

TOWN OF OTIS
CONSERVATION COMMISSION

2/18/2025 MEETING MINUTES

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

Conservation Commission Members present: Dave Sarnacki, Chris Chaffee, Jeff Laramy, Bruce Wall (Phone)

Conservation Commission Members absent: Roger Meyer, Jennifer Rivers Cole, Domenic Battista

Opening items/Introduction of Commission members and staff. Dave opened the meeting at 6:00 p.m. and noted that the meeting is being recorded. Dave 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 March 18th, 2025 @ 6:00 PM meeting is on Wednesday, March 5th, 2025 by 3:00PM. The next office hours, for the March 18th, 2025 meeting, is on Wednesday March 5th, 2025 by 3:00PM.

Minutes: Dave made a motion to approve minutes from the January 21st, 2025 meeting; JL 2nd the motion and the Commission voted unanimously to approve the minutes for the January 21st, 2025 meeting.

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

Public Hearing – RDA – Submitted by Francisca R. Heming - MassDOT Highway Division, Route 8, MM near MM 10.00, regarding drainage repairs along Route 8, all within the 100' RFA of West Branch Farmington River, BZ, BLSF & Estimated & Priority Habitat. MASSDOT had a representative at the meeting to explain the repairs. After explanation from the representative and discussion of the repairs with the Commission, 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 Marc Bergeron, 81 Vine St., map 16C lot 21, regarding the installation of docks & boat lift, all within the BZ of Otis Reservoir. Mark Bergeron was at the meeting to represent himself. After discussion between the applicant and the Commission the applicant decided to withdrawal his application and he will submit an NOI for next month's meeting.

Public Hearing – RDA – Submitted by Fred Sears on behalf of Patricia Walker Trustee, 245 D’Wolfe Dr., map 7A lot 57, regarding the replacement of existing septic system & new well, all within the BZ of Watson Pond. Fred Sears sent out a representative to discuss the project. After discussion between the representative and the Commission, Dave made a motion of a -3 determination with standard conditions and to make sure a silt fence is put in place prior to the start of the job. CC 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 amongst the board in regards to the project, Dave made a motion of a -3 determination with standard conditions. JL 2nd the motion and the Commission voted unanimously to issue a -3 determination.

OTHER TOPICS:

Follow up on - Eversource Energy Right-of-Way Vegetation Maintenance Activities. After research was done determination was made that they are exempt from filing.

Follow up on - Blandford/Otis - Miller Swamp Road/South Otis. After research was done determination was made that they are exempt from filing.

Dave made a motion to adjourn at 6:25.