

Dracut Conservation Commission  
Minutes of February 1, 2023 – 7:00pm  
Douglas G. Willett, Board of Selectmen Chambers

RECEIVED  
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE  
1707 MAR -2 AM 9:24  
TOWN CLERK  
DRACUT, MA

**Commissioners Present:** Dave Sutherland, David Martin, John Svrcek, Rob Sheppard, Rob Northrup, Conservation Agent Lori Cahill and Jessica Arseneaux, Recording Secretary

**Commissioners Absent:** Arthur Taylor, John Jackson

Chairman Dave Sutherland opened the meeting at 7:00pm.

**Community Input:** None

**Approval of Minutes:** January 4, 2023, and January 18, 2023, minutes with changes. Mr. Rob Sheppard motioned to accept minutes with changes, seconded by Mr. Martin. Motion passed unanimously.

**Correspondence:** None

**DEP Comments:** None

**Public Hearing: Notice of Intent: Peters Pond DEP# 145-1189**

Mr. John Fitzgerald, Peters Pond Grove Association, presents to the board a PowerPoint discussing Peters Pond Aquatic Plant Management Program to restore Peters Pond through an integrated aquatic plant management program to reduce excessive growth of native and non-native vegetation, improving fish habitat and slowing eutrophication. Mr. Fitzgerald states that in the last twenty years there is significantly more native plants and weeds, water lilies, watersheild, bladderwort, coontail, floating islands and for the first time an invasive species, curly-leaf pondweed.

Mr. Fitzgerald states that the chemical Glyphosate to Imazamox would be a better chemical to use because Imazamox is less toxic. The two chemicals ( Imazomox and Diquat ) will kill the weeds and help the pond. Mr. Fitzgerald states that fish do not thrive in dense weed growths and to many aquatic plants can actually harm the fish. Mr. Fitzgerald also mentions that Peters Pond is full of weeds and it's overbearing the pond.

Mr. Fitzgerald states that Diquat will be applied to the pond in June and the chemical Imazamox will be applied in August/September. Mr. Fitzgerald states that they will be using a hydro-raking technique to remove the aquatic plants and their attached roots. The hydro-raking will operate similar to when it took place back in 2004. Mr. Fitzgerald states for the bottom of the pond they will be using a benthic barrier which are geo-fabrics applied over the bottom of lakes and the growth of aquatic plants below the barrier is impeded by the lack of sunlight penetration.

Motion to close the hearing made by Mr. Svrcek seconded by Mr. Martin. Motion passed unanimously. Motion to issue an Order of Conditions made by Mr. Sheppard, seconded by Mr. Martin. Motion passed unanimously.

**Public Hearing: Notice of Intent: Request for extension: 231-Wheeler Street DEP#145-1050**

Mr. O'Brian states that he wants to extend a 3-year extension on an existing Order of Conditions for 231-Wheeler Street. The property is presently before the town or before the state for a comprehensive permit for a 40-B project.

Motion to extend the Notice of Intent, 3-year extension made by Mr. John Svrcek, seconded by Mr. Rob Sheppard. Motion carried.

**New Business:** None

**Old Business:** Lori Cahill states that she went to 95 Hayfield Road to check out the pool and backyard without a permit, they haven't done any recent work and the owner of the house is waiting on the final plan with the landscaper to be able to give to Maureen Herald to turn it over to a Notice of Intent.

Lori Cahill states that 251 Sladen Street is asking for a continuance and to push back until March 1<sup>st</sup> meeting.

Mr. Dave Sutherland states that Mr. Rob Sheppard has a few comments for the Dracut Wetland Bylaw Committee. Mr. Rob Sheppard states that he watched the meeting, and there was a lot of back and forth, and he wants to make sure if a permit was required and to also make sure our bylaws were updated accordingly. Mr. Rob Sheppard states that if there were any resurfacing at all in the area are driveways needed to have a permit filed, and to make sure there is clarification within our bylaws and that it directs too our storm water.


Mr. Svrcek, Mr. Sheppard, and Mr. Northrup volunteered to be Wetland Bylaw subcommittee members. Motion made by Mr. Martin, seconded by Mr. Sutherland. Motion passed unanimously.

**Informal Discussion:** None

**Adjourn:** Mr. Jack Svrcek made a motion to adjourn, Mr. Rob Northrup seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 8:00pm.

**Next Meeting:** February 15, 2023 – 7:00pm

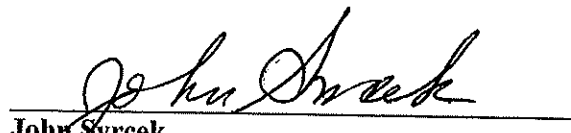
  
Dave Sutherland, Chairman


  
Robert Sheppard

  
David Martin

Absent  
\_\_\_\_\_  
John Jackson

Absent  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Arthur Taylor

  
John Svrcek

  
Rob Northrup