

TOWN OF OTIS
CONSERVATION COMMISSION

3/17/2026 MEETING MINUTES

Location: Otis Town Hall, One North Main Road, Otis & Via Zoom

Conservation Commission Members present: Dave Sarnacki, Bruce Wall, Jeff Laramy, Domenic Battista, Chris Chaffee, Admin Assistant - Candy Chaffee

Opening items/Introduction of Commission members and staff. Dave opened the meeting at 6:00 p.m. and noted that the meeting is being recorded. Dave introduced the members of the commission, and asked everyone to turn off/down their cell phones for the duration of the meeting. The Next meeting will be Tuesday, April 21st, 2026 @ 6:00 pm. The deadline for applications for the April 21st, 2026 meeting is on Wednesday, April 1st, 2026 by 3:00PM. The next office hours, for the Tuesday, April 21st, 2026 meeting, is on Wednesday April 1st, 2026 by 3:00PM.

Minutes: Dave made a motion to approve minutes from the February 17th, 2026 meeting; CC 2nd the motion and the Commission voted unanimously to approve the minutes for the February 17th, 2026 meeting.

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

Public Hearing – NOI – Submitted by Jason Caulfield on behalf of Francis Zabik, Prince Island D St., Map 18B Lot 141, regarding the reconstruction of existing dock structure, all within the BZ of the Otis Reservoir. Dave made a motion to grant the NOI with the condition that the pier work will be done during drawdown. CC 2nd the motion and the Commission voted unanimously to grant the NOI with the special condition.\

FOLLOW-UP FROM LAST MONTHS MEETING:

Public Hearing – RDA – Submitted by Peter Pappas, 0 Brookman Dr., Map 18C Lot 57, regarding the removal of a sandbox, all within the BZ of Otis Reservoir. Applicant requested a continuance until the April 21st meeting. Dave made a motion to continue until the April 21st meeting. DB 2nd the motion and the Commission voted unanimously to continue until the April 21st meeting.

Public Hearing – RDA – Submitted by Todd Brouillette, 280 Kibbe Rd., Map 17C Lot 65, regarding the repair & rebuild of existing stone wall & install of a 15' x 25' paver patio, all within the BZ of Otis Reservoir. The applicants were not present at the meeting and there were questions regarding the application. Dave made a motion to grant a continuance until the April meeting. DB 2nd the motion and the Commission voted unanimously to grant a continuance.

Public Hearing – NOI – Submitted by Robert Albertson, 57 N. Gate Island Rd., Map 17C Lot 28, regarding the removal of an existing stone wall with the replacement of a new stone wall, all within the BZ of Otis Reservoir. Dave made a motion to grant the NOI with the addition that the applicant supplies us with a planting plan prior to the start of the job. DB 2nd the motion and the Commission voted unanimously to grant the NOI.

Public Hearing – NOI – Submitted by John Fecto on behalf of Anne Keesler, 131 Ray Hubbard Rd., Map 15B Lot 8, regarding the installation of a stone wall, all within the BZ of the Benton Pond. Applicant did not supply the commission or the state with all the necessary paperwork. A file number was not issued. Applicant still did not supply all the necessary documents and was not present at the meeting. Therefore, Dave made a motion to not act on the NOI and the application is being removed from the agenda.

EXTENSION OF OOC:

OCC - Request for Extension on OOC Otis Reservoir Annual Drawdown, DEP FILE #254-155, Submitted by Joseph Rogers, GZA GEOENVIRONMENTAL, INC., in regards to automatic extension of the Extended OOC. Dave made a motion to grant the 2-year extension of the OOC. CC 2nd the motion to grant the 2-year extension of the OOC & the Commission voted unanimously to motion to grant the 2-year extension of the OOC.

OCC - Request for Extension on OOC Big Pond Drawdown, DEP FILE #254-156, Submitted by Joseph Rogers, GZA GEOENVIRONMENTAL, INC., in regards to automatic extension of the Extended OOC. Dave made a to grant the OOC. DB 2nd the motion to grant the 2-year extension of the OOC & the Commission voted unanimously to motion to grant the 2-year extension of the OOC.

ANY OTHER TOPICS NOT REASONABLY ANTICIPATED BY THE CHAIR

Discussion that was brought forward from Otis Reservoir home owners to the conservation commission in regards to damage that has taken place to docks Otis Reservoir this year due to the drawdown. Homeowners are questioning the exact reason for the change in the drawdown. They are concerned that with the lack of drawdown it is going to continue destroy docks. After

discussion between the homeowners and the Commission, Dave made a motion to send up to 2 Conservation Commission representatives to meet with the state representative and National Heritage to voice concerns and for more information in regards to the Otis Reservoir Drawdown. CC 2nd the motion and the Commission voted unanimously on the motion.

Letter from Eversource Energy, Western Ma in regards to selectively applying herbicides in 2026 along the power line rights-of-way. They are exempt from filing.

Fred Ryon has come forward with interest as an alternate on the Otis Conservation Commission. Dave made a motion to have Fred Ryon as an alternate and the Commission voted unanimously on the motion to grant Fred Ryon as an alternate.

Ross Knowles from the Planning Board has requested to be included in on any meetings/information regarding the Otis Reservoir drawdown.

Dave made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:56. Domenic 2nd the motion to adjourn the meeting.