

Freetown Conservation Commission
Minutes of the Monday, June 10, 2019 Meeting
Town Hall – Assonet, Mass.

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Present: Keven Desmarais, Christopher Mather, and Maria Ternullo.

Absent: Janine Robidoux and Charles Sullivan.

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

Continued Notice of Intent – Gurney Farm, East Freetown

Mr. Desmarais called the continued public hearing back to order. It was noted that the applicant requested a continuance, to August 26th. A motion was made by Mrs. Ternullo, seconded by Mr. Mather, to continue the public hearing to Monday, August 26, 2019, at 7:00 p.m. at the Town Hall. The motion carried unanimously.

Notice of Intent – 46 Braley Road, East Freetown

Mr. Desmarais called the public hearing to order. A motion was made by Mr. Mather, seconded by Mrs. Ternullo, to waive the reading of the public hearing notice. The motion carried unanimously. It was noted that the applicant requested a continuance, to June 24th, as there was no D.E.P. file number. A motion was made by Mrs. Ternullo, seconded by Mr. Mather, to continue the public hearing to Monday, June 24, 2019, at 7:00 p.m. at the Town Hall. The motion carried unanimously.

Continued Notice of Intent – 170 South Main Street (Riverfront Business Park), Assonet

Mr. Desmarais called the continued public hearing back to order. It was noted that the applicant requested another continuance, to July 29th. A motion was made by Mr. Sullivan, seconded by Mr. Mather, to continue the public hearing to Monday, July 29, 2019, at 7:00 p.m. at the Town Hall. The motion carried unanimously.

Continued Notice of Intent – Betty Spring Road, East Freetown

Nyles Zager was present along with applicants Jeffrey DeTerra and Gregory DeTerra. Mr. Zager described the project as a 20-foot-wide extension of Betty Spring Road into a former gravel pit. The Planning Board has already granted waivers related to construction of the road. The Conservation Commission has previously issued an Order of Resource Area Delineation for the property, confirming the wetlands line. A small amount of the proposed cul-de-sac would be within the 100-foot buffer zone. There are no plans to connect to the existing drainage system on Betty Spring Road, as this extension is intended to service only two houses. Silt sock is proposed for erosion control along the roadway.

Mr. Mather asked the distance between stakes for the silt sock. Mr. Zager responded every ten feet. Mr. Mather asked the maximum drop in topography for the roadway, and Mr. Zager responded there is a 6% natural grade presently, with a gradual change to 4%.

A motion was made by Mrs. Ternullo, seconded by Mr. Mather, to close the public hearing. The motion carried unanimously. A motion was made by Mr. Mather, seconded by Mrs. Ternullo, to approve the plans as submitted. The motion carried unanimously.

Notice of Intent – 13 Betty Spring Road, East Freetown

Messrs. Zager, J. DeTerra, and G. DeTerra remained for this hearing, which was for one of two proposes houses on the extension of Betty Spring Road. Mr. Zager stated that house #11 would be entirely outside the 100-foot buffer zone, but the lot for house #13 was partially within the buffer zone. There will be some fill

and grading of the property to raise it above the gravel pit level and provide greater depth to the water table. A small portion of the proposed dwelling house and yard are within the 100-foot buffer zone. The well, septic system, etc., will all be outside the buffer zone. A small portion of the driveway will be within.

Mr. Desmarais asked about roof drainage. Jeffrey DeTerra stated there was an intent to employ a recharge system. Mr. Desmarais asked to have the erosion control extend to wrap around the proposed well, and Mr. Zager stated that would not be a problem.

A motion was made by Mrs. Ternullo, seconded by Mr. Mather, to close the public hearing. The motion carried unanimously. A motion was made by Mr. Mather, seconded by Mrs. Ternullo, to approve the plans as submitted with the conditions that the roof drainage employ a recharge system and the erosion control be extended to wrap around the proposed well. The motion carried unanimously.

Continued Notice of Intent – 6 Quitticus Avenue, East Freetown

Mr. Desmarais called the continued public hearing back to order. Rick Charon was present to discuss the filing, which is for a single-family dwelling with associated utilities. Mr. Charon explained that the grade of the property drops off to the east, toward a perennial stream on the neighboring property. Mr. Desmarais interrupted to ask where information about the stream came from, as it does not appear on any state or local maps that could be located. Mr. Charon believed it came from a USGS map. Mr. Charon continued explaining the property has sandy soils and a high water table, and for this reason there would be no basement under the garage. He also stated there was proposed to be two to two-and-a-half feet of fill in the southeast corner of the property for grading purposes. A letter was also presented, dated 2007, showing the New Bedford Waterworks gave permission to tap one of their lines for drinking water, eliminating the need for a well.

A motion was made by Mr. Mather, seconded by Mrs. Ternullo, to close the public hearing. The motion carried unanimously. A motion was made by Mrs. Ternullo, seconded by Mr. Mather, to approve the plans subject to several minor technical corrections, and to release the Order of Conditions after those corrections were made. The motion carried unanimously.

Continued Notice of Intent – Austin Bog, Dr. Braley Road, East Freetown

Evan Watson was present from Prime Engineering, along with applicant Joseph Shanahan of Clean Energy Collective. Mr. Watson verified that all D.E.P. regulations were complied with, and that any disturbed areas would be loamed and seeded as necessary. Mr. Desmarais acknowledged receipt of a review letter from Environmental Partners Group, and asked if Mr. Watson disputed any of EPG's findings. Mr. Watson stated there were no issues.

A motion was made by Mrs. Ternullo, seconded by Mr. Mather, to close the public hearing. The motion carried unanimously. A motion was made by Mr. Mather, seconded by Mrs. Ternullo, to approve the plans dated May 1, 2019. The motion carried unanimously.

Request for Determination of Applicability – 127 North Main Street (Camp Welch), Assonet

Mr. Desmarais briefly reviewed the work proposed. This had been filed prior to work starting, but as the Conservation Commission had been unable to achieve a quorum in May, the work was authorized to begin on schedule and the filing became an after-the-fact filing. The camp proposed to clean up an old, existing drainage swale, and filed out of an abundance of caution. Mr. Desmarais considered it routine maintenance. A motion was made by Mr. Mather, seconded by Mrs. Ternullo, to issue a negative determination #3. The motion carried unanimously.

Any Other Business Properly Before the Commission

Through oversight, a request to extend an Order of Resource Area Delineation for property between Locust Street and Route 24 was omitted from the agenda. This item was noticed for the May 13th meeting that was cancelled and the minutes of that meeting reflected it would be dealt with at this meeting. A motion was made by Mr. Mather, seconded by Mrs. Ternullo, to extend the ORAD for one year. The motion carried unanimously.

Bills & Minutes

Bills paid since the previous meeting were recounted. The minutes of April 22nd and May 15th were received. A motion was made by Mr. Desmarais, seconded by Mr. Mather, to accept the minutes as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

New Business

On a motion made by Mrs. Ternullo, seconded by Mr. Mather:

- Keven Desmarais was reappointed as single-signature bill payer/payroll signer.
- Keven Desmarais was reappointed to the Soil Conservation Board, term to expire June 30, 2020.
- Danny Rezendes was reappointed to the Town Forest Committee, term to expire June 30, 2022.

Meeting Adjourned

A motion was made by Mrs. Ternullo, seconded by Mr. Mather, to adjourn at 8:25 p.m. The motion carried unanimously.

This is a True Record by me.

Attest: _____
Michael T. McCue, Senior Clerk