the thing is - these people are not local people; they're not from around here. They're from out of state in some cases, and they're from, you know, closer to Boston and some of the city areas, and they're coming up here and doing this, and they're doing it kind of with impunity. And, I've talked with them before, and they've issued warnings initially, and they're going to continue to do that. But the next step is actual, serious fines, and that's really what needs to happen, but it's a major problem, and if you decide to walk out there right now, it would be a challenge; you might get run over. So, they are basically storing these vehicles right off of our property, and then just on the weekends, pulling them right out and driving illegally on our property. We put signs up that say no motor vehicles. They rip the signs right down.

**Rachel:** Carl. Did you also say that they were cutting trees down as well?

**Carl:** That and they're making trails up to, too, so they're actually cutting paths through places. And I did that also just this week, brief the Georgetown police on the situation, too, because it's kind of a multi-town, multi agency jurisdictional thing going on here. But Mass Environmental Police told me to call them directly, their dispatch, and they will send out as many units as they can with their own ATVs. The fines can be quite significant, and running from the police with an ATV is equivalent to a failure to stop in a car. There are significant fines associated with that, but that's really what needs to get done; otherwise, they're really going to destroy this area. So, I just wanted to make sure that the Commission was aware of some of these activities, and if anyone would like, I'm happy to show you where this area is.

# GEORGETOWN CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Memorial Town Hall ♦ One Library Street ♦ Georgetown, MA 01833

## MEETING MINUTES FEBRUARY 16, 2023

**Rachel:** Yes, please.

**Carl:** Okay. So, anyone have any comments on that?

**Logan:** Carl, I'm just trying to get my bearings of where this is on the map. Can you give me a...

**Carl:** Well, you know what the Groveland Industrial Park is? Off of (Route) 97?

**Logan:** I could find it on the map.

**Carl:** Well, if you know what Hampshire woods is, Hampshire Lane, rather; Hampshire Lane crosses; there's actually a regular paved road. Hampshire Lane crosses where the power lines cross, and follows up behind the Groveland Industrial Park. And right to the right of the industrial park is all conservation land, and where the power lines are, a lot of that's water department land, and beyond the Concom land is division of fish and wildlife land; it actually goes all the way up to that old gravel pit, which is now, I guess, apartments or condos up in Groveland off of Salem Street. It's a large parcel of land up there, and they ride in all of it. And again, it's pretty pervasive, and it's not one or two local kids with a bike; this is like an organized thing. Heck, they were doing barbecue up there on Sunday, you know, having a party, and they were pretty brazen. The police come right up to them sitting there in the chairs with the bikes. It's like, *yeah, what do you want?*

**Logan:** I got it on the map. Thank you.

**Carl:** So, it's going to be a continuing problem and something we'll have to keep after. So, if you happen to be up there, the Environmental Police told me to call them. They call it dispatch directly; they have the vehicles that can that can respond. And you know they'll summon and back up if they need it.

**Rachel:** Carl, can you give us the number? Is there a way you can email us all the number?

**Carl:** I can do that, yeah. I programmed them in my phone so I can get them pretty quickly. And that's what I would advise, especially, they carry usually in their vehicles in the summertime, and the one where they carry their own ATVs, so they can go after them. So, anything else? I think there was another, let's see, other Open Space projects. Anything we have any updates on that? And I think after that we're pretty much done.



# GEORGETOWN CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Memorial Town Hall ♦ One Library Street ♦ Georgetown, MA 01833

## MEETING MINUTES FEBRUARY 16, 2023

### BUSINESS: OPEN SPACE PROJECTS (ON-GOING & POTENTIAL FUTURE PROJECTS)

**Julie:** Rachel, that was the agenda item that you asked me to put on.

**Carl:** Oh yeah, you wanted to have a discussion about some of the ongoing, and one of the other ongoing Open Space projects. Again, I haven't had the time to deal with it right yet is - we have requested to do more pond treatments for Rock Pond and such. And, as we approach spring, again, this is why I need an agent. I've got to return calls to consultants to do that?

**Rachel:** No, this isn't that; these are the questions that you had for Amy Smith in regards to the Open Space project that's in front of the CPC right now, as far as invasive species.

**Amy Smith:** Yes.

**Rachel:** That's what this is.

**Carl:** Oh, this was the intern project? My questions on that are, are these paid interns? Are they adults? Liability?

**Amy:** Sadly, we lost Michelle. I was hoping she'd backstop me; and the reason she was here is, I took this project lock, stock, and barrel from West Newbury. I represent Georgetown in the West Newbury Wild and Native Group, and they reported this great project where they used adult interns; these are like college interns.

**Carl:** Right, I just want to make sure from a liability standpoint, that we don't have minors out there. My questions were more about, who do these folks report to? Interns are kind of a unique situation. I have interns who work for me at work, and we have contracts and things like that; and there's requirements of hours and all this kind of stuff. I'm looking at potential liability. If they wander off the property, how are they going to know where these properties are? I walk a lot of the properties, but a lot of people don't know where some of these are.

**Amy:** And that's what we came to the ConCom, for a couple of reasons. First, as always for, like CPC projects, you'd have to be the wallet. Second, I was originally planning on working with the agent on this to know where you'd want to have your invasive species mapped - and public lands, not private. And what top 10 species do you want mapped? I know there's a lot of them out there, which are probably priorities. So, I would be looking to the Conservation Commission for that. So, there'd be some oversight and management. I'm happy to help with that, too, but I'd be looking for some assistance with that; especially in identifying species and areas to work in.

# GEORGETOWN CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Memorial Town Hall ♦ One Library Street ♦ Georgetown, MA 01833

## MEETING MINUTES FEBRUARY 16, 2023

- Rachel:** How would that work if we only have an interim agent for less than 10 hours?
- Amy:** When I put this together, that wasn't the situation; so that may mean you have to revisit this. So, this is maybe something we need to put off.
- Carl:** Yeah, and I remember we, got some; there were some CPC funds allocated already for some invasives; I'm not sure if this could be used for that. I remember it was maybe a couple of cycles ago.
- Amy:** Wasn't that for Rock Pond?
- Rachel:** No, it was one of that, for around Town Hall.
- Amy:** Oh, right. Wasn't it for the knotweed?
- Rachel:** Yes.
- Carl:** Yes, I remember knotweed being...
- Amy:** Yeah, that was just actually eradication of the knotweed; I think.
- Carl:** We can check and see, as far as funds are concerned. But we may have to hold this off for a while. I don't know.
- Amy:** Yeah, that makes sense. Yeah, because this is just mapping, though, this is not; again, the goal here is just, you can't fight what you don't know is out there. And that was quite successful over in West Newbury. But yes, I could see, maybe given the current situation...
- Carl:** The question is, how? Would we recruit these interns? Are we going to schools and getting them? How do we find them?
- Amy:** Michelle found the most success on Indeed; indeed.com, which is a job site, but she also reached out...
- Carl:** I have interns coming to me. I actually have several working for me now, but they have to do like these, what they call capstone projects; they have to do 200-hour projects, and they can do with them based on their majors. And some of them are paid, some of them aren't. I have interns, I have work studies, all kinds of categories. And, many universities have that kind of situation so.

# GEORGETOWN CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Memorial Town Hall ♦ One Library Street ♦ Georgetown, MA 01833

## MEETING MINUTES FEBRUARY 16, 2023

- Amy:** Right and Michelle also worked out...I guess there's a Mass Association of Conservation Commissioners, you know. She has a list of where she had put the job ads up. And she had them working 20 hours a week. They started in the spring. Rachel, remind me; is it possible to get funds released earlier than July first?
- Rachel:** No.
- Amy:** We might have to accelerate; maybe have them working them working full-time. If we were to do this; have them work full-time starting in July.
- Carl:** To keep them busy full-time, we'd have to have a number of things ready to go for them; otherwise, they'd be kind of wandering around the town figuring out what to do.
- Amy:** Ready to go means giving them areas. What they do is, they get an iPad, and they have this free software from the University of Georgia; EED Maps. That's because the school benefits from our mapping data, so it's free. What they do is they map the invasive for us on the...
- Carl:** Yes. I'd like to find out how West Newbury handled the potential liability. Again, if I have an intern out there and they fall down and break their leg or ankle, how do they manage that? Something to find out; again, things happen.
- Amy:** Yes. Is that the only question, or is there anything else you want me to ask Michelle?
- Carl:** I would have some concerns of also just sending students out in the woods, and all of a sudden, they disappear; you know, they get lost.
- Amy:** There's training, and like I said, they relied a lot on...Michelle did the bulk of the work over there.
- Carl:** Well, like I explained from this past weekend; sometimes you run into people in the woods that you don't want to see.
- Rachel:** And we also don't have an agent; we don't have an agent to work full-time out there with them, which is the biggest problem, so if they were to wander onto private property, most likely accidentally – we don't want that to happen. And, I have found with other Open Space projects and CPC funds, that the Town has to get insurance for people who are working. We found that with the Apod frame for the ponds, to remove the green algae. And that was the problem as well.

# GEORGETOWN CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Memorial Town Hall ♦ One Library Street ♦ Georgetown, MA 01833

## MEETING MINUTES FEBRUARY 16, 2023

- Carl:** With the Town, I'm not sure whether they fall, what the category is. If they have a category; do they have a category of interns? Are they special Town employees? I understand the term intern, as I said, I have some working for me right now, but you know we have it very clearly defined what their status is. So, I think in the Town we'd have to kind of just figure that out; because they would be getting paid.
- Amy:** Yes.
- Carl:** And then we'd have to figure out the rate and all that kind of stuff; how much funds were available; all those things should be kind of fleshed out.
- Amy:** Their hours were calculated in the proposal I sent.
- Rachel:** Was it \$8,900?
- Amy:** I think it was an \$8,500, and that included the iPads with cellular data.
- Rachel:** And then to pay them?
- Amy:** The two interns - and I was just following what West Newbury did, they got \$6,500 because they don't work like the whole summer. And then the expenses; that \$2,000 for the iPads and the cellular service, because you need cellular when you're out in the field. So, but like I said, the software is free.
- Rachel:** And then you had said at the CPC that because it would be going under the ConCom, that the Concom would then have the iPads.
- Carl:** Yeah, I assume that they'd still be municipal property; we're not buying them iPads, and then they take them home.
- Amy:** Absolutely, I think they should belong to the ConCom, and then you could let any land use person use it.
- Carl:** Yeah, I would say they're Town property.
- Amy:** That's what they did in West Newbury.
- Logan:** Amy, do you know how they? Sorry to interrupt. With an internship, there's usually some academic responsibility, right? So, would somebody have to write something to their university? Or, is there any affiliation or responsibility for us from that academic standpoint for them? Like, are they receiving credits for this or anything like that?

# GEORGETOWN CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Memorial Town Hall ♦ One Library Street ♦ Georgetown, MA 01833

## MEETING MINUTES FEBRUARY 16, 2023

- Amy:** Just the work and the experience, which makes it easier. But it does sound like now, since things have changed, in terms of the conservation agent, that there won't be time, and I would be relying on being able to work with an agent on that. I wouldn't dump everything on them, but right now it doesn't seem like the right time.
- Carl:** We might just temporarily table the thought, and when we solidify things a little more, to revisit this. And it might also give us some time to, you know, flesh out where we can find some interns. They are probably out there.
- Amy:** Oh, they are, and they had no trouble in West Newbury. But, also think about where you would want the mapping to happen, too.
- Carl:** And that's something that we'd definitely need to put a little time to.
- Amy:** So yeah, that makes sense.
- Rachel:** I would want to know.
- Carl:** Because you know, we work with the researchers from UMass Amherst on endangered species and things like that, and we find those kinds of work, too. So, there's some potential, but you have to again flesh these things out so we know what we're doing here.
- Amy:** Right, and I've been following West Newbury. And I can forward you their presentation to their selectboard.
- Carl:** Yeah, that would be great.
- Amy:** They have a great presentation. It doesn't have all of the details that you want, but it would give you a better idea of what they did.
- Carl:** I'm just thinking worst case; I'm looking at risk and liability, and all this kind of stuff. You know, we don't want any lawsuits generated from someone getting hurt, or you know any of this kind of stuff.
- Amy:** Yes.
- Carl:** It does happen.
- Amy:** So, Rachel, we're probably not going to make this cycle then, right?

# GEORGETOWN CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Memorial Town Hall ♦ One Library Street ♦ Georgetown, MA 01833

## MEETING MINUTES FEBRUARY 16, 2023

- Rachel:** And just so people are clear, these are public projects that are voted on at the public town meeting, by the public, to allocate the money from the CPC Fund, which is partly tax dollars from Georgetown residents; and not a full state match, but the State comes in with some money that goes into the pot as well. So, this is something that taxpayers should be paying attention to, and they get to vote on whether or not these projects go through at town meeting.
- Carl:** And, that makes sense. But, before we bring it town meeting, we've got to have those open questions answered - because someone might ask those, and we need to be ready.
- Rachel:** Exactly.
- Amy:** Before we do that, my concern would be only having a conservation for 10 hours. Their first priority is the business of the ConCom, so I'm wondering if this project is really going to make it this for this town meeting.
- Carl:** We might have to wait till we solidify that more permanent situation in ConCom; that we have a job share type of thing going on, and you know we'd have a regular employee type situation, and then I think there's more time to devote to it.
- Amy:** I've got some good questions from you. I'll take it back to Michelle, we'll iron that out, and then when things settle down a little bit, the next cycle we can try this; the invasives will always be there.
- Carl:** And if you have that presentation you're talking about from West Newbury, I'd love to see that. I think that would be helpful, too.
- Amy:** Like I said, that was done by the interns themselves; but yeah, I'll send that along, and we'll table it. And I'll let Harry know, Rachel? About this?
- Rachel:** Yes.
- Amy:** Great, I'll do that, and I'll send you the thing, and I'll flesh out some more information from Michelle – and we'll be ready for the next time.
- Carl:** Ok, excellent.
- Amy:** Great, thanks for your time.
- Carl:** Thank you. Do we have anything else on the agenda?

# GEORGETOWN CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Memorial Town Hall ♦ One Library Street ♦ Georgetown, MA 01833

## MEETING MINUTES FEBRUARY 16, 2023

**Rachel:** Carl, you had brought up the invasive species which were in the ponds, which falls also under that.

**Carl:** Yes, I need to call them back because they want to make a minor modification for treatments. Again, this is one of those things; I have limited time to chase people during the day, during my work day, from my other public positions – so, that's really why I need an agent that kind of takes some of these things on. But that's certainly my goal, and that's another Open Space project that needs to be addressed, among many.

**Rachel:** Okay.

### CLOSING THE MEETING

**Carl:** Anything else? And again, I think Julie said we don't have minutes, and that's okay, for right now. And, if there's no further business, I would entertain a motion to close.

**Chris:** So moved.

**Carl:** We have a motion. Do we have a second?

**Rachel:** I seconded it, Bancroft.

**Carl:** We have a motion and a second to close the meeting. Any further discussion? All in favor, roll call vote:

### ROLL CALL

<b>Rachel Bancroft</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>Chris Candia</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>Tom Howland</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>Logan Umberger</b>	<b>AYE</b>
<b>Carl Shreder</b>	<b>AYE</b>

Motion carries.

The meeting was adjourned at **9:18 pm**. Documents and other exhibits used at the meeting will be available for review at the Conservation Office.

**\*\*\*\*END OF MEETING MINUTES\*\*\*\***

**GEORGETOWN CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

Memorial Town Hall ♦ One Library Street ♦ Georgetown, MA 01833

**MEETING MINUTES  
FEBRUARY 16, 2023**

**This section is for approving the meeting minutes**

---

Minutes for the Conservation Commission meeting held on February 16, 2023 were approved by a virtual roll call vote on May 18, 2023. The Chairman will sign the Meeting Minutes when in-person meetings resume.

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman: \_\_\_\_\_  
(signature)