

CONSERVATION COMMISSION MINUTES

Date: August 26, 2021

Time: 7:01pm – 10:06pm

Place: This meeting was held as a virtual meeting via Zoom.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81477829237>

With a quorum present, the meeting opened at 7:00pm with Dan Green presiding as Chair.

Members Present: Dan Green, Susan Lunin, Kathy Cade, Jeff Zabel, and arriving at 7:59pm Ellen Katz.

Members Absent: Judy Hepburn and Leigh Gilligan

Staff Present: Jennifer Steel and Claire Rundelli

Members of the Public: not recorded due to remote nature of the meeting

DECISIONS

I. WETLANDS DECISIONS

1. (7:00) Presentation – New Boardwalks at Flowed Meadow – Eagle Scout Project

- Owners: City of Newton Applicant: Boulton Yanhs
- Request: Eagle Scout candidate Boulton Yanhs seeks permission and wetland permitting approval for installing wooden boardwalks, supported by PVC pipe footings, to improve trail access in the wet areas of Flowed Meadow Conservation Area.
- Documents Presented: PowerPoint presentation by Boulton Yanhs
- Jurisdiction: Buffer Zone, RFA
- Presentation (Boulton Yanhs) and Discussion:
 - Boulton, from Troop 355, walked the Commission through his presentation, illustrating that the Flowed Meadow trails are in real need of expanded boardwalk coverage.
 - Boulton hopes to complete his boardwalk construction in October.
 - Boulton detailed the project budget (~\$1200) and his hope that if donations fall short of the total, the Commission will donate some funds towards project materials.
 - Staff reminded Boulton of the need to leave a ¼" – ½" gap between the boards to optimize drainage/drying time. The gap should be no more than 1/2" for safety. Boulton agreed that this would be applied to the on-site construction.
 - Staff reminded Boulton of the need to secure signed waivers from volunteers.
 - Commissioners asked if the pipes supporting the boardwalks would be resting on solid ground to avoid sinking into the mud. Boulton surmised that the ground is solid enough and the boardwalk sections wide enough to preclude sinking. Staff also felt confident that the boardwalks would be fully supported.
 - Commissioners who have walked in the area feel that this project will result in a great improvement.
- Vote: To approve the proposed work on Conservation land and under the Generic Trails Order of Conditions. [Motion: Susan Lunin; Second: Kathy Cade; Roll-call vote: Green (aye), Cade (aye), Zabel (aye), Lunin (aye); Vote 4:0:0]

2. (7:15) 96 Lake Avenue – cont'd NOI – teardown/rebuild single-family home – DEP File #239-902

- Owner/Applicant: Tamar and Philip Warburg Representative: Dana Altobello, Merrill Engineers and Land Surveyors
- Request: Issue an OOC.
- Documents Presented: Colored plans, site photos, draft OOC
- Jurisdiction: Buffer Zone, City Floodplain
- Project Summary
 - Note: much of the site work is outside Commission jurisdiction.
 - Demolish existing single-family home, including driveway and rear patio.
 - Construct new single-family home with permeable paver driveway, concrete patio, paver patio, and stormwater systems. A very small increase in impervious area within the 100-foot buffer is proposed.



Mayor

Ruthanne Fuller

Director

Planning & Development
Barney Heath

Chief

Environmental Planner
Jennifer Steel

Assistant

Environmental Planner
Claire Rundelli

Conservation Commission Members

Kathy Cade
Dan Green
Judy Hepburn
Ellen Katz
Susan Lunin
Jeff Zabel
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- Replace back yard stone stair edging to provide safety.
- Undertake repairs to stabilize the retaining wall that defines the bank of Crystal Lake
- Remove invasive shrubs. No trees within Commission jurisdiction are proposed to be removed.
- Mitigation plantings are proposed close to the Lake and include 57 native shrubs and herbaceous plants.
- Presentation (Tamar Warburg and Dana Altobello) and Discussion
 - The owner and project representative provided a brief overview to refresh the Commission’s memory of the project. This project has not been revised since the Commission last discussed it on 8/5/21. The reason for continuation was lack of a DEP file number and it has now been received.
 - Staff confirmed that all proposed plants are native and that there is an appropriate mix of shrubs and groundcover species. No new trees are proposed as there is significant existing canopy on site.
 - Commissioners asked if any trees are proposed to be removed. Staff clarified that there are 1 or 2 trees proposed to be removed outside of the 100’ Buffer Zone, closer to the street, to facilitate access for demo/construction.
- Vote: To close the hearing and issue an Order of Conditions with the following conditions. [Motion: Kathy Cade; Second: Jeff Zabel; Roll-call vote: Green (aye), Cade (aye), Zabel (aye), Lunin (aye); Vote 4:0:0] PICKUP
 - The stairs may be reconstructed and widened for safety purposes up to 4’ wide in their current alignment and length but said reconstruction may not disturb the mature trees nearby. Grading of the adjacent slopes (aside from the swale) has not been proposed and is not hereby approved.
 - The minor grading changes associated with the proposed swale are approved. The new swale must be stabilized with the New England Erosion Control/Restoration Mix for Detention Basins and Moist Sites by New England Wetland Plans, Inc., and if necessary, erosion control blanket equivalent to ECS 1B Single Net Straw Biodegradable Rolled Erosion Control by East Coast Erosion Control.
 - Buckthorn, bittersweet, and winged euonymus may be removed from throughout the site if so desired by the owners.
 - Approved repairs to stabilize the retaining wall that defines the bank of Crystal Lake are limited to the injection of low-toxicity grout. More involved reconstruction of the wall or stairs are not hereby permitted.
 - The proposed 42-inch fence along the northeastern property line must be raised 4-6” to allow for wildlife passage.
 - Any new “wrought iron” fence along the rear property line (shared with Crystal Lake) must be raised 4-6” to allow for wildlife passage.

3. (7:25) Levingston Cove (Crystal lake) – NOI – park erosion and access improvements – DEP File #239-901

- Owner: City of Newton Applicant: Luis Perez Demorizi, Open Space Coordinator Representative: Alexandra Gaspar, Weston & Sampson Engineers
- Request: Issue an OOC.
- Documents Presented: Colored plans, site photos, draft OOC
- Jurisdiction: Bank, City Floodplain, LUWW
- Project Summary
 - Install new ADA-compliant pathways.
 - Install a new deck that will cantilever out over Crystal Lake and an at-grade deck.
 - Possibly (if funds allow) add stone veneer to outside face of existing retaining wall along the lake edge.
 - Regrade banks and introduce terraced walls to ease steep slopes
 - Install native plants, reinforced turf, and rain gardens and infiltration trenches at the toe of steep slopes to stabilize eroded slopes. Rain gardens will have overflows that lead into Crystal Lake. Proposed plantings include 7 trees, 159 shrubs, 559 herbaceous perennials, 1442 upland grasses/rushes/sedges, and 519 aquatic grasses/perennials.
 - Remove invasives (bittersweet, glossy buckthorn, multiflora rose, and purple loosestrife) and install native species along the bank.
 - Remove 1 tree.
- Presentation (Nicole Banks (PRC Commissioner), Luis Perez Demorizi, Alex Gaspar, Cassie Bethoney (Weston and Sampson) and Discussion:
 - Commissioner Banks provided a brief introduction to the project and the project goals: address erosion and improve access.

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- Luis Perez Demorizi noted that the project is in the Construction Documentation Phase of 3-stage process and has been approved by the PRC Commission and the Community Preservation Committee:
 1. Public Process + Conceptual Plan Phase
 2. Construction Documentation Phase
 3. Construction Phase
- Luis Perez Demorizi cited the 7 goals of the project:
 1. Ensure through pedestrian movement
 2. Preserve and enhance opportunities for passive recreation and fishing
 3. Ensure accessibility across the site
 4. Improve how stormwater moves and is captured on site
 5. Create a landscape that is stable and sustainable
 6. Enhance and protect views
 7. Improve water quality
- Luis Perez Demorizi described how each human and environmental problem on the site would be addressed:
 - Erosion:
 - Rain gardens
 - Easing of slopes
 - Retaining wall/ Seat Walls
 - Slope stabilization plantings
 - Custom seed grass mix in high foot traffic areas
 - Water Quality:
 - Rain gardens
 - Easing of Slopes
 - Seat Walls
 - Adding vegetation where none exists
 - Wildlife Habitat:
 - Increase in aquatic and shoreline vegetation
 - Additional Wildlife habitats for insects and birds via added plantings
 - Increased diversity in tree canopy
 - Accessibility + Use:
 - Seat walls and seating
 - Adequate space for fishing (universally designed platform) and pedestrians via cantilever platform
 - Organized and defined pedestrian movement
 - Reduced impact on trees and pond via cantilevered deck
 - Park Trees:
 - Significant Tree Protection (i.e. modern excavation methods, extensive tree protections measures)
 - Increase tree canopy and enhance diversity of trees at the park
- Luis Perez Demorizi showed some photos of current conditions: eroded slopes, lack of wildlife habitat, accessibility concerns, and conflict of use concerns. A table comparing the existing site conditions with the proposed site conditions was presented to provide a clear outline of how the proposed changes will improve site conditions.
- Cassie Bethoney, of Weston & Sampson, provide further detail about the design aspects and the challenges that the site presents. She noted the steep slopes and how the cantilevered deck will allow for separation of activities that currently conflict at the “Fishing Wall” (fishing/standing/sitting/walking. All the pathways will be brought into compliance with ADA requirements.
- Terraced seating walls are proposed to concentrate use in certain areas and limit overuse of other areas.
- The combination of river stone, large terraced boulders, and plantings is proposed in an effort to reduce erosion at the point in the park where use is greatest.
- The proposed turf mix, along with the custom fiber-reinforced loam mix, is generally applied on natural turf fields, reduced compaction, and is robust enough for vehicle access. The project team felt that this mix will hold up to stormwater runoff and foot traffic.
- A priority for the project is removing invasive species and replacing them with natives to improve the health of the shoreline. ~185 feet of bank will have invasives removed and natives installed.

- Alex Gaspar detailed the impacts of the proposed project on the relevant jurisdictional areas (LUWW and Bank – there will be no alteration in the small patch of BVW on site). Much of the bank impact is related to the invasive removal and native replanting. Other bank impacts include the proposed shoreline stabilization with river stone and the cantilevered deck over the Fishing Wall “bank”. There will be very minor impacts to the City floodplain where the river stone efforts will be undertaken.
- While the plan was developed during drought conditions, the plans show typical high water levels (based on staining) and calculations were based on current rainfall numbers, so the project is expected to be tolerant of more severe storms and rising water levels.
- Commissioners asked if the grass proposed is due to be maintained through mowing or if they will be allowed to grow wild. The W&S representatives clarified that the central area of the park where reinforced turf is installed is intended to be mowed but the slope stabilization areas are to be planted with a seed mix that will not be mowed.
- Conservation staff walked the Commission through a virtual site tour with many photographs of the site.
- Commissioners asked for further clarification on potential conflicts of use at the proposed new deck (sitting, walking, fishing). The project team clarified that the cantilevered deck will be elevated above the Fishing Wall because of concerns about the structural stability of the existing retaining wall, and that the continuous pathway will be elevated above that to ensure separation of uses and preservation of views.
- Conservation staff pulled up the cross-sections to further discuss the potential conflicts of use and show the details of the elevation differences between the deck and walkways.
- Conservation staff clarified that the applicant team submitted responses that addressed almost all issues raised in the staff comments in the agenda for this hearing. The one exception was the staffs request to replace the concrete “wings” of the cantilevered deck with pervious decking. The project team stated that given the slope necessary for the grade change, Trex lumber would be too slippery. Staff asked if any other materials could be considered, such as powder coated metal, that would be more drainage/light friendly than solid concrete. The project team stated that they would consider material changes in this area, but there are other considerations (e.g., costs, aesthetics, structural engineering) would need to be taken into consideration. One Commissioner stated that they do not feel this issue should be a road block, and that they feel comfortable with staff working out the details of materials with the project team.
- Commissioners noted that the proposed *Viburnum dentatum* is currently being devastated by a leaf-eating beetle and noted some potential alternatives (*Viburnum lentago* and buttonbush). It was also mentioned that cedar apple rust may impact the proposed *Amelanchier* species and Carolina fringetree and Pagoda dogwood were suggested as possible alternatives. Staff noted that they have suggested heartier plant stock for the rain gardens.
- Public Comment:
 - Brenda Noel (Ward 6 Councilor) – has heard a number of concerns from residents about the erosion in the area. She supports the project and is excited to see it move forward.
 - Alicia Bowman (City Councilor) – repeated that this is a very exciting project and it is good to see the increased accessibility that will be available through these design changes.
 - Joel Gershenfeld – mentioned concerns about the at-grade deck area and its impact on the wetland. He is concerned that it will be a staging area for folks to access the water and launch inflatables; people will likely cut straight down the slope, dragging boats, undoing all the good work done. Luis Perez Demorizi responded that this is a public open space and so there are limitations on precluding public access, but retaining walls have been placed to limit direct traffic from the street/sidewalk. Stairs, bike racks, and railings on the ramps will also provide barriers. If folks do cut across the slope, it is hoped that the reinforced turf will support that foot traffic. Joel Gershenfeld followed up asking why that deck is needed at all and why just a path wouldn’t suffice. Luis Perez Demorizi clarified that the intent is to allow park users to relax yet prevent stress on the slopes and that further discussion about materials can occur. Conservation staff suggested that temporary fencing could be installed upon the completion of construction and that PRC staff could determine whether fencing is needed in the long-term.
 - Janice Bourque (Vice President of Crystal Lake Conservancy (CLC)) – CLC has been in close contact with the City regarding this project design. They had some concerns about materials, especially the river stone proposed for shoreline stabilization, but that those concerns have been discussed and alleviated by PRC staff. There are continued concerns about the cantilevered deck, including the amount of construction and its potential impacts on the wetland resource and the wildlife that it supports. CLC had expected a much simpler design based on the presentation to the PRC Commission. Conservation Commissioners thanked Janice for her concerns and stated that these concerns will be considered in their conditions. Cassie from W&S clarified that geotechnical borings had

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been done in the area and showed refusal (i.e., bedrock) within 3-5' of surface grade, so the deck was shifted slightly to the north and micropile construction was selected out of three options: (1) Larger concrete piles which would conflict with the existing retaining wall, (2) helical piers, not possible because of the ledge, and (3) micropiles which allows securing the piles through bedrock with minimal disturbance). The northern end of the deck was also designed to avoid conflict with the tree.

- Robert Fizek (CLC member) – Feels that the cantilevered deck proposal was put forward without due consideration of the potential impacts on the site and feels this is an over-design that will require excessive fill, steel and concrete.
- Sonya Kurzweil (President of the Friends of Crystal Lake) – appreciated the ecological improvements, but was concerned about the cantilevered deck being over-built and out of character with the area. She suggested simply removing invasives, widening the path, and adding some benches. She stated that the 2000 improvements made the site ADA compliant.
- Commission Comment:
 - Commissioners noted that it was very disappointing to hear such conflict between PRC staff and the local advocacy groups, and that they hope to see more agreement at the next meeting as buy in from the community is essential.
- Vote: To continue the hearing to the 9/23/21 meeting at 8:30 to allow Conservation staff time to review in detail the applicant's responses to recent staff and Commission comments and for further interdepartmental staff coordination. [Motion: Ellen Katz; Second: Jeff Zabel; Roll-call vote: Green (aye), Cade (aye), Katz (aye), Zabel (aye), Lunin (aye); Vote 5:0:0]

4. (7:45) 409 Crafts Street – RDA – hazard tree removal

- Owner/Applicant: Chris and Carl Attardo Representative: Chris Attardo
- Request: Issue a DOA.
- Documents Presented: Colored plans, site photos, draft DOA
- Jurisdiction: Buffer Zone, Riverfront Area
- Project Summary
 - Request is to remove 5 trees from property at surface grade. No stump grinding is proposed.
 - Tree 1 – 20" Crimson Maple – damaged
 - Tree 2 – 20" Black Locust – dead
 - Tree 3 – 10" Black Locust – leaning towards house
 - Tree 4 – 14" Black Locust – root system damaging driveway
 - Tree 5 – 23" Norway maple –close to house
- Presentation (Chris Attardo) and Discussion:
 - The project representative provided a brief overview of the requested tree removal.
 - Staff walked the Commission through the site plan and photos of the trees.
 - Commissioners felt that the removal of the hazard trees, as determined by staff, is fully approvable through a negative determination, but that the removal of the 2 "healthy" trees can only be approved without the concomitant ability to enforce a mitigation planting plan (e.g., through an NOI/OOC). The applicant agreed with that conclusion.
 - Staff noted that "additional" mitigation plantings may be required under the NOI to mitigate for both the hazard tree removals (under the subject RDA/DOA) and any additional tree removal permitted under an NOI/OOC for house renovations.
 - Commissioners were concerned about the lack of information from the City Forester regarding these trees, as Conservation staff are not arborists. Staff agreed with the concern:
 - Staff noted that the wetland implications (and mitigation) are distinct from the hazard implications
 - Staff noted that if the City Forester determines that the Commission incorrectly cited either of the live trees (1 and 5) as hazards, mitigation will be required.
 - Some commissioners suggested holding the DOA issuance until a report from the Tree Warden is received. Other commissioners felt that conservation staff are knowledgeable enough to determine if these trees are hazards.
- Vote: Vote to issue negative 3 Determination of Applicability for the removal of trees 1, 2 and 5 with the following special conditions. [Motion: Susan Lunin; Second: Ellen Katz; Roll-call vote: Green (aye), Cade (aye), Katz (aye), Zabel (aye), Lunin (aye); Vote 5:0:0] PICKUP ON MONDAY
 - Applicant must schedule a pre-work site visit with staff to ensure tree protection is installed.

- Trees not approved to be removed must be protected by orange snow fencing at the drip line (as possible) prior to any work on site.
- No stump grubbing may occur.
- At the time of the Notice of Intent filing, mitigation may be required for the hazard tree removal under this DOA.
- If the City Forester determines that the Commission incorrectly cited either of the live trees (1 and 5) as hazards, mitigation will be required.

5. (8:05) 14 Walnut Hill Road – violation, initial informal discussion – construction of hardscaping in buffer zone

- Owner: Terry Boisclair Representative: Terry Boisclair
- Request: Determine appropriate next steps for ex-post facto permitting of the hardscaping (bridge, pond, paths).
- Documents Presented: Aerial, photos
- Jurisdiction: LUWW, Bank
- Presentation (Terry Boisclair) and Discussion:
 - Staff provided a brief overview of the discovery and the question in front of the Commission tonight: A complaint of flooding upstream at 628 Boylston prompted a site walk along the intermittent stream.
 - The owner apologized for going forward with construction roughly 10 years ago without proper permitting. He holds the site dear to his heart. He “opened up” the “rocky hole”, placed a plastic grate to prevent clogging, and constructed the pond and bridge to help alleviate ponding during storms. He provided photos of the construction.
 - Staff clarified that this structure does not seem to exacerbate upstream flooding. The stream channel is clearly defined upstream of this structure until some historic dumping that has caused mounding behind 622 and 628 Boylston Street.
 - Commissioners asked for clarification on the outlet from this pond system. Staff stated that the plastic grate does front an “rocky hole” where water does drain. It is theorized that there was once a pipe that channels the water under Walnut Hill Road, but that it has degraded and is no longer visible. DPW has no knowledge of a pipe in this location, despite there being a continuous drainage easement.
 - Commissioners asked if our goal was to have DPW TV this potential culvert. Staff stated that they do not feel that it is the Commission’s purview to require DPW to conduct drainage system maintenance. Commissioners suggested that the owner could ask his City Councilor and/or DPW, directly, to determine the status of the culvert, if any.
 - Commissioners asked how the pond interacts with the stream. Staff and the owner clarified that the stream is totally dry in dry conditions. The owner stated that they dug the pond out below the stream level to ensure the area funnels water into the pond and thence into the “rocky hole”.
 - Commissioners are a bit confused about what the next steps are for this site, as the structure doesn’t appear to be having an adverse impact and may in fact be having a positive impact, though they do feel this work should have been permitted. Staff stated that bank and associated buffer zone were clearly altered.
 - Staff asked if commissioners feel the structures can stay and if so, what mitigation should be required. Commissioners feel that removal of the structure would result in more disturbance than is appropriate, and that mitigation is the most appropriate path forward. They feel that the structures need to be approved through an NOI for after-the-fact work or a Notice of Violation requiring mitigation.
- Vote: To approve the issuance of a formal Notice of Violation which would require a plan for mitigation plantings which will assist with the absorption of water, to be installed by October 15, 2021, and the bounding of the mitigation of the planting area. [Motion: Kathy Cade; Second: Ellen Katz; Roll-call vote: Green (aye), Cade (aye), Katz (aye), Zabel (aye), Lunin (aye); Vote 5:0:0]

6. (8:20) 45 Puddingstone Lane – informal discussion – DEP #239-832

- Owner: Temple Beth Avodah Representative: Becky Oliver, Executive Director of the Temple
- Request: Determine appropriate planting/seeding mix for area at base of slope.
- Documents Presented: photos
- Discussion:
 - The project representative provided a brief overview of the project and the challenge they have faced with survival of the seeding of the lower slope (attempted in April and May to no avail).
 - Staff stated their recommendation of planting Clethra (sweet pepperbush) in this area, as it will likely revegetate this area quickly.
 - One Commissioner suggested the Ruby Spice variety of Clethra.

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- Consensus: To approve 6 Clethra shrubs to be planted at the base of the slope.

7. (8:30) 580 Walnut Street – COC Request – new patio – DEP #239-721

- Owner: Gaurav Singal Representative: none
- Request: Issue COC.
- Discussion: Staff confirmed that all required COC materials have been received and a site visit on 8/16/21 confirmed substantial compliance and a very successful rear planting bed.
- Vote: To issue a Certificate of Compliance. [Motion: Susan Lunin; Second: Kathy Cade; Roll-call vote: Green (aye), Cade (aye), Katz (aye), Zabel (aye), Lunin (aye); Vote 5:0:0]

8. (8:35) 178-180 Sumner Street – COC Request – addition onto SFH – DEP #239-763

- Owner: Min Yang Representative: none
- Request: Issue COC.
- Discussion: Staff confirmed that all required COC materials have been received and a site visit is scheduled on 8/23/21 confirmed substantial compliance and a very successful rear planting bed.
- Vote: To issue a Certificate of Compliance. [Motion: Jeff Zabel; Second: Jeff Zabel; Roll-call vote: Green (aye), Cade (aye), Katz (aye), Zabel (aye), Lunin (aye); Vote 5:0:0]

II. CONSERVATION AREA DECISIONS

9. (8:40) Minor revision to Apiary Policy language

- Documents Presented: Revised draft policy
- Discussion:
 - The Commission approved of adding to the introduction: “To facilitate planning and oversight, the Commission requires all licensed beekeepers to come before the Commission annually (usually in the summer) to give status updates and discuss their interests in for applying for license renewals.”
 - The Commission approved of simplifying the description of allowed colony density **FROM**: “The apiary shall comprise no more than two colonies at the start and end of each season. On a temporary basis, these colonies may be split in order to prevent swarming and then re-combined later in the same year. A Nuc used for splitting is considered a temporary colony. If a split results in an independently viable hive, the new hive shall count toward the total number of hives allowed on the site.” **TO** “The licensed apiary shall comprise no more than two hives year-round. One additional nucleus colony, not to exceed 4 cubic feet, is permitted from May 1 – September 30.” This language is reasonable for beekeepers and will facilitate monitoring and enforcement.
- Vote: To approve these minor modifications. [Motion: Jeff Zabel; Second: Kathy Cade; Roll-call vote: Green (aye), Cade (aye), Katz (aye), Zabel (aye), Lunin (aye); Vote 5:0:0]

III. ADMINISTRATIVE DECISIONS

10. (8:50) Minutes of 8/5/21 to be approved

- Documents Presented: Draft 8/5/21 minutes
- Vote: To accept the 8/5/21 minutes as edited. [Motion: Jeff Zabel; Second: Kathy Cade; Roll-call vote: Green (abstain), Cade (aye), Katz (aye), Zabel (aye), Lunin (aye); Vote 4:0:1]

IV. ISSUES AROUND TOWN DECISIONS – None at this time.

UPDATES

V. WETLANDS UPDATES

- Charles River Lower Basin Aquatic Weed Control OOC: The OOC must be issued by 8/26/21 to meet the 21-day obligation. Staff will inform the Commission of any additional conditions added to the reviewed and approved OOC, based on input from Boston and Cambridge.

VI. CONSERVATION AREA UPDATES

- 622 Boylston Encroachment into Oakdale Woods: Staff are working with the maintenance contractor to secure a date to install the birdhouses.

VII. ISSUES AROUND TOWN UPDATES

VIII. ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATES

- Staff update: This meeting will be Assistant Environmental Planner Claire Rundelli’s last Commission meeting and tomorrow will be her last day with the City of Newton. She has accepted a position as the Planner Conservation Agent

in the Town of Natick and will start in that role on Sept. 8th. Claire was thanked for her almost 4 years of tremendous service and contribution to the Commission, the Volunteer Stewards, and the City. She will be missed by all!

- Commission update: Staff had an interview with Sonya McKnight, who applied for the Conservation Commission. Staff have recommended her to the Mayor to be appointed as an associate member of the Commission.

OTHER TOPICS NOT REASONABLY ANTICIPATED BY THE CHAIR 48 HOURS BEFORE THE MEETING

11. Change September 14 meeting date because meetings are disallowed on Election Day

- This item was taken out of order at the end of agenda item #3 to allow for the Levingston Cove hearing to be continued to a date and time certain.
- Discussion:
 - The Commission opted to meet on September 23rd to accommodate all Commissioners. The regular schedule of meetings thereafter will be maintained.
- Vote: To change the date of the 9/14/21 meeting to 9/23/21. [Motion: Dan Green; Second: Susan Lunin; Roll-call vote: Green (aye), Cade (aye), Katz (aye), Zabel (aye), Lunin (aye); Vote 5:0:0]

ADJOURN at 10:06p.m. [Motion: Dan Green; Second: Susan Lunin; Roll-call vote: Green (aye), Cade (aye), Katz (aye), Zabel (aye), Lunin (aye); Vote 5:0:0]