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Freetown Conservation Commission
Minutes of the Monday, March 26, 2018 Meeting
Town Hall – Assonet, Mass.

Present: Keven Desmarais, Janine Robidoux, Charles Sullivan, and Maria Ternullo. (Christopher Mather arrived as the meeting ended.)

Call to order: Keven Desmarais called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

Continued Notice of Intent – Hart Lot, Buddy’s Crossing, Wamsutta Way, etc., East Freetown

Mr. Desmarais called the continued public hearing back to order. It was noted that the applicant requested another continuance. A motion was made by Mr. Sullivan, seconded by Mrs. Ternullo, to continue the hearing to April 23, 2018, at 7:00 p.m. at the Town Hall. The motion carried unanimously.

Continued Notice of Intent – 170 South Main Street (Guimond’s Farm/Algonquin Gas), Assonet

Mr. Desmarais called the continued public hearing back to order. It was noted that the applicant requested another continuance. A motion was made by Mr. Sullivan, seconded by Mrs. Ternullo, to continue the hearing to April 9, 2018, at 7:00 p.m. at the Town Hall. The motion carried unanimously.

Request for Minor Amendments to Previously-Approved Project – 30 Washburn Road, E. Freetown

Mr. Desmarais summarized the content of the letter received from David Albrecht of Borrego Solar. Due to changes in the technology related to the solar panels, they are able to achieve the same goal with 47 fewer racks, 846 fewer modules, and 188 fewer screws. Mr. Desmarais did not feel that it was substantial enough to require an Amended Order of Conditions. A motion was made by Mrs. Ternullo, seconded by Mr. Sullivan, to approve the changes requested. The motion carried unanimously. Cora Peirce entered the meeting as the vote was being taken, and was provided a copy of the letter and plan revisions.

Old Business

The following items were handled under old business:

- The Order of Conditions for Clermont Way was not signed as there is still one item (cost estimate for stormwater management) outstanding.
- It was noted that the article transferring the Olive Sherman, Newhall, and Paull & Pierce lots to the Conservation Commission passed, as did the article to sell the Milton Bradley property to the state.

New Business

The following items were handled under new business:

- Discussion on “low impact” points of access for canoes and kayaks, as well as potential locations for osprey nests, were tabled until the next meeting.
- It was decided not to seek funds for the Conservation Land Fund at this time, but to revisit funding when the Town Forest Committee gets underway.

Bills & Minutes

Bills paid since the previous meeting were recounted. The minutes of February 26, 2018 and March 12, 2018 were reviewed. A motion was made by Mrs. Robidoux, seconded by Mrs. Ternullo, to approve the minutes as received. The motion carried 3-0-1, with Mr. Sullivan abstaining.

Other Business Properly Before the Commission

Two matters were reviewed under this item:

- A request from Jeff Couture of SITEC Environmental for guidance on how to repair storm damage at 48 Huron Avenue, East Freetown, was received at the close of the business day. The damage cannot be repaired during the D.E.P.'s emergency period because the water levels in Long Pond are too high. Consensus was that an RDA would be sufficient.
- The clerk provided handouts of information received from Town Counsel regarding accepting easements for conservation restrictions. Churchill & Banks has inquired about providing a conservation restriction rather than an all-out donation on some of the waterfront land at the Guimond Farm/Algonquin Gas site. Commissioners were asked to review the material provided and be prepared to begin discussing it at the April 9th meeting.

Meeting Adjourned

A motion was made by Mr. Sullivan, seconded by Mrs. Robidoux, to adjourn at 7:22 p.m. The motion carried unanimously.

This is a True Record by me.

Attest: _____
Michael T. McCue, Senior Clerk