

Town of Lenox
Conservation Commission

Meeting Minutes

July 20th , 2023

In attendance: Neal Carpenter, Chair; Vincent Ammendola; David Lane; Rose Fitzgerald Casey, Richard Ferren

Staff: Gwen Miller, Chris Ketchen

Also: Peggy Ammendola, Merryll; Shannon Boomsa for White Engineering; representative for owner of 70 Bramble Lane

1. 23 Bramble Lane, Request for Determination of Applicability for removal of dead and diseased trees

The owner of 23 Bramble Lane explained there were several trees around the home on the property that were dead or diseased and posed a threat to the home itself.

The Conservation Commission issued a negative three determination for their removal.

2. 70 Bramble Lane, continuation of a public hearing for the Notice of Intent filed to demolish the existing single-family home, and to construct a new single-family home and boardwalk system.

Shannon Boomsa of White Engineering explained to the Conservation Commission some changes made to the site plan in advance of the hearing, including the reduction of the deck size. Commission members expressed concern with the size of the home, and the level of activity that would take place on the restored lawn and native vegetation once the construction is completed. They were comfortable with control measures that would be in place during construction. There were concerns with activity that might take place after construction and the lack of ability to monitor and enforce activity after it was completed.

There was consensus from the Commission members that the location of the proposed house would be too close to the buffer and in some places, there would be no buffer.

It was moved to deny the request as presented. The motion was seconded and approved by all members present.

Other Business: Town Manager Christopher Ketchen and Land Use Director Gwen Miller were present to discuss the concept of a Conservation Agent with the Commission. The group described what assistance would be helpful, and staff said they would draft a job description to share with the Commission for their input.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.