

*Approved as amended 8/3/22*

**Plainfield Conservation Commission  
Minutes of Meeting Held June 29, 2022**

Meeting was held in Town Hall. Commissioners present: Erik Burcroff, John Burns, Jack Nelson, Alice Schertle, Judith Williams (chair). Also present: Shelby Howland, Village Carpentry, representative for 27 S. Union NOI  
Matt Kelly, Epsilon Associates, representative for Eversource NOI  
Thelma Pilgrim, Plainfield resident

**Call to Order**, Judith Williams, 6:35 p.m.

**Public Hearing for Notice of Intent, 27 S. Union St.**

On 6-15-22 Erik, Judith, Judy Ferber, and Alice made a site visit to the property. Shelby Howland of Village Carpentry was present at this Public Hearing to represent property owners Elaine Sidney and Laurie Israel. Shelby said that the project would involve altering 900 square feet of BVW. Entrances and exits of culverts will be repaired. One area will be restored with native plants.

The Commissioners reviewed the NOI, which was not complete as submitted. The Conservation Commission will continue the meeting and asked Shelby to do the following:

- Obtain a DEP file number.
- Provide detailed maps to locate and clarify the intended work area
- Correct the address of the project on the NOI
- Provide copies of the NOI to abutters
- Give the required town fee to Judith, who will give it to the town.
- Provide a list of native plants to be used in the restoration area.
- Attend the continued Public Hearing on 8-3-22

Judith will give Shelby information about the new DEP contact person.

The Public Hearing to consider the NOI was continued to Wednesday, August 3, 2022, at 6:30 p.m. in Town Hall.

**Public Hearing for Notice of Intent, Eversource Energy**

On 6-27-22 Judith, Erik, and Jack made a site visit to the work location along portions of Eversource lines 1231 and 1232 in Plainfield. All ConCom members received copies of the NOI prior to the Public Hearing. Wetland issues related primarily to line 1231 on S. side of the ROW. Matt Kelly of Epsilon Associates was present as representative of Eversource. He described the project, which involves replacement of aging structures along lines 1231 and 1242. Non-exempt activities in jurisdictional areas will include construction of enlarged structure foundations and gravel work pads, access improvements, grading, and tree removal. Jurisdictional areas impacted include Bordering Vegetated Wetland, Riverfront, Bordering Land Subject to Flooding, and Buffer Zone.

In answer to Erik's inquiry Matt confirmed that tribes involved with land in the work area have been consulted. Erik asked that temporary gravel pads remain in place and be covered with topsoil, etc. to avoid unnecessary disturbance. Thelma Pilgrim asked if the work location would

impact the old aqueduct located in the area. Judith said we can condition an approval to avoid such impact. Matt described off-site mitigation Eversource is doing on a 109-acre habitat conservation and agricultural site in Agawam to be conserved in perpetuity.

The Commission expressed appreciation for the extremely thorough NOI submitted by Eversource. Jack moved and Erik seconded that the NOI be approved subject to conditions including protection of the aqueduct and replacement of spoils on-site where possible. The vote was unanimous in favor. All commissioners present signed the Order of Conditions.

#### **Restoration Plan, 76 North Street**

The Commission reviewed the Restoration Plan submitted by Jared LaRoche to mitigate impact of activities on jurisdictional portions of his property at 76 North Street. Judith read the plan and commissioners expressed appreciation for Mr. LaRoche's willingness to protect sensitive environmental areas on his property.

Erik moved and Jack seconded that the Commission accept the Restoration Plan. The vote was unanimous in favor.

#### **Forest Cutting Plan, North Central**

Commission reviewed the FCP for the Keppelman property on North Central, as sent to members of the ConCom by commissioner Judy Ferber.

#### **East Main Street**

Judith reported that she has signed off on the Kurt Thibault project on East Main Street. No wetland issues.

#### **Other Business**

A site visit was made by Erik, Judy, Judith and Alice on 6-15-22 to a 30-acre property at 196 Prospect. Commissioners inspected part of the property with prospective purchaser Keith McNamara who was interested in possible building sites.

Judith reported that we have received the annual letter from MACC requesting our dues and describing member benefits.

The next meeting, on Wed., Aug. 3 at 6:30 p.m. in Town Hall, will continue the Public Hearing for the 27 S. Union NOI.

**Adjourned**, 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Alice Schertle