

Plympton Conservation Commission
Minutes of Open Virtual Meeting – July 21, 2020
Held over Zoom Conference Call: zoom.us/j/8802901353
By Telephone: +1 646 558 8656
Meeting ID: 880 290 1353
Password: 948488

Present: Board Members, Rick Burnet, Amy Cronin, Linda Leddy and Mike Matern; and Conservation Agent, Brian Vasa

Guests: Kim and Gerald Davis and Brandon Smith (Borrego Upland Solar project)

Mr. Burnet called the meeting to order at 6:48 pm

1. Hearings. A statement was read by the Chair pertaining to virtual meetings. In accordance with Chapter 53 of the Acts of 2020, Section 17, the following hearings have been automatically tolled and continued to the first hearing date of the Commission following the termination of the State of Emergency, with a tentative date of August 18th as follows:

- NOI Hearing continuation on 0 Maple Street - house construction, 7:00 pm
- NOI Hearing continuation on 399 Main Street - solar project, 7:01 pm
- NOI Hearing continuation on 0 Ring Road - Dunham Property - dual-use solar 7:02
- NOI Hearing continuation on 0 Ring Road - Correira Property - dual-use solar 7:03
- NOI Hearing continuation on 61 Upland Road - habitat enhancement project 7:04

NOI Hearing continuation on 61 Upland Road - habitat enhancement project. The purpose of the hearing was to vote on a peer review consultant; no other testimony was taken. Brandon Smith of Borrego (applicant) was present to discuss the 3rd party expertise needed, relating to 310 CMR. A letter was received by the Conservation Commission from the third-party expert, Lucas Engineering outlining what the review will entail. It was noted that the review should entail making sure there is compliance with the Plympton Bylaw in addition to the Wetlands Act. The consultant fees will be submitted by Borrego. The Commission voted unanimously to hire Lucas for the 3rd-party review.

2. 0 Maple Street. As a result of the reading of the April 21, 2020 minutes, a Commissioner asked if 0 Maple Street could submit another NOI, since it appeared its resubmission was prohibited. Amy Kwesell, Town Counsel will be consulted.

3. Cell Tower across from Sunrise Gardens. As a result of the reading of the June 23, 2020 minutes, it was decided to check with the building department to see if any plans have been submitted. In the future, we may need to send a letter to remind the owner that no construction can be done without coming to the Conservation Commission with a plan to show where the wetlands are.

4. Plans Review Overview. Amy Cronin had suggested that it would be helpful to do a plans overview to refresh how the rules apply in reality. Linda noted there was a class with

MACC given with examples.

5. Remote participation by Commissioners after Emergency. Brian Vasa sent a note to Liz Dennehy, Town Administrator to request that the Commission members be allowed to participate remotely when they are out of town. Liz will check with the Selectmen.

6. Warrants. None.

7. Building Permits. Prior to the meeting, Chairman Rick Burnet signed off on the following building applications:

- 9 Elm Street - Addition
- 50 Upland Road - Enlarge a sundeck

8. Two Brooks Preserve. The Commission is responsible for this project, 140 acres of protected land for passive recreation. A collaborative agreement with the town of Middleborough and the Soule Homestead is being finalized to share a parking lot and other access. Policies will need to be set for shared spaces.

9. Regulations for Earth Removal Bylaw. Brian Vasa has started drafting the regulations for the Earth Removal Bylaw approved at the town meeting in spring 2018. Work is ongoing and will hopefully be finished in the next couple of months.

10. Remaining Considerations (Parking Lot issues). The following are items on which the Commission still needs to act on or consider.

Carey Auto Property. The Commission sent the Building Department a request on June 21, 2018 to determine if sandblasting is occurring, and if so, if it is permitted. Sandblasting is a concern from a wetlands perspective as well. No response yet. A second email was sent from Amy Cronin on 9/17/19.

11. Minutes. The minutes from the April 21, 2020 and June 23, 2020 meetings were approved with amendments.

12. Next Meetings. The next scheduled meeting will be held on August 18th at 6:30 pm. If before that time an administrative meeting needs to be held, it will be properly posted. The typical meetings schedule (1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each month) is temporarily suspended.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 pm by a motion from Ms. Leddy and seconded by Mr. Matern with unanimous approval.

Respectfully recorded and submitted by Amy Cronin