

**Town of Franklin**



**Conservation Commission**

TOWN OF FRANKLIN  
TOWN CLERK

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**October 17, 2019  
Meeting Minutes**

Chairman Bill Batchelor called the above-captioned meeting to order this date at 7:00 PM at the Franklin Municipal Building, Training Room, Third Floor, 355 East Central Street, Franklin, Massachusetts. Members in attendance: Jeffrey Milne, Jeff Livingstone, Staci Dooney, Alan Wallach, Braden Rosenberg. Members absent: Paul Harrington. Also present: Jen Delmore, Conservation Agent.

**Commencement**

Chairman Batchelor announced the meeting would be audio and video recorded. He stated the October 31, 2019 and November 14, 2019 meetings are cancelled. These meetings will be replaced by the November 7, 2019 and November 21, 2019 meetings.

*Note: Documents presented to the Conservation Commission are on file.*

**Public Hearing – Continued - ANRAD – Prospect Farms**

Ms. Delmore stated she spoke with the engineer who said he had not heard from his client in one month. He requested continuance of the public hearing to November 7, 2019; however, if he does not hear back from his client by then, he is going to withdraw the application.

There was a motion made by Alan Wallach to continue the public hearing for the ANRAD for Prospect Farms to November 7, 2019 at 7:05 PM. The motion was seconded by Jeffrey Milne and accepted with a vote of 6-0-0.

**GENERAL BUSINESS**

**Discussion: Administrative Approvals**

Ms. Delmore stated Trooper Paul Barry Way tree removal and 2 Ruby Way adjustment to a curved retaining wall have been added since the last update.

Chairman Batchelor noted Ms. Delmore performs the administrative approvals and all aspects of her duties very well.

**Public Hearing – RDA – 26 Sahlin Circle**

Ms. Katelyn Gonyer, professional wetland scientist, and Mr. Bardford McIlvaine, Ethical Tree Services, addressed the Commission for the flush cutting of 12 to 15 dead ash trees of approximately 8 in. diameter along the Charles River riverbank. She stated the site includes a single-family home with a dilapidated backyard. They owners would like to remove the trees for safety reasons. There is a chain link fence before the slope to the riverbank. She requested a negative determination #2. She stated that Ethical Tree Services is a non-invasive tree removal company.

Ms. Delmore confirmed she conducted a site visit. She stated the trees are dead; many are covered in invasive vines. Along with the selective cutting, the plantings and seed mix proposed in this project will hopefully help re-establish a healthy riverbank. She recommended a negative determination #2.

Commission members asked questions about the proposed mitigation and possible future work.

Ms. Gonyer stated the homeowners want to begin with the tree cutting to make the backyard safe and then decide what they want to do next. The planting mitigation will be done after the tree cutting, as proposed.

There was a motion made by Jeffrey Milne to close the public hearing for the RDA for 26 Sahlin Circle. The motion was seconded by Jeff Livingstone and accepted with a vote of 6-0-0.

There was a motion made by Staci Dooney to approve a negative determination #2 for the RDA for 26 Sahlin Circle. The motion was seconded by Alan Wallach and accepted with a vote of 6-0-0.

**GENERAL BUSINESS** *(continued)*

**Minor Buffer Zone Activities: 380 Beaver Street**

Ms. Delmore stated the Town is the applicant. This project is for the stabilization of an area southeast of the turf field off Beaver Street, within the 100 ft. buffer zone to a wetland, by raking up the crumb rubber and gravel present and applying grass seed. She stated the activity is between 10 ft. to 50 ft. away from the wetland. She confirmed she conducted a site visit and recommended approval.

Commission members discussed the possibility of the crumb rubber material decomposing over time leaving toxic chemicals or particles and creating a health concern.

Chairman Batchelor stated the material is going to be removed by the DPW.

Ms. Delmore noted that she spoke to DEP about this situation as a complaint had been sent to them. The DEP representative stated there was no violation to the wetland.

There was a motion made by Braden Rosenberg to approve the MBZA for 380 Beaver Street. The motion was seconded by Jeffrey Milne and accepted with a vote of 6-0-0.

**Permit Modifications/Extensions:** None.

**Certificates of Compliance:** None.

**Violations:** None.

**Minutes:** None.

**Chair and Commission Comments:** None.

**Executive Session:** None.

There was a motion made by Jeffrey Milne to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Staci Dooney and accepted with a vote of 6-0-0. The meeting adjourned at 7:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

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Judith Lizardi  
Recording Secretary