

TOWN OF OTIS
CONSERVATION COMMISSION

1/21/2024 MEETING MINUTES

Location: Otis Town Hall, One North Main Road, Otis – Zoom Meeting

Conservation Commission Members present: Dave, Sarnacki, Dominic Battista, Chris Chaffee, Jeff Laramy, Bruce Wall

Conservation Commission Members absent: Roger Meyer, Jennifer Rivers Cole

Opening items/Introduction of Commission members and staff. Dominic opened the meeting at 6:00 p.m. and noted that the meeting is being recorded. Dominic introduced the members of the commission, and asked everyone to turn off/down their cell phones for the duration of the meeting. The deadline for applications for the February 18th, 2025 @ 6:00 PM meeting is on Wednesday, February 5th, 2025 by 3:00PM. The next office hours, for the February 18th, 2025 meeting, is on Wednesday February 5th, 2025 by 3:00PM.

Minutes: Dave made a motion to approve minutes from the December 17th, 2024 meeting; BW 2nd the motion and the Commission voted unanimously to approve the minutes for the December 17th, 2024 meeting.

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

Public Hearing – RDA – Submitted by Domenic Battista, 58 South Lake Ave., map 18B lot 3, regarding rebuilding of existing shed to a 10' x 16' shed, all within the BZ of Otis Reservoir. With all the being said Dave made a motion of a -3 determination with standard conditions. CC 2nd the motion and the Commission voted unanimously to issue a -3 determination.

Public Hearing – RDA – Submitted by Vincent & Amy Caruso, 117 Vine St., map 16C lot 30, regarding the addition of a floating dock extension & 2 jet ski lifts, all within the BZ of Otis Reservoir. With all the being said, Dave made a motion of a -3 determination with standard conditions. DB 2nd the motion and the Commission voted unanimously to issue a -3 determination.

Public Hearing – RDA – Submitted by Deborah Kane, 47 North Lake Ave., map 18A lot 37, regarding the removal of an 80 ft rotting oak tree & 2 pine trees, all within the BZ of Otis Reservoir. With all the being said, Dave made a motion of a -3 determination and to cut flush stumps. JL 2nd the motion and the Commission voted unanimously to issue a -3 determination.

Public Hearing – RDA – Submitted by J. Scott Hansen, Long Mountain Road., map 9A lot 5, regarding the trimming of branches on approximately 10 trees, 10’ - 20’ up the tree, all within the BZ of Hayes Pond. With all the being said, Dave made a motion of a -3 determination with standard conditions in addition debris is to be cleaned up and removed daily. DB 2nd the motion and the Commission voted unanimously to issue a -3 determination.

Public Hearing – RDA – Submitted by Justin Hyland, on behalf of Sheila Gschwind, 767 Algerie Rd., map 12A lot 35, regarding the clearing of brush in the backyard, all within the BZ of Big Pond. With all the being said, Dave made a motion of a -3 determination with standard conditions with the addition of waddles as recommended by the board. CC 2nd the motion and the Commission voted unanimously to issue a -3 determination.

Public Hearing – RDA – Submitted by Chaffee Construction Inc., on behalf of 183 Pine Rd LLC, 183 Pine Rd., map 15D Lot 72, regarding the installation of new siding, porch, windows, foundation repair, removal of rotted deck and replace with new stairs, all within the BZ of Otis Reservoir. With all the being said, Dave made a motion of a -3 determination with standard conditions in addition of waddles as recommended by the board. DB 2nd the motion and the Commission voted unanimously to issue a -3 determination.

Public Hearing – RDA – Submitted by Herbert Eichstedt, on behalf of Henry Devault, 98 Telephone Rd., map 7B lot 19, regarding the replacement of rotting deck boards with new deck boards, all within the BZ of White Lily Pond. After discussion the board decided to move this application to next month because payment was not received.

Public Hearing – RDA – Follow up from December’s meeting. Submitted by Paula Mercier, Moody Goodman Road., map 17B lot 5 regarding the replacement of existing sea wall with a new wall and the repair/extension of existing deck, all within the BZ of Otis Reservoir.

OTHER TOPICS:

Eversource Energy Right-of-Way Vegetation Maintenance Activities. After discussion the commission discussed doing research on this property to see if it is exempt from filing an application.

Blandford/Otis - Miller Swamp Road/South Otis. After discussion the commission discussed doing research on this property to see if it is exempt from filing an application.

Domenic made a motion to adjourn at 6:45.