

Town of Monroe Conservation Commission (MCC)
1465 Orange Turnpike, Monroe, New York 10950

COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

A “Zoom” meeting took place on Thursday, April 15, 2021 at 8:00pm

Attendees: Ward Brower III, Joe Corona (acting chair), Charles Pakula, Sandra Dunlap (not in attendance) new member Jack Medina, and Nina Petito/secretary.

1. ADMINISRATIVE BUSINESS

- 1.1 The meeting was called to order and we have a quorum, therefore the meeting was convened at 8:04pm.
- 1.2 The Town of Monroe Conservation Commission has one vacancy.
- 1.3 The March 18, 2021 amended minutes were approved. Charles Pakula motioned to approve the amended minutes and Ward Brower III seconded the motion. All voted in favor.
- 1.4 Jack Medina has submitted his letter to the Monroe Town Board for approval and acceptance on April 19, 2021 to become a member of the Town of Monroe Conservation Commission
- 1.5 Sexual Harassment Training will be held via “Zoom” session on June 23, 2021 at 10:00am. Sign in with the access code.
- 1.6 On April 9, 2021 the Town Board requests a personal photo or the Town will take a photo to be used for “I.D. badges”
- 1.7 Joe Corona has stated that the Conservation Commission has reviewed nine projects for the Planning Board within the last 12 months.

2. OLD BUSINESS

- 2.1 A “Zoom” meeting was called on March 29, 2021 at 8:00pm. The purpose of the meeting was to develop action plans for the (3) outstanding MPB requests we have before the Commission.
 - A) Meadow Hill Cluster Project - Planning Board has requested photos to be taken of the wetlands area in question.
Action: Jack and Joe to take photos of the wetlands on Tuesday, March 30, 2021. There after Joe will send those photos to the Planning Board.
 - B) Harriman Heights Road Project - Planning Board has requested Conservation Commission feedback on the property as to the adherence to the tree code, drainage, etc.
Action: Team to meet at property on Tuesday, March 30, 2021 at 10:00am for initial site walk. (Across from A&B Citco)

- C) 10 Twin Lakes Drive Project - Building Inspector has requested Conservation Commission to review and approve of the site owner's tree implementation plan as per attachment from Ben Maldonado (building inspector) dated March 10, 2021

Action: Team to meet at the property at 2:00pm on Monday, April 5, 2021 for initial site walk

2.2 The Monroe Kiosk Implementation - Charles Pakula has contacted troop leaders. The troop leader has not returned his call, but Charles Pakula seems to feel this should be a troop project. Charles Pakula will contact the leaders again to schedule prep work and foundation building. The Department of Highway has volunteered to dig the kiosk pole holes. An open scout meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 20, 2021 where this project will be discussed.

2.3 J-Squared Harriman Heights Project - On March 31, 2021, the Monroe Conservation Commission walked property 47-1-96 located on Harriman Heights Road. The dominant feature of the site that it is a wooded lot. The Monroe Conservation Commission has a very complex forest reclamation project and has condensed it into a two step process.

Stage 1 begins with the establishment of trees such as red maple and white ash. These trees are relatively fast growing and short lived, (under 100 years). These trees transform the site from grasses to wooded plants.

Stage 2 begins with the appearance of tree types like sugar maples, red ash, hickory, etc. These trees have a slower rate of growth than stage 1 trees, but live longer with some exceeding hundreds of years.

The Monroe Conservation Commission found this site to be in the beginning of a transformation from stage 1 to stage 2, but only in the front part of the property. This is also where the construction is expected to take place. The Monroe Conservation Commission has also noted that the proposed undeveloped rear portion of the site has mostly distressed and dying white ash.

The Monroe Conservation Commission believes that within a decade, after the project has been developed, there will be very few if any trees that are now present. Therefore, it recommends the planting of the following native tree types as soon as possible in the rear portion of the site.

- * American Beech (*Fagus grand folia*)
- * Shagbark Hickory (*carya ovate*)
- * Red Oak (*Quercus rubra*)
- * Chestnut Oak (*Quercus prinus*)
- * Sugar Maple (*Acar saccharin*)

- 2.4 On April 30, 2021 Joe Corona will attend the Quarterly Moodna Watershed Council Meeting.

3. NEW BUSINESS

- 3.1 The findings of the Monroe Conservation Commission concerning the J-Square Harriman Heights project were submitted to the Planning Board.
- 3.2 The Monroe Conservation Commission has been requested to purchase phosphorescent green safety vests to be used during the site walks.

4. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 4.1 On the first Monday of each month at 8:00am the Chamber of Commerce of Monroe will be available for questions about local projects. The meeting will be a breakfast setting at the Empire Diner.
- 4.2 On April 24, 2021 is the annual shredding event called "Clean Sweep". The cleaning of litter along 17M is also a task at hand. But this is the time to securely dispose of and recycle confidential papers. Small businesses and individuals are welcome to the use of a shredding truck which will be on site at the St. Anastasia parking from 8am to noon.
- 4.3 Charles Pakula has made the following request of the Conservation Commission. He wants to know if the Commission can change there meeting dates to the fourth Thursday of the month at 8pm. His requested has been approved and new meeting dates has been submitted to the Town Board.

5. NEXT ZOOM MEETING

- 5.1 The next "Zoom" meeting will take place on Thursday, May 27, 2021 at 8:00pm.

6. ADJOURNMENT

- 6.1 Charles Pakula motioned to adjourn the meeting and Ward Brower III seconded the motion. All voted in favor. There upon Joe Corona (acting chair) adjourned the meeting at 9:37pm.