



Medfield Conservation Commission

Town Hall · 459 Main Street · Medfield, Massachusetts 02052-2009
Dave Henkels, Conservation Agent · dhenkels@medfield.net
(508) 906-3028 · Fax (508) 359-6182

Medfield Conservation Commission

PUBLIC MEETING

Zoom

Minutes of Thursday, January 6, 2022 at 7:00pm

Members Present: Chair Michael Perloff, Deborah Bero, Mary McCarthy, Cat Scott, Kirsten Poler

Members Absent: George Darrell, Bobby Kennedy

Staff Present: Conservation Agent, Dave Henkels; Town Planner, Sarah Raposa

Others Present: Marie C., Nate Bazinet

At approximately 7:00pm, Chair Michael Perloff called the Conservation Commission meeting to order.

Minutes: 12/2/21 & 12/16/21

A motion to approve the minutes of December 2, 2021 with edits as discussed and the minutes of December 16, 2021 as drafted was made by McCarthy; Seconded by Scott. The Vote: 5-0 via Roll Call (DB, KP, CS, MM, MP)

- 1. Community Garden Annual Report** – Neal and Betty Sanders were present to give the Commission their annual update on the Community Gardens (supplements the written report). The Sanders thanked Bobby Kennedy for his excellent help with the new column of plots. They have 80 full plots and 86 families with 18 new gardeners this year. Betty's annual talk at the library was canceled for the second year; alternative communication methods were discussed. This year there were four abandoned plots; all new gardeners. Investment and costs were discussed. Plastic gardening mulch was discussed; the one that the Commission allowed for the remainder of the season actually killed the soil. ADA requirements and the potential to have ADA gardens at the senior center were discussed, and how the ConCom can aid in the gardens hosted elsewhere. Henkels noted how efficient, clean, and respected the Gardens are.
- 2. Budget - Fiscal year 2023** – Raposa briefed the Commission on the annual budget and process. A special article will be requested for ~\$25k to update the Open Space and Recreation Plan.
- 3. Conservation Commission 2021 Annual Report** – Draft reviewed and edits made.
- 4. Peer Review Selection/ Elm Street Notice of Intent** – Options and process discussed. Bero made a motion to select CEI; Seconded by Scott. The Vote: 5-0 via Roll Call (DB, KP, CS, MM, MP). Henkels to move forward with contract to engage CEI.
- 5. Associate Membership** – Draft Roles/Responsibilities document was reviewed by the Commission. McCarthy offered to make edits based on how associates have been incorporated in the past for subsequent review. Scott made suggestions based on her recent experience as an associate.

6. **Medfield State Hospital/Invasive Species Management/Update** – Henkels updated the status of the application. A site walk can be organized as needed. Bero noted the monitoring reports. Staff to send out the Order of Conditions (particularly the findings of fact and special conditions sections), AUL, and Settlement Agreement for Commissioners review and awareness. She also noted the gap in monitoring reports submitted to the Commission and whether the Commission should hire a consultant to aid in the review. Commissioners discussed the breadth of information and need for summary and context. Raposa to arrange a site tour with John Thompson.
7. **Scout Letter of Appreciation** – Draft reviewed and edits discussed. Bero to finalize letter for signatures from all Commissioners.
8. **Vote on Chairperson for the next six months** – McCarthy made a motion to nominate Deborah Bero as chair. Discussion. Seconded by Scott. Roll Call Vote: Cat Scott = aye, Deborah Bero = aye, Mary McCarthy = aye, Kirsten Poler = aye. Michael Perloff = no; Vote: 4-0-1, Motion passes.

Adjournment

At approximately 9:25 pm, McCarthy motioned to adjourn the meeting. Scott seconded. Roll Call Vote: Cat Scott = aye, Deborah Bero = aye, Michael Perloff = aye, Mary McCarthy = aye, Kirsten Poler = aye. Motion passes unanimously. Vote: 5-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah Raposa, Town Planner