

**Plympton Conservation Commission**  
**Minutes of Open Virtual Meeting – September 22,**  
**2020**  
**Held over Zoom Conference Call: [zoom.us/j/8802901353](https://zoom.us/j/8802901353)**  
**By Telephone: +1 646 558 8656**  
**Meeting ID: 880 290 1353**  
**Password: 948488**

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

**Not Present:** Linda Leddy

**Guests:** Brian Madden of LEC Environmental; Iain Ward of New England Consulting Services; David Kelley of Meridian Associates (all representing Ring Road solar projects); Kim and Gerald Davis (applicants 138 Center Street); Brad Holmes (ECR for 138 Center Street),

Mr. Burnet called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm

**1. 19 Dukes Brook Road Certificate of Compliance (COC) Sign-off.** Brian Vasa, Conservation Agent did a walk-through of the property. During the meeting, the plans were reviewed and it appears they are in compliance. The Commission agreed to provide the COC. Commissioners will go into the Town Hall to sign individually.

**2. Continued 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; all the current hearings must be held within 45 days, and all the newer projects can start after that period. All of the following meetings will be continued as follows:

NOI Hearing continuation on 0 Maple Street - house construction 7:00

NOI Hearing continuation on 399 Main Street - solar project 7:01

NOI Hearing continuation on 61 Upland Road - habitat enhancement project 7:02

**2. NOI Hearing continuation on 0 Ring Road - Dunham Property - dual-use solar.** Brian Madden of LEC Environmental refreshed the Commissioners on the property. It was questioned if one of the concrete pads was located within the 50' no touch; yes. It was questioned if they could be moved further away. The project representatives responded no, because it would require more vegetation removal and would also present more access problems for the cranberry growers; this helps with ease of construction when the pads are located together. Unlike a home site, there wouldn't likely be natural encroachment (enlargement) for a lawn, etc. Agriculture is exempt from a lot of these rules – a farmer could build a building in that exact same spot with a lot of disturbance, and this pad

construction is relatively minimal. The public hearing was closed. The Commission voted unanimously to approve. There will be a limit of work and order of conditions written.

**3. NOI Hearing continuation on 0 Ring Road - Correira Property - dual-use solar.**

Brian Madden of LEC Environmental refreshed the Commissioners on the property. It was noted the Plympton Planning Board was concerned about the screening of the project along Ring Road. The property line ends with the bogs, so there's little opportunity for plantings; the bogs will be altered slightly. The concrete pads were modified slightly (previously developed areas), and using existing utilities along Ring Road; the existing gravel road will be widened. The stormwater management was reviewed by 3<sup>rd</sup> party reviewer, John Chessia. His concern was the placement of the pads in relation to the wetlands. The Commission agreed the placement was a suitable location, in a disturbed area. The public hearing was closed. The Commission voted unanimously to approve. There will be a limit of work and order of conditions written.

**4. Amended Order of Conditions (OoC) Hearing on 138 Center Street - house construction.**

Brad Holmes of ECR provided an overview of the project modifications since the last meeting. The reduced the width of the driveway by 5' and the turnaround was removed so as not to be in the 50' line. It was suggested that three permanent markers (perhaps stone markers) be placed at the 50' line: two points where the 50' line intersects with the driveway; and the corner of the driveway that is in the 50' line. It was noted that the driveway could be drawn to be more user-friendly (gentle sweep), as long as there is no additional land in the 50' no-touch zone. It was agreed that the final plan for the driveway will be viewed by Brian Vasa. The order of conditions will be drafted, and the plans were accepted unanimously.

**5. Additional discussion for reviewing applications during the duration of the State of Emergency.** No further progress was made on this topic.

**6. Potential new conservation commissioners.** No further progress was made on this topic.

**7. Warrants.** None.

**8. Building Permits.** Chair, Rick Burnet signed off on the following permits prior to the meeting:

- 31 West Street - house and garage

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

**10. Minutes.** The minutes from the September 8, 2020 meeting were approved as written.

**11. Next Meetings.** The next scheduled meeting will be held on October 6<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm. The typical meetings schedule (1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays of each month) is subject to be modified, and will be posted.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:03 pm by a motion from Mr. Matern and seconded by Ms. Cronin with unanimous approval.

Respectfully recorded and submitted by Amy Cronin