

**SOUTH HADLEY CONSERVATION COMMISSION
VIRTUAL MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 17, 2024**

Present: Neva Tolopko, Chair; April Doroksi, Vice-Chair; Garth Schwellenbach, Member; Tom Dennis, Member; Kathy Davis, Member; Louise Croll, Associate Member; Terry Rosenfeld; Associate Member; Rebekah Cornell, Conservation Administrator; and Colleen Canning, Planning/Conservation Coordinator

Chair Tolopko called the meeting to order at 6:01 PM and reviewed the virtual meeting protocols.

0 attendees were present at the meeting according to the Zoom Attendance report (attached).

Agenda Item #1 --- Open Public Forum

No members of the public spoke during the open forum.

Agenda Item #2 --- Minutes

Draft minutes of the January 3 meeting were sent to the Commission for review. Edits had been proposed but had not been incorporated into a revised draft. Thus, approval was deferred to a future meeting.

Agenda Item #3 --- Request for Certificate of Compliance – 13 Lyon Green

A request for a partial Certificate of Compliance had been received to release 13 Lyon Green from the Order of Conditions issued to develop the full subdivision. Stormwater concerns had been identified by staff and the developer was working to correct the issue. Administrator Cornell recommended the Commission continue the agenda item to a future meeting to allow the project to be brought into compliance.

Motion: Commissioner Davis moved to continue discussion on partial COC issuance to release 13 Lyon Green from OOC #288-0359 to the Commission's February 7 meeting. Commissioner Davis seconded the motion. Six (6) out of six (6) Commissioner's present voted in favor of the motion through roll call vote.

Agenda Item #4 --- Master Plan Goals & Implementation

At a previous meeting, the Commission discussed Master Plan implementation achievements of the previous year. The Commission needed to consider goals and objectives for the upcoming year.

The Commission discussed the following topics relating to climate resiliency:

- Encouragement and consideration for climate resiliency when reviewing Requests for Determination of Applicability (RDA) and Notices of Intent (NOI)

- Discussion of the of the Town’s participation in the Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness 2.0 (MVP 2.0) program
- Consideration for a diverse forestry management plan due to expected temperature increases
- Modification of local application forms to address climate resiliency measures.

Commissioners also discussed public education and outreach which included utilizing the Town website, newspaper publications, targeted mailings and increase of social media visibility.

Associate Member Rosenfeld left the meeting at 6:54 PM.

The Commission discussed projects that other boards/committees were implementing that related to the Commission work including the following:

- The Tree Committee’s work on establishing a tree planting fund
- The Human Rights Commission’s work on ‘Diversity Equity Inclusion and Belonging’
- The Bike Walk Committee’s work on evaluating the best locations for public benches.

At the end of discussion, the Commission decided to focus on the three following objectives: 1) climate resiliency; 2) education; and 3) intercommunication amongst boards/commissions. Many of the items addressed during discussion related to these larger objectives.

Agenda Item #5 --- Administrator’s Report

Administrator Cornell detailed the following items:

- *Tree Warden Conference* – The Conservation Administrator and DPW Director attend the Annual Tree Warden Conference on January 9 and 10.
- *Master Plan Annual Forum* –Chair Tolopko and Administrator Cornell attended the recent Master Plan Annual forum on January 12. Communication was the focus of discussion.
- *Subcommittee Updates* - Through the work of the Growing Wild Subcommittee, an event would be hosted on January 31 in which Commissioner DeLuca would present information about migratory birds. The Diversity Equity and Inclusion Subcommittee was scheduled to meet next on February 7.
- *Upcoming Permits* – The Commission could anticipate reviewing an RDA for a bridge along the Robert Frost Trail at a future meeting.

Agenda Item #6 --- Other New Business

There was no new business to discuss.

Adjournment

Motion: Commissioner Davis moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Dennis seconded the motion. Six (6) out of six (6) commissioners voted in favor of the motion through roll call vote.

The meeting adjourned at 7:15 PM.

Appendix

| Document | Document Location |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Zoom Attendee Report | Attached |
| Master Plan Implementation Matrix | Conservation Files |

Attendee Report

Report Generated:

2/6/2024 14:48

| Topic | Webinar ID | Actual Duration (minutes) | Unique Viewers | Total Users |
|-----------------------------------------|---------------|---------------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Conservation Commission Host Details | 847 0627 1412 | 95 | 1 | 12 |

| Attended | User Name (Original Name) | Join Time | Leave Time | Time in Session (minutes) |
|----------|---------------------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|---------------------------|
| Yes | Rebekah Cornell (Town of South Hadley 2) | 1/17/2024 17:40 | 1/17/2024 19:15 | 95 |

Panelist Details

| Attended | User Name (Original Name) | Join Time | Leave Time | Time in Session (minutes) |
|----------|---------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|---------------------------|
| Yes | Neva | 1/17/2024 17:54 | 1/17/2024 19:15 | 81 |
| Yes | Garth | 1/17/2024 17:57 | 1/17/2024 19:15 | 78 |
| Yes | Colleen | 1/17/2024 17:58 | 1/17/2024 19:15 | 77 |
| Yes | Kathy | 1/17/2024 17:56 | 1/17/2024 19:15 | 80 |
| Yes | Jess (Jessica) | 1/17/2024 17:54 | 1/17/2024 19:15 | 81 |
| Yes | April | 1/17/2024 17:58 | 1/17/2024 19:15 | 77 |
| Yes | Louise | 1/17/2024 17:57 | 1/17/2024 19:15 | 78 |
| Yes | Tom | 1/17/2024 18:00 | 1/17/2024 19:15 | 75 |
| Yes | Terry | 1/17/2024 17:59 | 1/17/2024 18:55 | 57 |

Attendee Details

| Attended | User Name (Original Name) | Join Time | Leave Time | Time in Session (minutes) |
|----------|---------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|---------------------------|
| Yes | Tom | 1/17/2024 17:54 | 1/17/2024 17:58 | 5 |
| Yes | Tom | 1/17/2024 18:00 | 1/17/2024 18:00 | 1 |