

Freetown Conservation Commission
Minutes of the Thursday, July 2, 2020 Meeting
Assonet Bandstand – Assonet, Mass.

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2020 JUL 28 PM 1:14
J. Brown

Present: Keven Desmarais, Charlie Sullivan, and Maria Ternullo.

Absent: Chris Mather. There is also one vacancy on the Conservation Commission.

Call to order: Keven Desmarais called the meeting to order at 4:17 p.m.

Interview Candidates for Vacant Seat

Keith Mello was present, being the sole applicant to date for the vacancy on the Conservation Commission. Mr. Desmarais spoke to the level of interest and willingness to participate needed to be an asset to the group, and asked Mr. Mello why he was interested. Mr. Mello responded that he is a lifelong resident of the town, an avid outdoorsman, and is looking for a way to volunteer and help the community.

Mr. Sullivan asked Mr. Mello if his work schedule as a fireman would cause a problem attending meetings, and Mr. Mello responded that he would do his best to avoid any scheduling conflicts; if needed, he could always bring the ambulance with him to a meeting and depart in the event of a call. Mr. Desmarais asked that Mr. Mello not feel compelled to attend a meeting while on duty if he did not think it was reasonable to do so.

With no further questions, a motion was made by Mrs. Ternullo, seconded by Mr. Sullivan, to recommend Mr. Mello be appointed to fill the vacancy. The motion carried unanimously.

Request for Determination of Applicability – 39 Central Avenue, Assonet

Homeowners Scott and Barbara Logan were present to discuss their project. The Logans propose to put up a swimming pool and extend a deck to service the pool. Mr. Desmarais discussed the need for siltation control, and to have any spoils or debris piles outside the flood zone.

A motion was made by Mrs. Ternullo, seconded by Mr. Sullivan, to issue a negative determination #3, with the condition that siltation control be in place between the work area and the wetlands. The motion carried unanimously.

Request for Determination of Applicability – 5 Debbie Lane, Assonet

Homeowner Jim Berg was present. Mr. Berg discussed his plans to remove hazardous trees in a 28- to 30-foot circular area he liked to a baseball field. He intends to cut the trees and put up a concrete retaining wall. An aerial photo with wetlands layer was reviewed. After discussion, all parties agreed that Mr. Berg should remove the hazardous trees, but return with a clearer plan for the remainder of the work.

A motion was made by Mr. Sullivan, seconded by Mrs. Ternullo, to issue a negative determination #3 limited to tree clearing only. The motion carried unanimously.

Request for Determination of Applicability – 13 Hemlock Point, East Freetown

Will Connolly was present from Zenith Consulting Engineers, LLC. Mr. Connolly explained that the project has been previously approved, but that a requirement from the Building Inspector to better meet setbacks resulted in the house having to shift slightly, which in turn shifted the septic system slightly. Mr. Desmarais asked if it was true that the existing septic system has never actually been used, and Mr. Connolly stated that was correct.

A motion was made by Mrs. Ternullo, seconded by Mr. Sullivan, to issue a negative determination #3. The motion carried unanimously.

Reorganization

A motion was made by Mr. Sullivan, seconded by Mrs. Ternullo, to elect Mr. Desmarais as chairman for the year ensuing. The motion carried unanimously. A motion was then made by Mr. Desmarais, seconded by Mrs. Ternullo, to elect Mr. Sullivan as vice chairman for the year ensuing. The motion carried unanimously.

Review/Approve Submission of Draft Conservation Restriction to State for Review

Mr. Desmarais discussed changes that had led to this point. Consensus was to submit the current draft of the Conservation Restriction for state review.

Continued Hearings, to be Withdrawn

A motion was made by Mrs. Ternullo, seconded by Mr. Sullivan, to allow the withdrawal without prejudice of the notices of intent for 192 Chace Road, and for 25 and 27 Hemlock Point, all in East Freetown, with the two Hemlock Point projects to be contingent on receiving a formal request to withdraw. The motion carried unanimously.

Continued Hearings, to be Continued

On motions made by Mr. Sullivan and seconded by Mrs. Ternullo, the following hearings were continued to the dates and times noted:

- a. Continued Notice of Intent, 0 Chace Road, East Freetown to July 27, 2020, at 4:15 p.m.*
- b. Continued Notice of Intent, 25 Hemlock Point, East Freetown to July 27, 2020, at 4:15 p.m.*
- c. Continued Notice of Intent, 27 Hemlock Point, East Freetown to July 27, 2020, at 4:15 p.m.*
- d. Continued Notice of Intent, 0 Will's Way, Assonet to July 27, 2020, at 4:15 p.m.*
- e. Continued Notice of Intent, 3 Quarry Drive, Assonet..... to July 27, 2020, at 4:15 p.m.*
- f. Continued Notice of Intent, 45 & 63 Braley Road, East Freetown..... to July 27, 2020, at 4:15 p.m.*
- g. Notice of Intent, 3 Friend Street, Assonet..... to August 24, 2020, at 4:15 p.m.**

*All continued to the pavilion behind the Multi-Purpose Senior Center. Although the agenda listed a continuance time of 7:00 p.m., the vote was to continue these hearings to 4:15 p.m. in the event of EEE concerns arising during the summer.

**Continued to the Assonet Bandstand if no other hearings are scheduled this date and no new information is ready to present, otherwise continued to the pavilion behind the Multi-Purpose Senior Center. Although the agenda listed a continuance time of 7:00 p.m., the vote was to continue this hearing to 4:15 p.m. in the event of EEE concerns arising during the summer.

Continued Request for Determination of Applicability – 76 Quanapoag Road, East Freetown

Review of response to Enforcement Order, Sammy's Lane

These items were continued to July 27, 2020.

Bills & Minutes

Bills paid since the previous meeting were recounted. No minutes were available for review.

Other Business Properly Before the Commission

None.

Meeting Adjourned

A motion was made by Mr. Sullivan, seconded by Mrs. Ternullo, to adjourn at 4:57 p.m. The motion carried unanimously.

This Is a True Record by me.

Attest: _____
Michael T. McCue, Senior Clerk