

Town of Holland

Conservation Commission

27 Sturbridge Road, 2nd Floor
Holland, MA 01521

Meeting Minutes for December 12, 2023

NOTE: This meeting was held in the Conservation Room, 2nd Floor. The meeting was recorded.

MEMBERS PRESENT:	Jessica Wales (JW), Clelland Johnson (CJ), Rick Lundin (RL), Val Lundin (VL), Tim Sweny (TS), and Municipal Clerk Shannon Boyce (SB).
MEMBERS ABSENT:	None
MEMBERS REMOTE:	None
PUBLIC PARTICIPANTS (Live or Remote):	Michael Thibeault of Landscape Evolution for 7 Sunset Ln (184-0441); Isobel Arthen-Long from Tighe & Bond for 15 Alexander Rd (184-0440); Michael Fitzback owner of 15 Alexander Rd (184-0440); Amelita Lijek currently of Easthampton / incoming resident of 15 Alexander Rd (184-0440); Kale Landers owner of 3 Alexander Rd (184-0440)

TIME:	MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY: <i>(Member Name)</i>
6:37 PM	Jessica Wales (JW)

AGENDA

(Note all discussions, motions, votes in this section)

- 6:38 PM Review 11/28/23 Meeting Minutes. VL noted two typos that needed correction. Corrections made. RL Motion to Approve as Amended; CJ 2nds; All in Favor; Approved.
- 6:39 PM Review Site Visits:

28 Lake Shore Dr: Tree Removal Application. No concerns to note from site visit. RL & CJ Approved.

7 Lake Shore Dr: NOI 184-138. Copy of Request for COC from 2002. No concerns to note from site visit. JW wished to enter into the record that the current Request for COC and the original

OOB recorded against the Deed note that the Assessor Map and Lot Numbers are R24 and A-71; however, the Assessor's database show the Assessor Map and Lot Numbers are R24 and A-1 for this address. The Commission will approve this request based on the Map and Lot Numbers as shown in the Request for COC and the original OOB recorded against the Deed.

15 Alexander Rd: NOI 184-0440 -- Utility work and tree removal. No concerns to note from site visit.

7 Sunset Ln: NOI 184-0440 – Timber Wall Repair. No concerns to note from site visit.

3. 6:41 PM Planned Site Visits:

None

4. 6:41 PM Tree Removal Applications:

None

5. 6:42 PM 7 Lake Shore Dr: NOI 184-138. Copy of Request for COC from 2002. **RL Motion to approve COC; CJ 2nds; All in Favor.** COC signed. SB will scan and email a copy to Paralegal Paula Chizmar and Atty. Daryl Johnson at Fitzgerald Law for their records, then mail a hard copy to their office at 46 Center Square in East Longmeadow, MA for recording.
6. 6:45 PM SB presented the invoice from MACC (Massachusetts Association of Conservation Commissions) for her staff membership fee. **RL Motion to approve invoice; CJ 2nds; All in Favor.** JW signed. SB will submit for payment.
7. 6:47 PM VL turned in her resignation letter to the Commission. Her resignation will be effective December 31, 2023. The Commission appreciates her contributions to date and will happily welcome her back if/when her schedule allows for it in the future. SB will forward this resignation letter to Town Administrator Stacy Stout.
8. 6:47 PM VL read a note from a concerned resident, Robert Perron of 103 Leno Rd. He stated the Highway Dept. dug a trench and now water is running off into the stream across the street. He doesn't see any containment (bales, etc...). SB will forward this concern to the Highway Dept for review/feedback. RL & CJ will plan to visit this site before the next meeting.
9. 6:49 PM The meeting scheduled for December 26, 2023 is canceled. The next Commission meeting will be January 9, 2024.
10. 6:53 PM CJ updated the commission on the hydroraking meeting he attended. The machine can move decomposed organic material and silt that hasn't been packed down. The vendor will be responsible for permitting – this includes addressing the concerns raised by Mark Stinson from the DEP. No date has been set for the next hydroraking meeting.
11. 6:58 PM VL inquired about submitting for bi-annual stipends. She will speak with Treasurer Sharon Ashleigh about that process.

TIME:	MEETING OPENED TO PUBLIC BY: (Member Name)
7:00 PM	Jessica Wales (JW)

PUBLIC HEARINGS

(Note all discussions, motions, votes in this section)

1. 7:00 PM 7 Sunset Ln: NOI 184-0440. Michael Thibeault of Landscape Evolution speaking. Repair failing timber wall. RL & CJ note no issues to report from the site inspection. Reviewed comments from Mark Stinson (DEP). Thibeault agreed to add 8 bushes to the property. There is also an unrecorded COC from 2004 (184-0169). JW was able to locate the original COC, but there are no wet signatures on it, so it cannot be recorded. The Request for COC will be added to the agenda for the meeting scheduled for January 9, 2024.

7:07 PM RL Motion to close meeting; CJ 2nds; All in Favor. Meeting Closed.

7:07 PM RL Motion to Approve with conditions as stated and based on plan dated 11/18/2023; CJ 2nds; All in Favor. Motion Approved. SB uploaded OOC to eDEP. Copy of Order of Conditions (OOC) provided to Thibeault at meeting.

2. 7:10 PM 15 Alexander Rd: NOI 184-0440. In attendance are: Isobel Arthen-Long from Tighe & Bond; Michael Fitzback owner of 15 Alexander Rd; Amelita Lijek currently of Easthampton / incoming resident of 15 Alexander Rd; and, Kale Landers owner of 3 Alexander Rd. The NOI is for Utility work and tree removal. RL & CJ note no issues to report from the site inspection. Arthen-Long explained the project is being done in coordination with the Army Corps of Engineers, who hold an easement. 15 Trees will be removed within the 200' buffer. National Grid cannot adequately maintain the utility poles/wires on that property at their current location. Neighbor Landers noted that crews have to go down a 70-90° angled embankment to reach the pole(s). A truck cannot safely access that area. Owner Fitzback and incoming resident Lijek oppose this NOI. They are concerned crews might damage the bridge to their property. Arthen-Long states Tighe & Bond were under the impression the owner was in agreement with the project. JW asked Arthen-Long if National Grid or Tighe & Bond would be agreeable to put up a bond in the event there is damage to the property. She said she could not speak to whether either company would agree to that, but that she will look into it. She noted that if the project is not done, National Grid will not be able to guarantee consistent electric utility service to this property. The Commission will not vote on this NOI unless both parties are on the same page.

7:26 PM Arthen-Long requested a continuation to the next meeting scheduled January 9, 2024 to give the parties time to come to an agreement. Request Approved and Meeting Closed.

TIME:	MEETING CLOSED TO PUBLIC BY: (Member Name)
7:26 PM	Jessica Wales (JW)

DISCUSSIONS

(Note all discussions, motions, votes in this section)

1. 7:30 PM Commission discussed upcoming site visits that arose during the course of the meeting: (1) 7 Sunset Ln for the request for COC; and, (2) 103 Leno Rd to investigate the issue brought to the Commission's attention by the Robert Perron.

TIME:	MEETING ADJOURNED BY: <i>(Member Name)</i>	VOTES:
7:31 PM	Rick Lundin (RL)	CJ 2nds; All approve. JW Closed.

List of Documents or Exhibits used at the meeting:

1. 7 Sunset Ln: Plan dated 11/18/2023.

Documents and Other Exhibits used at meeting will be available for review at: Conservation Room, 2nd Floor

Meeting adjourned at 7:31 PM.

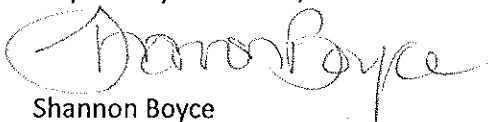
Next meeting:

Date: January 9, 2024

Time: 6:30 PM

Place: Conservation Room, 2nd Floor

Respectfully submitted,



Shannon Boyce

Recording Secretary

Minutes approved by Board/Commission on: 1/9/2024