

Freetown Conservation Commission 2022 MAR 15 PM 12: 09
Minutes of the Monday, December 13, 2021
Held Remotely via Zoom.us

Present: Keven Desmarais, Charlie Sullivan, and Chris Mather participated remotely via Zoom.

Absent: Keith Mello

Call to Order: Keven Desmarais called the meeting to order at 6:09 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 – 67 Chace Road

Notice of Intent – Off Chipaway Road

The applicants have requested to be continued due to being in peer review.

A motion was made by Charlie Sullivan, seconded by Chris Mather to continue the public hearings to January 10, 2022. The motion carries unanimously.

Request for Certificate of Compliance – 251A Middleboro Road

Mr. Desmarais explained that the project is in significant compliance with the plans.

A motion was made by Charlie Sullivan, seconded by Chris Mather, to issue a complete a certificate of compliance. The motion carries unanimously.

Request for Certificate of Compliance – 10 Cove Lane

Mr. Desmarais explained that this project was for a septic upgrade, and he took a ride by the site to view it.

A motion was made by Charlie Sullivan, seconded by Chris Mather, to issue a complete certificate of compliance. The motion carries unanimously.

Request for Determination of Applicability – Fallbrook Subdivision

Evan Watson, from W Engineering, presented this project. Mr. Watson stated that in order for them to complete the roads that are on the plans, they would like to utilize an area in the buffer zone during the construction period, up to 50-feet away from the wetlands.

A motion was made by Charlie Sullivan, seconded by Chris Mather, to issue a negative determination #3 with the conditions that were approved with the prior Order of Conditions. The motion carries unanimously.

Continued Request for Determination of Applicability – 1A Estelle Avenue

Mr. Desmarais explained this septic upgrade was continued due to potential plan changes. Rick Charon, from Charon Associates, explained that this is a relatively small lot. The plan shows the leeching field is outside of the 100-foot buffer zone. There is a flood zone associated with the plan and a portion of the septic system is inside of it. There also is a tree in the buffer zone near the bulkhead that they would like to remove as well as extend the driveway a little bit.

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

Continued Notice of Intent – 0 Rear and 5 Costa Drive

Matt Kennedy, from Biodiversity Research Institute, presented this proposed ground mounted solar array project. Mr. Kennedy explained they included a 25-foot vegetation management zone around certain areas. Mr. Desmarais asked for clarity on the height of tree cutting. Greg Dixon, of Krebs and Lansing Engineers, replied that the plan is to take down larger trees leaving the stumps and leave alone trees that are 15-20 feet high already. Mr. Desmarais expressed that during the site visit they can further discuss what the Commission is looking for.

A motion was made by Chris Mather, seconded by Charlie Sullivan, to continue the public hearing to January 10, 2022.

Interview for Open Commissioner Position – Margaret French

Mr. Desmarais explained that there has been an opening for quite some time and appreciates her interest. Mr. Desmarais asked about her involvement in other Town boards. Ms. French replied she is involved with the Finance Committee. Mr. Desmarais asked about her Monday night availability for meetings. Ms. French replied she should have no problem making Monday night meetings as the Finance Committee typically meets on Thursdays. Mr. Desmarais asked what she finds interesting about conservation. Ms. French responded that she was a girl scout when she was young and appreciates the wooded areas and the animals that live there. Mr. Desmarais mentioned that the MACC has an 8-unit course for new Commissioners that is recommended but not required.

A motion was made by Charlie Sullivan, seconded by Chris Mather to recommend Margaret French to the Freetown Conservation Commission. The motion carries unanimously.

Meeting Adjourned

A motion was made by Charlie Sullivan, seconded by Chris Mather, to adjourn. The motion carried unanimously, and the meeting was adjourned at 7:11 pm.

This is a True Record by me.

Attest: _____
Victoria D'Antoni, Senior Clerk