



# Town of Ashland

MASSACHUSETTS

MEETING MINUTES  
ASHLAND CONSERVATION COMMISSION  
May 10, 2021

1  
2 Present: Gene Crouch (Chair)  
3 William Moulton (Vice Chair)  
4 Cathy Van Lancker  
5 Carl Hakansson  
6 K.G. Narayana  
7 Greg Wands  
8 Gabriel Toledo  
9  
10 Maeghan Dos Anjos (Agent)

11  
12 **Meeting held by Zoom**

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14 **Call to order: 7:04 P.M.**

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16 **7:04 Mr. Crouch reviewed the protocol for the meeting**

17  
18 **Mr. Crouch recused himself from the meeting**

19  
20 **7:08 Informal Discussion, 95-902, Jonathan Kazarian, 123 Green Street, mitigation and**  
21 **fence (next actions)**

22 Mr. Jonathan Kazarian (Applicant/Owner) was present for the discussion.

23  
24 The Agent provided a brief summary from the last meeting.

25  
26 Mr. Kazarian said that he is proposing to move his fence closer to the 25' No Disturb Zone  
27 (NDZ), but he will remain outside of that zone. Mr. Kazarian explained that the backyard is  
28 overtaken by bittersweet, and by removing the bittersweet, they are hoping that he native  
29 species will come back. Mr. Kazarian said that there is a lot of vegetation between the 25'  
30 NDZ and the existing fence, and that their intention is to keep it as natural as possible. Mr.  
31 Kazarian concluded his comments by saying he would like to remove the bittersweet and clean  
32 up the area.

33  
34 Mr. Moulton asked if the shed is present or proposed. Mr. Kazarian said that this was part of  
35 his original plan, and some of the things on that plan have changed.

36  
37 Ms. Van Lancker asked if there is any trash in the 25' NDZ. Mr. Kazarian said that there is  
38 nothing in the NDZ, but there may be some stuff under the leaves.

39  
40 Mr. Hakansson said that there is a ton of deer there and unless Mr. Kazarian wants to get rid of  
41 the arborvitae, he shouldn't plant them. Mr. Kazarian said that he may do that and he may not.

42

43 Mr. Narayana recused himself.

44

45 Mr. Wands asked how clearing will take place. Mr. Kazarian said that the Agent had  
46 recommend a [salt and white vinegar] solution. Mr. Moulton said that the solution the Agent  
47 recommended is a good way to handle it. Mr. Moulton said that the roots spread out, making it  
48 difficult to control.

49

50 The Agent asked if the Commission sees this as a minor plan change.

51

52 Ms. Van Lancker made a motion, seconded by Mr. Wands to issue a Minor Plan Change.  
53 Motion passed 5-0-0. (Roll call vote: CH, GT, CVL, GW, WM).

54

55 Ms. Van Lancker made a motion, seconded by Mr. Toledo to grant an extension for two years.  
56 Motion passed 5-0-0. (Roll call vote: CH, GT, CVL, GW, WM).

57

58 **Mr. Crouch and Mr. Narayana returned to the meeting**

59

60 **7:30 Violation, Peter Bemis, Legacy Farms, Hopkinton, sediment migration into the**  
61 **Hopkinton Reservoir**

62 Mr. Peter Bemis (Representative- Engineering Design Consultants, LLC.) was present for the  
63 meeting.

64

65 Mr. Bemis said that the last time he came in front of the Commission was 2018. Mr. Bemis  
66 explained that in April 2021, there was a storm and the contractor was not on site during that  
67 storm. Mr. Bemis said that sediment washed down to an area where a lot of rocks were  
68 deposited when it was owned by Weston Nurseries (landscape supplier). Mr. Bemis said that  
69 the sediment infiltrated between the voids of the rocks. Mr. Bemis said that the rocks are  
70 beneath the surface and erosion control barriers are on site, but the sediment migrated beneath  
71 them and discharged down gradient at the north side of Howe Street.

72

73 Mr. Crouch asked about the source of the erosion. Mr. Bemis stated that it was from a stockpile  
74 that was from when they were digging out the dirt for the installation of foundations. Mr.  
75 Bemis said that it washed off the surface and came down toward the erosion control barrier.  
76 Mr. Bemis said that it then infiltrated and went under the erosion control barrier (ECB). Mr.  
77 Bemis explained that the storm consisted of snow and rain, and the contractor was focused on  
78 plowing and sanding the roads.

79

80 Mr. Hakansson asked who reported this. The Agent said that the Department of Public Works  
81 informed her on the Friday before she left.

82

83 Mr. Crouch asked if there is a diversion ditch, and asked about the Weston Lane area. Mr.  
84 Bemis said that Weston Lane is the primary source of water and it discharges to a detention  
85 basin at the northeast corner of the site. Mr. Bemis explained that only a portion of Western  
86 Lane, has been developed.

87

88 Mr. Crouch asked where the stream is located. Mr. Bemis explained its location. Mr. Crouch  
89 asked about the site's structural BMPs for stormwater. Mr. Bemis said that there is a basin that

90 they are using as a holding cell for sediment. Mr. Bemis said that silt sacks will be installed in  
91 the catch basins. Mr. Bemis said that construction will take about 6-8 weeks. Mr. Crouch said  
92 that you are not supposed to use infiltration basins as a settling basin. Mr. Bemis said that there  
93 are two cells in that basin and that there is a dike for the forebay. Mr. Bemis explained that this  
94 was not his design and he had increased the size of the basin from the original plans.  
95

96 Mr. Crouch asked who BETA works for. Mr. Bemis explained that BETA is the peer review  
97 for the Town of Hopkinton's Planning Board. Mr. Bemis said that Lucas Environmental works  
98 with the Town of Hopkinton's Conservation Commission.  
99

100 Mr. Crouch asked about consequences to the water plant. The Agent said that she can follow-  
101 up with the Department of Public Works.  
102

103 Mr. Crouch asked who the developer is. Mr. Bemis said that it was Ben Gately with Heritage  
104 Properties, but they sold it to Mr. Roy MacDowell. The Agent said that Mr. MacDowell is  
105 with Baystone Development. Mr. Crouch asked when Mr. Bemis came onto the project. Mr.  
106 Bemis said that he came on in 2018 and Bohler Engineering out of Southborough was the  
107 original engineer to the project.  
108

109 Mr. Narayana asked the Agent to inform the new Board of Health Director. The Agent said she  
110 will.  
111

112 The Commission scheduled a site visit for Saturday, May 15, 2021 at 9:00 a.m.  
113

#### 114 **8:09 Review Meeting Minutes 4/12/2021**

115 The Commission reviewed the draft Meeting Minutes.  
116

117 Mr. Narayana, made a motion, seconded by Mr. Toledo to approve the minutes as amended.  
118 Motion passed. 7-0-0. (Roll call vote: CH, KN, GT, GW, CVL, WM, GC).  
119

#### 120 **8:13 Review Draft OOC, 95-954, Town of Ashland, Waushakum Pond, treatment**

121 The Commission reviewed the draft OOC for the treatments at Waushakum Pond.

122 Ms. Van Lanker made a motion, seconded by Mr. Narayana to issue the OOC wit conditions as  
123 proposed. Motion passed 7-0-0. (Roll call vote: CH, KN, GT, GW, CVL, WM, GC).  
124

#### 125 **8:15 Member Prerogative**

126 Mr. Crouch and Mr. Hakansson discussed landscape debris and dumping taking place at the  
127 cemetery. Mr. Hakansson said that someone threw the leaves over the boulders.  
128

129 Mr. Hakansson spoke about the Stewardship Committee, and that they went to the Select  
130 Board for a new tractor.  
131

132 Mr. Narayana stated that the Board of Health denied the Robert Hill Way from using the well  
133 that is within the Town's property. The Commission discussed affordable housing concerns.  
134

#### 135 **8:20 Agent's Announcements**

136 The Agent announced that 56 Hardwick Road submitted a NOI, and the Commission will  
137 review it on Monday, May 24, 2021. The Agent also spoke about 11 Metcalf Avenue, and  
138 stated that the applicant is trying to secure a wetland scientist.  
139

140 **8:25 Member Prerogative**

141 Mr. Hakansson and Mr. Crouch spoke about 46 West Union Street. The Agent stated that Ms.  
142 Beth Reynolds (Economic Director- not present) connected the potential applicant, with the  
143 Agent, but that the applicant never followed-up.  
144

145 **8:30 Agent's Announcements**

146 The Agent stated that there is a site visit on May 18, 2021, at 10:00 a.m. for the DEP appeal at  
147 9 Pennock Road (95-944). The Agent stated that if the Commission wishes to attend, they will  
148 need to do answer COVID-19 related questions by May 17.  
149

150 **8:34 Meeting Adjournment**

151 A motion was made by Mr. Narayana, and seconded Ms. Van Lancker to adjourn the meeting.  
152 Motion passed 7-0-0. (Roll call vote: CH, KN, GT, GW, CVL, WM, GC).  
153

154 **Documents Reviewed by the Conservation Commission on 5/ 10/ 2021**

- 155
- 156 • Document entitled, *Agenda* dated 5/10/2021
  - 157 • Document entitled, *Meeting Minutes*, dated 4/26/2021 Plans for 123 Green Street (no  
158 title, no date)
  - 159 • Aerial Photography 2019 for Legacy Farms
  - Document entitled, *Special Conditions: Waushakum Pond 95-954*