



City of Watertown  
Conservation Commission  
Administration Building  
149 Main St.  
Watertown, MA 02472

Patrick Towler, Chair  
Leo Martin, Member  
Rachel Danford, Member  
Marilyn Salvas, Member  
Joshua Coefer, Member  
Marie-Sophie Rohwaeder, Member

## MINUTES

Meeting Date: Wednesday, April 8, 2026, 7:02 PM, Remote Meeting on Zoom

Conservation Commission Members Present: Leo Martin, Marilyn Salvas, Rachel Danford, and Marie-Sophie Rohwaeder

Absent: Patrick Towler (Leo Martin chaired the meeting) and Josh Coefer

Also Present: Conor Nagel (VHB), Matt Daley (VHB), and Melissa Ferrerira (CBRE), and Christopher Zevitas (Resident)

Staff Present: Katie Swan, Conservation Agent, and Susan Jenness, Administrative Specialist  
Martin chaired the meeting and took roll call.

### 1. General Business

#### A. Minor changes request to approved plans for 93 California Street (MassDEP filing #: 321-0182)

Christopher Zevitas (Resident) discussed the request of minor changes for the original plans that were approved as part of the issuance of the Order of Conditions by the Conservation Commission three years ago. The original plans included installation of permeable pavers, two patios, a walkway, and basement sump discharge system. Zevitas learned that access to the back of the house would require work by hand in order to not track through DCR property and wetland area. From that, he reduced the impact (306 square feet) by removing the work in the rear and focus on the driveway area.

Commissioner Comments:

- Rohwaeder asked about the erosion controls to be installed within the driveway area.
  - Martin asked Zevitas to let Agent Swan know when he is ready to start work of the driveway area.

There were no additional comments by Agent Swan.

**Motion:** Salvas made a motion to approve the minor changes to the approved plans. Danford seconded the motion.

**Roll Call:** All members present voted by roll call, 4-0 to approve.

**B. Request for Certificate of Compliance for 580 Pleasant Street (MassDEP filing #: 321-0173)**

Connor Nagle (VHB) discussed the request to close out the Order of Conditions with a Certificate of Compliance for 580 Pleasant Street. The project site included the pedestrian walking path that connects from the John A. Ryan Ice Rink to the DCR Charles River Reservation Greenway, redevelopment of the building, and riverbank plantings. Nagle reported there was one area of the site with unresolved erosion issues from the Order of Conditions issued in 2021, which was resolved, and a landscape architect signed off on the landscaping after two growing seasons.

Agent Swan recommended to approve the request to close out the Order of Conditions with a Certificate of Compliance.

**Motion:** Danford made a motion to approve the request to close out the Order of Conditions with a Certificate of Compliance for 580 Pleasant Street. Salvas seconded the motion.

**Roll Call:** All members present voted by roll call, 4-0 to approve.

**2. Updates**

**A. Chair updates:**

Martin shared that he attended an adjudicatory hearing at Mass DEP for the denial of an Order of Conditions for Williams Parcel owned by Maximos Hatziliades. Martin reported that the attorneys for both sides did exceptional work advocating for their clients' interests and legal rights. The case is now under advisement until later in April when a decision will be announced by the judge on the appeal of the denial.

**B. CPC Updates:**

Salvas attended her first Community Preservation Commission (CPC) meeting as the Conservation Commission CPC liaison. Salvas discussed the Old Burying Ground and Common Street Cemetery CPC application for funding. She was concerned about the proposed removal of a number of mature trees from the burial grounds, due to the trees' potential to shed large branches which could cause damage to gravestones and monuments. Salvas discussed her new CPC role with Martin who informed her it would be appropriate for her to advocate for replacement of the trees with smaller, perhaps flowering trees that would enhance canopy in the burial grounds without the threat of dropping heavy branches. She will report back next month after her second meeting.

### **C. Agent Report:**

Agent Swan reported she is anticipating more stable springlike weather so she can begin site visits to inspect the active sites for signs of stabilization and see how plantings and trees made it through the winter.

### **3. Minutes to be approved**

A. February 4, 2026 minutes, was tabled to the next meeting due to lack of quorum.

B. March 4, 2026 minutes, was tabled to the next meeting due to lack of quorum.

### **3. Meeting Adjournment**

**Motion:** Salvas made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:37 pm. Rohwaeder seconded the motion.

**Roll Call:** All members present voted by roll call, 4-0 to adjourn.