



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

Maria P. Rose, Chair  
Leo Martin, Member  
Jamie O'Connell, Member  
Darya Mattes, Member  
Rachel Danford, Member

**MINUTES**

Meeting Date: Wednesday, March 6, 2024, 7:00 PM, Remote Meeting on Zoom

Conservation Commission Members Present: Maria Rose, Leo Martin, Darya Mattes, and Jamie O'Connell

Absent: Rachel Danford

Also Present: Peter Del Tredici (Resident), Karen Roubicek (Resident), Will Twombly (Resident), Elodia Thomas (Resident), Katie Patterson (Resident), Chris McCarthy (BCRE), Melissa Ferreira (Griffith Properties), Nora Kelly (Griffith Properties), and Michael Albano (Watertown DPW).

Staff Present: Katie Swan, Conservation Agent, Susan Jenness, Assistant

Rose chaired the meeting.

1. **Public Hearing:** Request for an Extension of Order of Conditions - 580 Pleasant Street (MA DEP #: 321-0172). Griffith Properties, Applicant and Fluid Management Systems, Owner.

Nora Kelly (Griffith Properties) was present to discuss the request for an Extension of the Order of Conditions for two (2) years. Additional time was needed to continue the monitoring of the plants to meet the minimum two (2) year growing requirement.

**Motion:** O'Connell made a motion to allow the request for an extension of the order of conditions for a period of two (2) years. Mattes seconded the motion.

**Roll Call:** Rose took a roll call and all members agreed with the motion made by O'Connell.

2. Public Meeting: 2023 Annual Whitney Hill Abutters Meeting – Activities from 2023 and proposed activities for 2024 were discussed with residents who were present and members of the Conservation Commission.

#### Topics that were discussed

- Third sign was installed at the entrance of Marshall Street and Oliver Street road during the summer of 2023.
- Student Conservation Association (SCA): The contract was postponed in 2023 and is tentatively scheduled for construction the summer of 2024.
- Discussion of ongoing ecological monitoring of the tree plots and red-backed salamanders.
- Proposed management plan for the Park to shift focus from monitoring to management:
  - Proposed management plan that would focus on long-term plans for the park as noted in the 2023 Annual Whitney Hill Park report including invasive species management, understanding the uses of the park, trail maintenance, etc.
  - Possible funding sources may include CPC funds or grants.

#### Public Comments

William Trembly of Marion Road made a request for an additional trash barrel to be placed at the entrance of Marshall Street and Oliver Road.

Peter Del Tredici, resident, noted that the development of an overarching vision for Whitney Hill Park is needed. He noted that he has noticed a lot of large mature trees are dying and that there is erosion occurring across the Park.

Rose thanked everyone who showed up to the meeting. She said she was going to explore starting a sub-committee to work on the ideas for Whitney Hill Park.

3. CPC Update: O'Connell reported that there will be two CPC meetings on 3/21 and 3/28 to discuss the project applications received for funding this year.
4. Agent Report: Swan updated the commission about 99 Coolidge (MA DEP #: 321-0175) where the site is good and will meet with the project team about their plan for the remaining work that needs to be done later in March/April. The project team will file a request for an Extension of the Order of Conditions for the April meeting.
5. Minutes from February 7, 2024, Conservation Commission Meeting with an amendment on page 2.

**Motion:** Mattes made a motion to accept the minutes as amended. O'Connell seconded the motion made by Mattes.

**Roll Call:** Members were polled, and all agreed with the motion made by Mattes.

All members agreed to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 pm.