

**Leicester Conservation Commission Meeting Minutes
June 29, 2023**

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TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE
LEICESTER, MASS.

Location: Leicester Town Hall, Select Board Meeting Room
Member Present: Stephan Parretti, James Cooper, JoAnn Schold
Members Absent:
Others Present:

Call to Order: Chairman Parretti called the meeting to order at 6:31 PM

1. Request for Determination of Applicability - 565 Pine Street. Applicant Charles and Karen Shearns. Construction of an inground pool.

Mr. Brian McCune from Graz Engineering was present on behalf of the Applicants. Applicant has an Order of Conditions for a new home. They are filing the RDA to add the pool. Mr. Parretti asked if there were any questions and there were none.

Motion: Ms. Schold made a motion approve the RDA with a negative 3 determination with the condition that the engineer let the commission know when the hay bales are up.

Second: Mr. Cooper

Discussion: None

Record of Vote:

Stephan Parretti	Aye
James Cooper	Aye
JoAnn Schold	Aye
Three (3) in Favor. None (0) Opposed.	
Approved 3 to 0	

2. 55 Waite Street. Applicant Lynette Diaz. Installation of an above ground pool and extension of an existing deck.

Ms. Diaz said she wants to install an above ground pool and extend her deck 3' to be up to the pool. Ms. Diaz stated the project will be done outside of 25' disturb zone. Mr. Parretti did a site visit and it's a flat area. Ms. Diaz stated that there would be no heavy equipment down by the water.

Mr. Parretti asked if there were any questions and there were none.

Motion: Ms. Schold made a motion to approve the RDA with a negative 3 determination with the condition that the Applicant notify the Commission when the project is complete.

Second: Mr. Cooper

Discussion: None

Record of Vote:

Stephan Parretti	Aye
James Cooper	Aye
JoAnn Schold	Aye
Three (3) in Favor. None (0) Opposed.	
Approved 3 to 0	

3. Notice of Intent – 0 Chapel St. and 31 Chapel St. (DEP #197-0670).

No one was present for this project.

4. Notice of Intent – 63 Fairview Drive (DEP #197-0669). Applicant: Patrick Byrne for Owen and Matt Clifford. NOI to replace existing deck.

Mr. Owen Clifford was present. Ms. Clifford said deck is rotting so they want to replace the footprint, go out 14 inches, move the stairs, remove the catwalk and replaced with a landing off the kitchen door. Mr. Parretti said he is currently 51' off the water and he would be 50' and Mr. Clifford confirmed this.

Mr. Parretti asked if there were any questions and there were none.

Motion: Mr. Cooper made a motion to approve the NOI for 63 Fairview Drive with wattles and condition that they call when wattles are installed so Commission can do inspection..

Second: Ms. Schold

Discussion: None

Record of Vote:

Stephan Parretti	Aye
James Cooper	Aye
JoAnn Schold	Aye
Three (3) in Favor. None (0) Opposed.	
Approved 3 to 0	

5. Order of Conditions Amendment – 20-22 Lake Dr. (DEP File #197-0691). Amendment to remove trees and add a retaining wall.

Ms. Kopec was she wanted to amend her order of conditions to remove trees by the shed. Ms. Schold asked if she would wait to cut the trees when they lower the water and Ms. Kopec said yes. Ms. Kopec had a question on the retaining wall because it has a steep slope. Excavator suggested a retaining wall after work started with the Order of Conditions so that is why she is before the Commission. Mr. Parretti concurs that the trees are a minor change, but the retaining wall is not minor and the Applicant has not decided what type of retaining wall she wants. Ms. Kopec said the porch is ten feet from the water and the retaining wall is directly under the porch. Ms. Schold said she has no problem with the trees, but she wants more information about the wall type. Ms. Kopec said she doesn't have the information on what type of wall she will do yet because the excavator is not coming back as the foundation is already in. Ms. Kopec said an architect is helping her and that she wants to get the septic system in before she decides on the wall. Mr. Parretti thinks she needs to get further along in the process and then come back to the Commission. Mr. Cooper said it doesn't affect the distance from the water. Mr. Parretti said to call when the contractor is coming back and they will do a site visit.

Mr. Parretti asked if there were any questions and there were none.

Motion: Mr. Cooper made a motion to allow the cutting of trees without removing stumps.

Second: Ms. Schold

Discussion: None

Record of Vote:

Stephan Parretti	Aye
James Cooper	Aye
JoAnn Schold	Aye
Three (3) in Favor. None (0) Opposed.	
Approved 3 to 0	

6. Extension of Order of Conditions for Stiles Reservoir (DEP #197-0607). Applicant Solitude Lake Management

No one was present for this project.

Mr. Parretti said there was an Order of Conditions from 2017 and Ms. Schold said it was due to expire June 19 so the Commission had already given one extension. Mr. Parretti said DEP does not like OOCs extended more than once for drawdowns. Mr. Parretti suggested continuing Solitude to the next meeting since no one was present.

7. Approval of Minutes

- 12-19-2002
- 04-12-2023
- 05-10-23

Ms. Schold and Mr. Cooper did not have a chance to read the minutes. Mr. Parretti is tabling them to the next meeting.

Discussion:

Jan Parke was present. Ms. Schold said there is an ANR project on Pine St. and they didn't have to come before conservation because there are no wetlands, but there is a lot of run off. Ms. Parke said she wrote a letter to DPW about this issue. Ms. Parke said the catch basins are stuffed with silt. Ms. Schold said it's going over the road and into the wetland area. Ms. Parke said when they first did the clearing, there was heavy rain. Mr. Parretti said projects outside of wetland jurisdiction then causes issues to the wetlands, it becomes jurisdictional. Ms. Schold said they are ANR lots and not a subdivision but since it's causing a wetland issue, it's under wetland regulations. Mr. Parretti said they should do a site visit and work with them to stop the silt run off. Mr. Parretti suggested Ms. Schold meet with Chris the DPW Director.

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
Three (3) in Favor. None (0) Opposed.	
Approved 3 to 0	

Meeting adjourned at 6:43 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by:
Lisa Westwell, Administrative Assistant
to the Planning Department

Date Approved: December 13, 2023

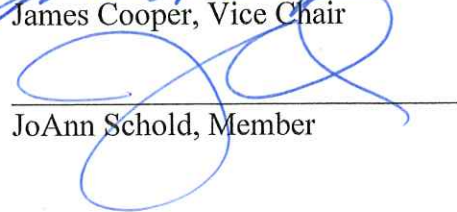
Conservation Commission Board Signatures



Stephan Parretti, Chair



James Cooper, Vice Chair



JoAnn Schold, Member



Vanessa Lopez, Member

Ashlyn Coyle, Member