

BOARD AND COMMISSION SUMMARY MARCH 2023

Arts & Culture Commission

The Arts & Culture Commission met on March 16. Members voted to give \$100 to another Capstone project. The budget workshop for the commission will be held on March 23. The members discussed the reception for artists and gardeners at Studio 13 on April 20. The Public Schools All District Art Show is scheduled for March 28. The members will meet at the show to make painting selections. The East Hampton Art Association Art Show is to be determined because someone is needed to coordinate the event. The deadline for the community grants is April 1. Applications will be reviewed following the deadline.

Board of Finance

The Board of Finance began budget meetings with the Public Hearing on Monday March 20 followed by Budget Workshops on March 21, 22, 23 & 25 and the first deliberation meeting on March 29. Budget deliberations will continue on April 5.

Brownfields Redevelopment Agency

The Brownfields Redevelopment Agency met on February 27. The members reviewed and discussed the CT DECD/OBRD Round 17 Grant Application. Each member will get a section of the application to review and redraft to fit the grant the commission is going for. Early next week the sections will be sent to the members. They should be reviewed and redrafted by April 7th to give time to review what has been changed before submitting for the grant. The EPA application can be retrofitted for the assessment grant. The members also discussed EPA grant funding, which member will attend the March EDC meeting, and pursuing other funding options. The Town Manager gave an update on the water project for the members.

The Brownfields Redevelopment Agency met on March 27. The members discussed the EPA grant update, the revisions and edits for the CT DECD/OBRD application, the Brownfields webinars, the EDC meeting updates, and the update for the CT State Historic Preservation Office. The members decided an election for Vice Chairman would be held at next month's meeting.

Clean Energy Task Force

The Clean Energy Task Force met on March 7. Members discussed the Middle School Roof and the possibilities for solar after the roof is installed. They want to be sure the RFP includes wording that the new roof will not preclude solar, that solar won't void the warranty and that the installer is aware of possible solar later. The Chairman will continue to attend the MS Roof Committee meetings.

Commission on Aging

The Commission on Aging met on March 9. The Chairman announced a public presentation on Accessory Dwelling Units on April 15, a Round Table meeting in late April, and budget workshops on March 23. He urged members to continue to show support for the Senior Center budget to increase staffing. Members briefly discussed the Strategic Planning process. Updates were provided by the Housing, Transportation and Health & Wellness groups. The Chairman will propose to the Town Manager and Town Council the possibility of revising the ordinance to appoint two alternate members to the commission.

Conservation-Lake Commission

The Conservation-Lake Commission met on March 9. The Chairman provided information related to Mr. Tucci's presentation, as he was not able to attend the meeting. The members made a motion to get a permit for Lake Oxy Guard for this summer. Mr. Hall is working on getting a temporary authorization for BioBlast. The members reviewed a plan for a sub-division at 37 South Main Street. Members had additional questions and requested the engineer attend the next meeting. Mr. Hall provided an update on the Watershed Projects #7 and #8 that will go to Council at the end of March. The other watershed projects are done except Brook Haven and Spellman Point. Members discussed the property that is for sale off Lakewood Road.

Design Review Board

No meeting

Economic Development Commission

The Economic Development Commission met on March 21. There was no quorum at the beginning of the meeting. The minutes were tabled for next month's meeting. The members received an update from Tory Man from the Brownfields Redevelopment Agency. The members discussed using the previous nomination process for New Business of the Month and Business Spotlight for the businesses in town. When a quorum was present, the members nominated Pinshack Arcade for New Business of the Month and Serra & Associates for Business Spotlight for April instead of March.

Ethics Commission

No meeting

Fire Commission

The Fire Commission met on March 13. The Fire Marshal and Fire Chief provided their monthly reports. A quote has been requested to repair the Hyde Farm dry hydrant tank. Parts are expected soon for the fire boat and the boat should be received in early April. Mr. Voelker provided an update on the Building Committee. The budget was reviewed. There was discussion and a motion on the Deputy Chief use of vehicle.

Inland Wetlands Watercourses Agency

The Inland Wetland Watercourses Agency met on March 29.

Continued Applications:

- A. Application IW:23-003: 11 Skinner Street LLC, 11 Skinner St., Installation of new processed gravel driveway (approximate 6100 s.f.)– in upland review area. Map 02A/ Block 49/ Lot 1-1 Dean Kavalkovich made a motion to approve the application using the standard short form permit with the added condition that a revised plan be submitted to Town Staff showing a revised location for the retaining wall which moves the wall further from the wetland boundary such that the wall base can be installed without encroaching on the wetland. Scott Hill Seconded the motion. Vote: 4-0.
- B. Application IW:23-004: Craig Parker, 42 Lakewood Road, Construct 34' x 38' addition in upland review area. Map 03A/ Block 44/ Lot C/89 Dean Kavalkovich made a motion to approve the application as presented using the standard short form permit. Pete Wall Seconded the motion. Vote: 5-0.
- C. Application IW:23-005: Michal Bakaj, 37 South Main, 22 Lot Residential Open Space Subdivision, which includes 8 proposed building lots within the Upland Review Area. Map 20/ Block 51/ Lot 27 Josh Wilson made a motion to continue the application to the next regularly scheduled meeting on April 26, 2023. Dean Kavalkovich Seconded the motion. Vote: 5-0.

- D. Application IW:23-006: James Marino, 65 West High St., Construction of a new residential duplex and associated improvements in upland review area. Map 19/ Block 46/ Lot14. Dean Kavalkovich made a motion to continue the application to the next regularly scheduled meeting on April 26, 2023 and state in the record that the Agency would be more favorable to the application if the ZBA were to grant a variance for the north side yard setback in order to move the structure as far out of the wetland as possible. Scott Hill Seconded the motion. Vote: 5-0.

New Applications:

- A. IW:23-007: Lantern Electrical LLC, 33 Oakum Dock, to construct a 500SF Deck in upland review area. Map 02/ Block 9A/ Lot Q-2 The Agency recommended that this application be reviewed by the Duly Authorized Agent.

Joint Facilities

The Colchester- East Hampton Joint Facilities met on March 21. The proposal for the MAPS engineering study has been approved by the State of CT DEEP. Bids have been requested for the PLC computer for the Secondary building. Current bids are approximately \$50k and a 16-week lead time. The Lakeside septage repairs will run approx. \$138k with a 28-week lead time. The Board approved management to prepay 30% of the Lakeside parts when necessary.

Library Advisory Board

The Library Advisory Board met on March 6. Members discussed the Strategic Plan and will work to extend the existing plan and explore other ways to gauge patron satisfaction. A CT State Library grant was applied for in the amount of \$1,400. The Summer Reading kickoff will take place at Center School on June 23. The closing event will be held at the Library on August 18. Mr. Kellogg discussed proposed legislation for libraries regarding electronic materials. A budget update was provided to members.

Middle Haddam Historic District Commission

The Middle Haddam Historic District Commission met on March 23. The members reviewed and discussed two plan reviews for applicants installing fences on their properties. The members approved the first plan review and continued the second plan review for the April meeting. The applicants for 1 Knowles Road attended the meeting to present and answer questions. The applicant for 91 Middle Haddam Road wasn't present at the meeting. Members had additional questions for the applicant. The chairman wrote a letter to the Town Manager about the fence installed at 91 Middle Haddam Road without the Commission's approval.

Parks & Recreation Advisory Board

The Parks & Recreation Advisory Board met on March 7. The Travel Basketball All Star Awards were presented to the team. The travel basketball season is over, but one team will go on to compete in the New England Regional Tournament. Air Line Trail Clean Up Day is in April. The annual golf tournament is May 18. Mr. Hall provided information on a bill that relates to Municipal Youth Camps.

Planning & Zoning Commission

The Planning & Zoning Commission met on March 1.

Public Hearings:

- A. PZC-23-001: Two Brothers Café LLC, 20 East High, for a special permit per Sec. 5.2.C.2-Restaurant. Map 05A/ Block 62/ Lot 5A. Ray Zatorski made a motion to approve the Special Permit with conditions. Rowland Rux seconded the motion. Vote: 7-0

New Business:

- A. PZC-23-002: Michael Bakaj, 37 South Main Street, Zone Change from HOD to R-2, Map 20/Block 51/ Lot 27. Ray Zatorski made a motion to schedule a Public Hearing for April 5, 2023. Rowland Rux seconded the motion. Vote: 7-0
- B. PZC-23-003: Michael Bakaj, 37 South Main Street, Special Permit for a 22 Lot Open Space Subdivision, Map 20/Block 51/ Lot 27. Ray Zatorski made a motion to continue the application to the April 5, 2023 regular meeting. Rowland Rux seconded the motion. Vote: 7-0
- C. CGS 8-24 Review: Acceptance of Donated Land Along Oak Knoll. Ray Zatorski made a motion to recommend acceptance of the donated land to the Town Council. Rowland Rux seconded the motion. Vote: 7-0

Water Pollution Control Authority

The East Hampton Water Pollution Control Authority met on March 7. Royal Oaks water system continues to report issues of iron in the water. Management is proposing adding two (2) new green sand filters and a baffle tank with a purge valve. The emergency repair will be approx. \$25K and funded out of Capital. Request for repair approval will be submitted to the Town Council at their next meeting. The force main repairs have been completed at the North Maple pump station and construction has started at the Pine Trail pump station. After a final review the members approved the 2023/24 WPCA Operating Budget totaling \$ 1,972,767.47. Sewer rates will be determined at the public hearing in September.

Zoning Board of Appeals

The Zoning Board of Appeals met on March 13 via Zoom. The members conducted the annual review of bylaws for the board.