

**CONSERVATION COMMISSION MINUTES**  
**Regular Meeting of September 22, 2020 at 7:00 pm**

**Zoom Information:**  
**<https://zoom.us/j/97523967244>**  
**Call-in Number: 1 646-558-8656**  
**Meeting ID: 975 2396 7244**

**These minutes are subject to approval by the Conservation Commission**

Present: Holly Kocet, John Dixon, Mark Boland, Mark Lurie, Justin Kaiser

Staff: Rob Sibley, Deputy Director of Land Use and Dawn Fried, Clerk

Ms. Kocet opened the meeting at 7:03 p.m.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mr. Boland moved to approve the minutes of September 8, 2020. Mr. Kaiser seconded. All in favor. The minutes from September 8, 2020 were approved.

**CORRESPONDANCE**

Ms. Fried read a correspondence letter that was sent to Mr. Sibley from Mr. Patrick Cushing. The letter was in regards to the 14-acres of open space at the Turkey Ridge subdivision. Mr. Cushing requested to speak at the next CC meeting. The Commission would like to invite Mr. Cushing to participate at the next CC meeting on October 13, 2020.

**AGENCY REPORTS**

Inland Wetlands – Mr. Kaiser stated there was an IW application regarding pond dredging. It is being continued.

**DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS**

High Meadow Wildflower Meadow – Ms. Kocet stated she planted Joe Pye Weed in the larger section of High Meadow. These native flowers are aggressive and will enhance the meadow with pink flowers. Mr. Boland questioned whether the Commission should hire a plant biologist to finish the 3-year study at high meadow. Ms. Kocet stated she will contact the plant biologist who completed the first phase of the study. Ms. Kocet wasn't sure if it was too late in the season to obtain accurate information.

Stone Bridge Preserve – Ms. Kocet planned a visit to Stonebridge on Sunday, October 27 at 10:00 am. Ms. Kocet invited the Commission to attend.

Conservation table – Mr. Sibley stated a Boy Scout has done a project on invasive plants. The Boy Scout's presentation board can be displayed on the Conservation table. Mr. Sibley stated it will also be displayed permanently at a location in the Town Hall.

Invasive Task Force – Ms. Kocet will ask the Master Gardener’s club to help mitigate the invasives. The Commission agreed the extra hours could assist the master gardeners in fulfilling their outreach hours.

Kiosks – The Commission had a discussion on the best way to handle the kiosks. Ms. Kocet asked for a volunteer to create a template with a description of the area, maps and history. Mr. Boland stated he and Gail Friedman collected information last year regarding the Halfway River. Mr. Dixon asked whether other options are available. Mr. Sibley stated there are several options available using newer technology including GIS apps and interactive apps. Mr. Sibley stated that it’s up to the Commission to either champion the project or hire someone. Mr. Lurie stated he would champion the project. Mr. Dixon also offered his assistance. Mr. Lurie discussed the possibility of QR codes with links. Mr. Lurie suggested creating a physical map for each property with the option of a QR code. Mr. Lurie will draft up a plan for the next CC meeting. Mr. Lurie also stated the Trails Committee might have information on apps.

The Commission had a brief discussion on the open space rating forms. The Commission needs to either drop off the forms at the office or send via email.

### EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Boland moved to begin the Executive Session at 7:27 pm to discuss a possible land acquisition. Mr. Sibley and Ms. Fried were invited. Ms. Kocet seconded. All were in favor. Executive Session ended at 7:38 pm.

Mr. Boland moved to approve the acceptance of Application O.S. #20-02. Ms. Kocet seconded. All in favor.

### ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Boland moved to adjourn the CC meeting. Mr. Kaiser seconded. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 7:43 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Dawn Fried