

## CONSERVATION COMMISSION

### REGULAR MEETING

MAY 4, 2023 – 6:00PM (VIA ZOOM)

1. Call to Order. The meeting was called to order at 6:02pm. A quorum was not present.
2. Roll Call. Present: Maria Grace and Zach Sadow. Absent: Tom Blagden. (Susan Rand and Lee Potter arrived later in the meeting.) Attending: Abby Conroy (Land Use Director), Miles Todaro (Land Use Specialist) and Georgia Petry (Recording Secretary).
3. – 6. Tabled
7. Plan of Conservation and Development (POCD) Discussion  
Michael Klemens, PZC Chair, discussed the two Sections #7 Agriculture and #8 Natural Resources, Wetlands and Conservation, that the Commission would be asked to review and comment on by June 1, 2023. He explained that the Sections are divided into 3 chapters: Inventory, Assessment and Strategies. He expressed that this was an opportunity to separate POCD and NRI material; he noted that the details belong in the NRI. A. Conroy pointed out that the PZC members had worked independently on it and then came back to the meeting with comments; she added that the strategies may be too specific, different language may be needed for a bigger picture. M. Klemens added that when the draft is eventually finalized, there will be Public Hearings; there is no public comment being received at this time.
8. Vernal Pool Study  
No new material was available. M. Klemens talked about the April 16<sup>th</sup> visit to the vernal pool near the ski jump and his concern with activities going on there; he pointed out that this could be an opportunity for the removal of barberry at the site. He noted that this is a very important vernal pool and special animal forms will be submitted. Multiple visits have been made to another vernal pool in the NW part of town, where there are special species of salamanders. At the vernal pool near Railroad Street, wood frogs had been observed so far, but the area has been very impacted by development; some habitat has been eliminated by the disturbance. He suggested that it could be good turtle habitat. Other vernal pools have been investigated; some permissions were not received in time, due to no response. M. Klemens explained photos of egg mass identifications that had been sent by Peter Neely. It was noted that only a small number of vernal pools recently visited were in the previous study and the new ones need to be included. He suggested that an article be written for the Lakeville Journal, to publicize the vernal pool study; stronger conservation measures could be suggested also.

Adjournment. The meeting was adjourned at 7:08pm.