

**Leicester Conservation Commission Meeting Minutes  
December 13, 2023**

**Location:** Leicester Town Hall, Select Board Meeting Room

**Member Present:** Stephan Parretti, JoAnn Schold, James Cooper, Vanessa Lopez

**Members Absent:** Ashlyn Coyle

**Others Present:** Lisa Westwell, Administrative Assistant to the Planning Department

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**Call to Order:** Chairman Parretti called the meeting to order at 6:40 PM

**Motion:** Mr. Cooper made a motion to accept the 4/12/23, 5/10/23, 6/29/23, 8/9/23, and 11/8/23 minutes.

**Second:** Ms. Schold

**Discussion:** None

**Record of Vote:**

Stephan Parretti	Aye
James Cooper	Aye
JoAnn Schold	Aye
Vanessa Lopez	Absent
Ashlyn Coyle	Absent
<b>Three (3) in Favor. None (0) Opposed. Two (2) Absent. Approved 3 to 0</b>	

**1. 314 Stafford Street - Request for Certificate of Compliance (DEP File #197-0425)**

Septic System Repair Plan. Applicant: Dennis and Lorna O'Day

Mr. John Finlay, P.E. was present on behalf of the Applicants. Mr. Parretti asked if a certification letter and as-built had been submitted and if a site visit had been conducted. Ms. Schold said she conducted site visit and was fine with everything.

**Motion:** Ms. Schold made a motion to issue the Certificate of Compliance for 314 Stafford Street DEP File #197-0425.

**Second:** Mr. Cooper

**Discussion:** None

**Record of Vote:**

Stephan Parretti	Aye
James Cooper	Aye
JoAnn Schold	Aye
Vanessa Lopez	Absent
Ashlyn Coyle	Absent

<p><b>Three (3) in Favor. None (0) Opposed.</b> <b>Two (2) Absent.</b> <b>Approved 3 to 0</b></p>
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**2. Sargent Pond Association - Request to Extend Order of Conditions (DEP File #197-0662)**  
Solitude Lake Management

Mr. Tanner Pook, Associate Project Manager, with Solitude was present on behalf of Sargent Pond Association. Mr. Pook said that Solitude was looking to extend the Order of Conditions and had conducted treatments and surveys in 2021 and 2022 and would like to continue with the weed control management. Mr. Parretti asked if this was the first request for extension for this Order of Conditions and Mr. Pook said yes. Ms. Schold asked what year it was issued, and Ms. Westwell said December 2020 for three years.

**Motion:** Ms. Schold made a motion to extend the Order of Conditions for Sargent Pond Association for DEP File 197-0662.

**Second:** Mr. Cooper

**Discussion:** None

**Record of Vote:**

Stephan Parretti	Aye
James Cooper	Aye
JoAnn Schold	Aye
Vanessa Lopez	Absent
Ashlyn Coyle	Absent
<b>Three (3) in Favor. None (0) Opposed.</b> <b>Two (2) Absent.</b>  <b>Approved 3 to 0</b>	

**3. 187 Main Street - #2 Fuel Spill – Emergency Certification Review/Ratification**

No one was present for this project. Ms. Westwell said that this spill was being handled by CMG Environmental and MassDEP and the work has been taken over by MassDEP. Ms. Westwell said Jerry Clark with CMG sent email updates and they need Conservation to ratify the Emergency Certification to continue work.

**Motion:** Ms. Schold made a motion for the Commission to sign the Emergency Certification form for 187 Main Street.

**Second:** Mr. Cooper

**Discussion:** None

**Record of Vote:**

Stephan Parretti	Aye
James Cooper	Aye
JoAnn Schold	Aye
Vanessa Lopez	Absent
Ashlyn Coyle	Absent
<b>Three (3) in Favor. None (0) Opposed.</b> <b>Two (2) Absent.</b>  <b>Approved 3 to 0</b>	

Vanessa Lopez entered the meeting at 6:46 pm.

**4. 160 Peter Salem Road – Emergency Certification Review/Ratification**

Ms. Westwell informed the Commission that the Board of Health issued an emergency permit for septic repair when the D-box failed and that the Commission needed to vote whether or not to ratify/sign the Certification. Ms. Schold said she went by the site and was fine with it and said they would need to provide an as-built. Ms. Westwell said we don't have an as-built yet but it's in the Special Conditions in the emergency permit. Ms. Schold asked if they had an active NOI. Mr. Parretti said they are just going to give the emergency certification and request an as-built. Ms. Schold asked if they could put a time limit on the as-built. Mr. Parretti suggested making the deadline the next Conservation meeting on January 17, 2024.

**Motion:** Ms. Schold made a motion for the Commission to approve/ratify the Emergency Certification for 160 Peter Salem Road with the condition that an as-built plan be submitted by the January 17, 2024 Conservation Commission meeting.

**Second:** Mr. Cooper

**Discussion:** None

**Record of Vote:**

Stephan Parretti	Aye
James Cooper	Aye
JoAnn Schold	Aye
Vanessa Lopez	Abstain
Ashlyn Coyle	Absent
<b>Three (3) in Favor. None (0) Opposed.</b> <b>One (1) Abstain. One (1) Absent.</b>  <b>Approved 3 to 0</b>	

## **5. Hazard Mitigation Plan – Public Outreach**

Mike Dupuis, Fire Chief, and Mr. Peter Cusolito, emergency management consultant, presented the Hazard Mitigation Plan. Chief Dupuis said the Town needs a new Plan and it's being presented for public comment. Mr. Cusolito said the plan is due to FEMA by early March. The Plan makes Leicester eligible for FEMA recovery funds and pre-disaster grants. Mr. Cusolito said the 2024 Plan will mirror the state's plan and that Leicester's Plan will rank hazards based on past events and zero probability events, such as coastal storms and tsunamis, will not be included. Mr. Cusolito said the Town's input is important as permitting is a huge mitigation of hazard probability. Mr. Cusolito said CMRPC did the 2018 Hazard Mitigation Plan and now that want input to update it. Ms. Jan Parke, Greenville St., offered to help through the Common Ground Land Trust and said that the public input into this Plan are vital for grants and the Town has a grant writer. The Commission thanked Chief Dupuis and Mr. Cusolito for their work on the Plan.

### **Discussion**

- **15 Bond St. – Review of wetland restoration report**

No one was present to represent this project. Mr. Parretti asked Ms. Westwell to send EBT Environmental's report certified mail/return receipt and email to Mr. Jay Giggey and copy his wetland consultant, Brandon Fanuef.

- **82 Baldwin St. – status update**

Ms. Westwell said that Ross Lemansky with RSI Enterprises would be starting the restoration work next week.

- **385 Main St. – Complaint - Jan's Package Store**

Ms. Westwell informed the Commission of the complaint regarding debris from open dumpsters on the property littering Kettle Brook in violation of the Wetlands Protection Act and Leicester Wetlands Bylaw. Ms. Westwell said the Board of Health had conducted a site visit and issued a fine and that she had sent a second warning letter to the owner of Jan's Package Store, but neither the Board of Health or Conservation had received a response. Mr. Parretti said the trash is going everywhere and they have been there before and the trash was going into the stream. Mr. Parretti wants to send a letter and possibly engage MassDEP. Ms. Schold said the BOH letter included a fine so she asked if the Commission should wait and see what happens with Board of Health before doing anything else. Ms. Westwell suggested a joint site visit between the Board of Health and Conservation. Mr. Parretti said Conservation can fine daily and if MassDEP gets involved it'll be even more expensive. Mr. Parretti to speak with the Board of Health and set up a site visit for next week.

- **2024 Meeting Dates**

The proposed Conservation Commission meeting dates were reviewed, revised, and agreed upon by the Commission, unless otherwise posted.

## Miscellaneous/Board Updates

- **257 Pine St.** – Ms. Westwell informed the Commission that she contacted the owner, Wilbert Delarosa, and he recorded the Order of Conditions, and signed a site inspection request form. Ms. Schold asked if he had cleaned up the trash. Ms. Westwell said Mr. Delarosa said he would clean up the trash and that he would send photos of the erosion controls. Ms. Westwell recommended the Commission conduct a site visit.
- **214 Rawson St.** – Ms. Westwell said the developer, Sam Harvey, had notified her that the re-flagging was completed, and they were ready for a site visit.
- **Waite Pond Dam repairs** – Ms. Westwell informed the Commission that she had received an email from Fuss & O'Neil, the engineers, regarding repairs that needed to be conducted at Waite Pond Dam during the current drawdown. Ms. Schold asked if they were waiting for approval from Office of Dam Safety (ODS). Ms. Westwell said they are working with the ODS. Mr. Parretti said it made sense for them to conduct the repairs during the drawdown and if Dam Safety is guiding them to do repairs, they should do them. Ms. Westwell said she asked for the ODS order from the engineer for the Emergency Certification. The Emergency Certification gets filed with MassDEP too. The Commission asked her to continue working with the engineers to facilitate the repairs.

**Motion:** Ms. Schold made a motion to adjourn.

**Second:** Mr. Cooper

**Discussion:** None

## Record of Vote:

Stephan Parretti	Aye
James Cooper	Aye
JoAnn Schold	Aye
Vanessa Lopez	Aye
Ashlyn Coyle	Absent
<b>Four (4) in Favor. None (0) Opposed. One (1) Absent.</b>	
<b>Approved 4 to 0</b>	

Meeting adjourned at 7:31 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Lisa Westwell, Administrative Assistant  
to the Planning Department

**Date Approved:** January 17, 2024

**Conservation Commission Board Signatures**



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Stephan Parretti, Chair



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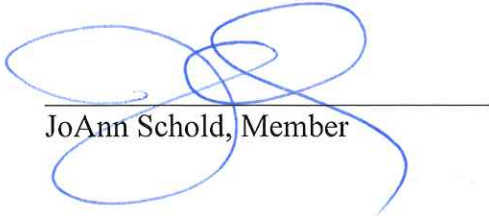
Vanessa Lopez, Member

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James Cooper, Vice Chair

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Ashlyn Coyle, Member



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JoAnn Schold, Member

DECEMBER 13, 2023

# SIGN-IN SHEET

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