

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Chairwomen, Sarah Schlechter, Holly Charlesworth, James Smith, Mary Francois, Kirby Brendsel, Abigail Squance

Also Present: Dr. Tom Failla, Conservation Planner, Tracy Kulikowski, Land Use Director, Ira Bloom, Town Attorney, Members of the public

Ms. Schlechter opened the Special Meeting at 7:30p.m.

Ms. Kulikowski read the Special Meeting Public Hearing legal notice into the record for the Commission

Continuation of Public Hearing Lords Highway East, Town of Weston, Dog Park Modification [22-05] Ms. Schlechter reminded the Commission and members of the public that the scope of this commission is limited to wetlands and watercourses. This application is being reviewed because the Town of Weston has submitted a modification to the application.

Public Comment was heard from the following:

William Kolbert, Weston Resident, expressed concerns of previous flooding issues in his home. Mr. Kolbert asked that the commission make sure the current modifications do not cause flooding in his home or for his neighbors.

Edina Field, introduced herself as a Weston Resident and as a representative on behalf of the board of the Weston Dog Park. Ms. Field thanked the commission members for their time and attention given to the consideration of the dog park.

Dania Anderson introduced herself as a Weston Resident and stated her concerns that the current plan is incomplete as well as missing essential details. Ms. Anderson reviewed the progress of the dog park since 2016 to present and stressed concerns of being ignored by town leadership.

Sidney Dudash, Weston Resident, stated he does not believe that these plans are scaled down plans however there are impervious areas that are being increased. The current modifications have increased impervious measurements with decreased drainage. Mr. Dudash continued to state his concerns of increased runoff and flooding in his neighborhood. Mr. Dudash referenced his letter he submitted to the commission members dated April 26, 2022.

John Matluck, Weston Resident, stated his property, as well as his neighbor's property is constantly flooding after rainfall. Mr. Matluck continued to express his concerns that new plans will exacerbate current flooding issues in his neighborhood.

Ellen Strauss, Weston Resident, requested that Mr. Dudash's letter be read into the record for public review, Mr. Kulikowski read Mr. Dudash's letter into the record.

Kent Johnson, Weston Resident, stated he is disappointed with these plans for a dog park, as many neighbors have expressed their concerns.

Carolyn Welsh, Weston Resident, stated it is within the purview of the commission to treat potential impact on the wetlands very seriously. Although there is less of an impact than previous plans, there is still potential for impact to the wetlands.

Maria Proto, Weston Resident speaking for the Weston Dog Park Board, understands neighbors being upset of flooding issues in Weston and is appreciative of all input. The town is not responsible for flooding issues happening right now, and hopes people will look at the current plans and go with the facts.

Margaret Wirtenberg, former Weston Resident, stated the town makes decisions very carefully and further thanked the commission for their work.

Ms. Kulikowski read an email from A&J Mills of 143 Davis Hill Road concerning the proposed dog park on the Moore Property, dated Thursday April 31st 2022.

Attorney Steve Nevus, representing his clients, stated that when this plan was approved four years ago, the town did not confer, consult or consent to a conversation about the plans with the interveners, many residents have been ignored. He explained the neighbors have rights and are entitled to protect them. The new plans dated March 3rd 2022 are highly inaccurate and misleading. Mr. Nevus continued to review the plans of the Weston Dog Park.

Ms. Schlechter reminded Attorney Nevus the information he is presenting has already been presented at previous meetings and to focus on presenting new information.

Hearing no additional discussion or public comment the following motion was made:

MOTION TO SET SPECIAL MEETING DATE

Ms. Charlesworth made a motion to hold a special meeting to continue public hearing on May 10, 2022 and Mr. Brendsel seconded. All in favor, the motion carried (6-0).

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Mr. Brendsel made a motion to adjourn and Ms. Squance seconded. All in favor, the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Marina Zegarelli