



**TOWN OF**  
**STONEHAM**  
MASSACHUSETTS 02180

Conservation Commission  
(781) 279-2696  
jdecourcy@stoneham-ma.gov

**STONEHAM CONSERVATION COMMISSION**  
**MINUTES OF MEETING**  
**April 14 2025 7 PM**  
**Hybrid/Hearing Room Town Hall**

**Please join us in person at the Hearing Room 35 Central Street Town Hall or by logging in at**  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88130232452?pwd=kl6qURNcXaIou2dMJ8tWQDRMDjDyZB.1>  
Passcode:566057 Join by phone (929) 205-6099

Jeanne Craigie, Domenick Cimina, Jess Gerke, Richard Jackson, Megan Day, Jeremy Zasowski, Charles Houghton, Brett Gonsalves, Rich Kirby, AJ Jamogchian, Dan Dragoni, Martin Wantman, Michael Santullo

Motion to open hearing by Jeanne Craigie seconded by Richard Jackson Yes 6/0  
Jeanne Craigie, Domenick Cimina, Jess Gerke, Richard Jackson, Megan Day, Jeremy Zasowski

**PUBLIC HEARING**

**Rockville Park #297-0427**

*Charles Houghton/Dan Dragoni*

Notice of Intent, Site Visit

Charles Houghton file number received. Haybale inspection before work begins reminder by Domenick Cimina.  
Motion to close public hearing by Jeanne Craigie seconded by Jess Gerke yes 6/0 Jeanne Craigie, Domenick Cimina, Jess Gerke, Richard Jackson, Megan Day, Jeremy Zasowski

Motion to issue order of conditions by Jess Gerke seconded by Jeanne Craigie yes 6/0 Jeanne Craigie, Domenick Cimina, Jess Gerke, Richard Jackson, Megan Day, Jeremy Zasowski

**DISCUSSION**

**Senior Center**

*Brett Gonsalves*

Existing detention pond improvements/rehabilitation

Upgrade facilities in Town, senior center in late 1990s has detention basin overgrown, no wetlands. Rehabilitate basin, clean out trees that are lying down, restone bottom so its functioning basin. Possible swale at South School, or Town Hall upgrades to meet MS 4 requirements, general information for Commission. Jeanne Craigie asks if location is to the left of the barn, Brett Gonsalves answers it's overgrown and should be clear. Jeremy Zasowski footpaths to soccer field, this part is fenced in responds Brett Gonsalves. May remove fence, a lot of handwork and small machinery. Parking lot is draining to the pond per Brett Gonsalves. Jessica Gerke is for removing invasive plants, asks if plants help with water. Japanese Knotwood is invasive, everything has been choked out. Domenick Cimina asks no pipes all over land flow. Brett Gonsalves affirms. Jeanne Craigie comments as long as the water doesn't go anywhere else. Domenick Cimina says abuts Broadway field. Brett Gonsalves agrees its very thick coverage, no wetlands in the area.



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**Weiss Farm**

March Environmental monitor report. Rich Kirby update. Martin Wantman emails. Partial certificate of Compliance for Superseding Orders of Conditions #297-0371 Presentation was sent tonight to Commission, April 4, 2025 site visit. Erosion controls in good order. Domenick Cimina was on sitewalk with Rich Kirby. Arthur Bennett's property shows high water line on fence. Trash is a reactive effort. Megan Day asks about partial certificate of compliance for pump and weir. DEP issued without input from Conservation Commission, vegetation around weir has not taken per Domenick Cimina. Pump has been a problem for weeks. Site visit was December 10, 2024. Rich Kirby would assume applicant requested partial certificate of insurance, would like to believe DEP took time to review as built plans. Domenick Cimina comments there were many emails to DEP regarding the pump. Martin Wantman 20 Gerald Rd for 40 years. Pump is the same size as last pump. Last pump was able to keep his property water free 1984-2004, water returns to his property within 2 hours after pump is turned off. Asks Conservation Commission to alert DEP that he has flooding, he has not seen as built plans. Martin Wantman comments this is the wrong pump, new design has failed. This pump is buried under water, gotten clogged, old pump just backwashed. Heidi Zisch from DEP is aware of Martin Wantman's situation. When Martin Wantman went to Town meeting in 2018 to have Town pay to clear out ditches he won argument, but Town did not have monies for it. Megan Day reinstates he has to go to DEP. He is asking for Conservation to be involved. Megan Day states we have no jurisdiction over Martin Wantman's property. Landswap on social media again per Megan Day says Article 97 is no net loss. Stoneham Oaks Property is more valuable than Weiss Farm. No way landswap would be passed. Oaks is under Article 97 and we couldn't swap land.

**Whip Hill**

Jeanne Craigie believes Jim Previte should be given report, it is his birthday. Quarterly report AJ Jamogchian – sent quarterly report to SCC, power went out, generator did work for 3 hours. Carpentry work around trim and mold around stucco especially. Missing some chimney pieces and brickwork. Moss on the roof on North side of house. Jess Gerke asks about quotes for work that needs to be done. Jeanne Craigie asks if they are in architects report? Cleaning and washing wall paper noted by Jeanne Craigie. ADA access back walkway mentioned by Jeanne Craigie. Domenick Cimina spoke with Jim Previte today, looked at roof. AJ Jamogchian mentions patches down on original roof. Richard Jackson is concerned about removing moss with power washer. Jess Gerke says they can use foam wash on roof. AJ Jamogchian says there will be a spray. Richard Jackson asks if roof is leaking and if moss needs to come off. Domenick Cimina says it needs to be maintained. Architect's report should be prioritized says Jeanne Craigie. Electrical needs. Megan Day mentions Town contribution to Whip Hill. Jeanne Craigie asks about gate being open after sunrise, is it checked every night? AJ Jamogchian responds gate is not closed at sunset each day. Jeanne Craigie gate should be closed each day. Woods next to Colonial Park on trails, Fells, Stone Zoo access are all ways to get into park. Pond was vandalized by parking lot last fall. Domenick Cimina talked about where he would like to put in tree with Jim Previte. Crabapple or dogwood tree for Norman L'Esperance closer to house. Jess Gerke suggests native tree. Walnut tree was one of Norman's favorites, the only one Jim Previte found was in Maine. Jeremy Zasowski asks about trail maintenance, AJ Jamogchian responds trails are walked every other week or so, well kept and mostly remove trash. Enough daily traffic that trails do not get overgrown. AJ Jamogchian has not seen Mulberry School recently, same few kids each time she arrives.

Signage update Jeanne Craigie – Jess Gerke provided document.



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300<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration Megan Day will coordinate with courtyard Garden Club and Friends of the Fells walking tours in August 2025

Site Visit Friday April 25 3pm upper parking lot

**Conservation Commission Organization**

**Structure of Commission**

After April election typical to reorganize. Motion made by Megan Day to reorganize to have a chair and vice instead of co-chairs seconded by Jeremy Zasowski. Roll call yes 6/0 Jeanne Craigie, Domenick Cimina, Jess Gerke, Richard Jackson, Megan Day, Jeremy Zasowski

Domenick Cimina nominated by Richard Jackson and seconded by Jeanne Craigie Roll call 6/0 yes Jeanne Craigie, Domenick Cimina, Jess Gerke, Richard Jackson, Megan Day, Jeremy Zasowski

Jeremy Zasowski nominated by Jeanne Craigie to be vice chair seconded by Megan Day, withdrawn, renominated by Jessica Gerke and seconded by Jeanne Craigie. Vote yes Jeremy Zasowski Roll call yes 6/0 Jeanne Craigie, Domenick Cimina, Jess Gerke, Richard Jackson, Megan Day, Jeremy Zasowski

Domenick Cimina nominates Jess Gerke as vice chair seconded by Richard Jackson. No vote taken. Megan Day comments leadership should change, vice chair should be leading into chair.

Jeanne Craigie mentions her window of time is closing as a volunteer. Management more than a scientist. Jeanne Craigie is concerned that there is an even number on the board. Jeanne Craigie is asking the 11 who applied to Finance for the 1 spot to look at other boards with openings.

Megan Day believes rotating leadership is a good idea. Megan Day is the most senior person on the Commission.

**Moment of Silence: Norman L'Esperance taken at beginning of meeting.**

**Matters not anticipated**

**Approve Meeting Minutes from March 17, 2025 and Executive Session minutes from January 6, January 27 and March 17, 2025, November 18 and December 16, 2024.**

Motion to approve meeting minutes from March 17, 2025 by Jeanne Craigie seconded by Richard Jackson Roll call yes 6/0 Jeanne Craigie, Domenick Cimina, Jess Gerke, Richard Jackson, Megan Day, Jeremy Zasowski

Jeanne Craigie presents Sapphire Award nomination, Jeanne Craigie spoke to Norman L'Esperance's wife. Sapphire award from Select Board to someone who is an unsung hero in Stoneham. Motion to accept by Richard Jackson, seconded by Jess Gerke Roll call yes 6/0 Jeanne Craigie, Domenick Cimina, Jess Gerke, Richard Jackson, Megan Day, Jeremy Zasowski

Motion to adjourn meeting by Megan Day seconded by Richard Jackson Roll call yes 6/0 Jeanne Craigie, Domenick Cimina, Jess Gerke, Richard Jackson, Megan Day, Jeremy Zasowski

Next Meeting May 12, 2025