

**Freetown Conservation Commission**  
Minutes of the Monday, April 25, 2016 Meeting  
Town Hall – Assonet, Mass.



**Present:** Keven Desmarais, Christopher Mather, Janine Robidoux, and Charles Sullivan.

**Absent:** Maria Ternullo.

**Call to order:** Keven Desmarais called the meeting to order at 7:12 p.m.

**Minutes of Previous Meeting**

A motion was made by Mr. Sullivan, seconded by Mr. Mather, to approve the minutes of April 11th. The motion carried unanimously.

**Notice of Intent – 8 Huron Avenue, East Freetown**

A motion was made by Mr. Sullivan, seconded by Mrs. Robidoux, to waive the reading of the public hearing notice. The motion carried unanimously.

Jen Silva from Outback Engineering was present to discuss the project, which consists of razing the existing single-family dwelling and abandoning the existing septic system and replacing them with a new single-family dwelling and septic system. It was noted that the existing dock and lakeside shed would be remaining and unaltered.

Mr. Desmarais asked if the project had been reviewed by any other departments yet. Ms. Silva said she did not believe so. Mr. Desmarais expressed concerns over the setbacks of the proposed new dwelling and the variances being requested from the Board of Health, and felt that the Building Inspector and Health Agent should review the proposal. He worried that if the project were approved and then other departments made alterations, the Conservation Commission process would have to begin anew.

Mr. Desmarais asked where the spoils would be going, and Ms. Silva was unsure. Mr. Desmarais and Mr. Mather discussed the usual sequence of construction on a project of this type. Consensus was that spoils should be placed near to Huron Avenue, in the location where the words "Existing Septic to be Removed" appear – not where the existing septic is, but where the actual words appear on the plan. A request was made for a note to be added to the plan noting the spoils location.

A question was raised as to whether the Taunton and New Bedford water departments were notified as abutters since the project abuts the pond. It was clarified that neither city appears on the abutters lists, but they technically own the water in the pond. Ms. Silva was advised to notify the city water departments about the project in the same manner other abutters were notified.

Mr. Desmarais noted a site inspection would be held on Sunday, May 15th. It was recommended that the engineers contact the Building and Health departments before coming back to the next hearing.

A motion was made by Mr. Mather, seconded by Mr. Sullivan, to continue the hearing to Monday, May 16th at 7:00 p.m. at the town hall. The motion carried unanimously.

**Continued Notice of Intent – 0 Bullock Rd. & 0 Rear Bullock Rd. ("Ethel S. Austin Lot"), E. Freetown**

Dave Albrecht from Borrego Solar was present to discuss the project. Discussion was held about the site visit conducted the previous morning and differences between flags as shown on the plans and flags as located in the field. Allowances were made for some vandalism (not known if it was intentional or accidental) thought to have resulted from trespassers. Discussion was also held on pruning and felling to be conducted, and

comparisons were drawn to Borrego's previous project on Locust Street. Commissioners asked for a revised set of plans showing contour lines labelled and a grade map that does not have the panel layer turned on.

A note was made that the paper street was proposed to be called Sawmill Lane. Other departments will be consulted to see if this is acceptable. [The naming subject had arisen since there are no available Bullock Road addresses for this property. The paper street was previously approved as such by the Planning Board; see Plan Book 59, Page 1.]

A motion was made by Mr. Mather, seconded by Mr. Sullivan, to continue the hearing to Monday, May 16th at 7:00 p.m. at the town hall. Mr. Hawes, property owner, stated they are up against a May 11th deadline with the state for permitting. The motion was withdrawn. A motion was made by Mr. Mather, seconded by Mr. Sullivan, to continue the hearing to Wednesday, May 4th at 7:00 p.m. at the town hall. The motion carried unanimously.

**Continued Request for Amended Order of Conditions – DeMoranville Farm, East Freetown**

Discussion was held on recent opinions from the D.E.P. regarding whether solar panels are considered pervious or impervious. Current advice appears to be that panels mounted over grass are considered pervious, but panels mounted over gravel are considered impervious. Regardless, all solar panel projects must meet stormwater management requirements.

A motion was made by Mr. Mather, seconded by Mr. Sullivan, to close the public hearing. The motion carried unanimously. A motion was made by Mrs. Robidoux, seconded by Mr. Sullivan, to approve the plans as revised to date. The motion carried unanimously.

**Continued Abbreviated Notice of Resource Area Delineation – South Main Street, Assonet**

A motion was made by Mr. Sullivan, seconded by Mrs. Robidoux, to continue the hearing to Monday, May 16th at 7:00 p.m. The motion carried unanimously.

**Request for Certificate of Compliance – Proprietors' Acres, Section VII, East Freetown**

Mr. Desmarais stated he had visited the site and everything was in compliance. A motion was made by Mr. Sullivan, seconded by Mr. Mather, to issue a complete Certificate of Compliance. The motion carried unanimously.

**Continued Notice of Intent – East Chipaway Road ("Lamb's Village"), East Freetown**

A motion was made by Mr. Sullivan, seconded by Mrs. Robidoux, to continue the hearing to Monday, May 16th at 7:00 p.m. The motion carried unanimously.

**Bills**

No bills were presented.


**Any Other Business Properly Before the Board**

None.

**Meeting Adjourned**

A motion was made by Mr. Mather, seconded by Mrs. Robidoux, to adjourn at 8:42 p.m. The motion carried unanimously.

This is a True Record by me.

Attest:   
Michael T. McCue, Senior Clerk