

Freetown Conservation Commission
Minutes of the Monday, May 10, 2021 Meeting
Held Remotely via Zoom.us

Chris Mather
RECEIVED
FREETOWN TOWN CLERK
2021 SEP -1 AM 10:06

Present: Keven Desmarais, Chris Mather, and Keith Mello participated remotely via Zoom.

Absent: Charlie Sullivan and Maria Ternullo.

Call to Order: Keven Desmarais called the meeting to order at 5:03 p.m.

Note: As this meeting was conducted remotely, all votes taken were by roll call.

At this time, Mr. Desmarais advised anyone listening along that all plans, files, etc., to be reviewed would be available on the Town's website during the meeting. He then reviewed the public hearing process.

Notice of Intent – 41 Water Street, Assonet

Mr. Desmarais stated that the advertisements and notices to abutters were not placed in time for the above public hearing to be opened at this meeting. The public hearing notice will be reposted for the next meeting, on May 24th, 2021.

Notice of Intent – 67 Chace Road,

Notice of Intent – Off Chipaway Road

Mr. Desmarais stated that the advertisements and notices to abutters were not placed in time for the above public hearings to be opened at this meeting. The public hearing notices will be reposted for the next meeting, on May 24th, 2021.

Continued Notice of Intent – 0 Rear Simmons Street, Assonet

Continued Notice of Intent – 23-25 Gurney Road, East Freetown

Continued Notice of Intent – 32 Middleboro Road, East Freetown

Mr. Desmarais stated that the applicants for the above projects have requested a continuance.

A motion was made by Chris Mather, seconded by Keith Mello, to continue the public hearings to May 24, 2021.

Request for Determination of Applicability – 32 Braley Road

The applicant, David Demelo, was present. Mr. Demelo explained that he is proposing a carport garage on a cement slab. Mr. Demelo has placed silt sock around the area of work.

A motion was made by Keith Mello, seconded by Chris Mather, to issue a negative determination #3. The motion carries unanimously.

Notice of Intent – 5 Crossroads Drive,

Nyles Zager, from Zenith Consulting Engineers, and Joe Rogers, the applicant, was present. Mr. Zager stated that there are two resource areas on the property; one is an isolated wetland and the other is a bordering vegetated wetland. Mr. Zager stated that they are proposing a gravel parking area with fencing around it. Stormwater is going to be collect with a long narrow sediment forebay and filter out into an infiltration basin. There is also a construction entrance to ensure no silt will end up on the road and a dewatering basin in case water is hit during construction. A small maintenance shed is also being proposed. Mr. Desmarais asked about the drainage pipe on the plans. Mr. Zager stated the pipe is to discharge excess water to prevent it from being trapped. John Laronda, an abutter to this project, was present. Mr. Laronda expressed concerns about the elevation change changing the water table affecting where his septic system is located. Mr. Zager explained that drainage of the parking lot to be captured into an infiltration basin and discharged through the wetland.

A motion was made by Chris Mather, seconded by Keith Mello, to approve the plans as submitted. The motion carries unanimously.

Notice of Intent – 218 Middleboro Road,

Stevie Carvalho, from Farland Corp., was present. Mr. Carvalho explained that this is an after the fact filing where the buffer zone and resource area has been cleared. They are proposing a restoration plan. Mr. Carvalho stated that a wetland scientist delineated the resource areas. There are inner and riparian zones, bordering vegetated wetland, and a wet meadow on the property. Mr. Desmarais asked how much of the wetlands have been disturbed. Mr. Carvalho replied that the total disturbed wetlands is about 40,000 square feet. Mr. Desmarais stated that the Commission would like to do a site walk and this may be required to be sent out for peer review because of the extent of clearing. Mr. Mello expressed that he would like to do a site walk as well.

A motion was made by Keith Mello, seconded by Chris Mather to continue the public hearing to May 24, 2021. The motion carries unanimously.

Continued Notice of Intent – 41 Water Street, Assonet

John DeSousa, from Northcounty Group, was present. Mr. DeSousa explained that he met with abutters Jeff and Lori Riley about their concerns. Mr. DeSousa stated that Jeff and Lori Riley have full ownership of the stone wall. There is no proposed work to the existing wall; the new wall being is proposed 30 feet from the headwall. Mr. DeSousa stated that they can have someone from their office on site everyday during construction to prevent any work being done that is not proposed.

A motion was made by Chris Mather, seconded by Keith Mello, to continue the public hearing to May 24th, 2021. The motion carries unanimously.

Any other business properly to come before the commission

Mr. Desmarais explained that there is a proposed article to make the Conservation Commission the Soil Board since it is more aligned with what the Commission does. Mr. Desmarais asked if the other members were okay with this. Mr. Sullivan and Mr. Mello both said they agree with moving forward with the article.

Meeting Adjourned

A motion was made by Keith Mello, seconded by Chris Mather, to adjourn. The motion carried unanimously, and the meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

This is a True Record by me.

Attest: _____
Victoria D'Antoni, Senior Clerk