

Freetown Conservation Commission
Minutes of the Monday, January 9, 2017 Meeting
Town Hall – Assonet, Mass.

RECEIVED
FREETOWN TOWN CLERK

2017 FEB -7 PM 1:43

JLB

Present: Keven Desmarais (arr. 8:34), Christopher Mather (arr. 8:04), Janine Robidoux (arr. 7:00), and Charles Sullivan (arr. 7:50).

Absent: Maria Ternullo.

Call to order: Jan Robidoux called the meeting to order at 8:04 p.m.

Request for Determination of Applicability – 26 Gerard Avenue, East Freetown

Dan Loranger was present to discuss the project. This property was previously issued an Order of Conditions on November 17, 2014, to repair/replace a septic system. The house has been found to be structurally unsound, so Mr. Loranger would like to raze the existing house and remove the existing shed, then erect a new house on the same footprint as the old house and not replace the shed. The existing house was noted to be sixty feet from the top of the bank of Long Pond.

Mr. Loranger asked if he could use straw waddle rather than silt fence as was originally proposed in 2014, and all present felt that was fine. Mr. Sullivan asked if the existing chain link fence would be maintained, and Mr. Loranger stated it would. Mr. Sullivan suggested placing the waddle against the fence for added stability, and Mr. Loranger was fine with that.

The clerk reminded Mr. Loranger that the Order of Conditions expires November 17, 2017. The present application is an RDA because there is already an Order of Conditions in effect. Mrs. Robidoux asked if the Order of Conditions contained any special conditions. The clerk responded no spoils were to be kept on site and the old septic system was to be completely removed.

A motion was made by Mr. Mather, seconded by Mr. Sullivan, to issue a negative determination #3, with the two conditions from the Order of Conditions carried on the new determination. The motion carried unanimously.

Request for Determination of Applicability – 128 Chace Road, East Freetown

The applicant, who was not present, proposes to alter a previously-approved plan by placing fill within 100' of wetlands to reduce the existing bank from a 1:1 ratio to a 2:1 ratio to aid in planting vegetation for bank stabilization.

A motion was made by Mr. Sullivan, seconded by Mr. Mather, to issue a negative determination #3, with any previous conditions still in effect. The motion carried unanimously.

Request for Certificate of Compliance – 5 Gull Lane, Assonet

The current property owner requested a Certificate of Compliance with a finding of Invalid Order of Conditions since the project never commenced. A motion was made by Mr. Sullivan, seconded by Mr. Mather, to issue the Certificate of Compliance. The motion carried unanimously.

Request for Certificate of Compliance – 137 Dr. Braley Road, East Freetown

A Partial Certificate of Compliance was requested for this project, noting that there were three deviations from the approved plans and that grass had not yet grown. Consensus was to postpone this item until January 23rd since the site could not be inspected following the weekend blizzard.

Continued Notice of Intent – Lamb's Village, East Chipaway Road, East Freetown

A motion was made by Mr. Sullivan, seconded by Mr. Mather, to continue the hearing to Monday, February 6, 2017, at 7:00 p.m. at the Town Hall. The motion carried unanimously.

Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of December 19, 2016, were presented. A motion was made by Mr. Sullivan, seconded by Mr. Mather, to approve the minutes as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Bills

A schedule of bills paid since the previous meeting was read.

Any Other Business Properly Before the Commission

Mr. Desmarais arrived partway through this item.

The clerk stated that in a conversation earlier in the evening with Kevin Bernardo, Board of Health Agent, Mr. Bernardo indicated that the state still lists Porter Pasture as a public beach even though there have been no lifeguards for years and the beach sand is no longer replenished like it once was. As a public beach, the water quality has to be tested weekly during the summer months, or the beach has to be closed to swimming. A decision would need to be made by the Conservation Commission whether to close the beach to swimming or test the water quality.

On consensus, the Conservation Commission will budget to test the water quality from Memorial Day through Labor Day.

Meeting Adjourned

A motion was made by Mr. Sullivan, seconded by Mr. Mather, to adjourn at 8:41 p.m. The motion carried unanimously.

This is a True Record by me.

Attest: _____
Michael T. McCue, Senior Clerk