

Plympton Conservation Commission
Minutes of Open Meeting – February 20, 2018

Present: Board Members Rick Burnet, Amy Cronin, Ami Dion, Linda Leddy, Mike Matern and Marti Nover.

Not Present: John Mathias

Mr. Burnet called the meeting to order at 6:55

Correspondence

- Letter from Goddard Consulting noting that he provides wetland scientist services
- Letter from Eversource providing notification that they will be cutting along the power lines

New Business

1. NOI for Solar Array on 61 Upland Road. David Santos, Prime Engineering presented the NOI on behalf of Borrego Solar. The solar array will involve 5.3 acres of upland clearing, and the facility will encompass a larger acreage, with “minimal grading”. They will tie into existing over existing wires. The hearing is scheduled for March 6th.

2. Warrant Article for Town Meeting Consideration. It was voted that Linda Leddy will contact town Counsel for assistance to write a sentence to add to the Bylaws for a provision to allow the Conservation Commission to fine for violations.

3. Warrant for Payment. It was voted to pay Cape Cod Compact \$750 for half-year dues.

4. Gravel Removal Bylaw. It was agreed that the Conservation Commission will continue to draft the Earth Removal Bylaw and will have a draft in late February.

Old Business

5. Continuation of 129 County Road NOI Hearing. A walkthrough was scheduled for February 15th at 3 pm. Dan Gazzola Sr, owner of 129 County Road left a voicemail message on February 9th for the Chair inviting him to come over to view flooding “from cranberry growers”. The Chair did a drive by of the bogs and none were releasing water; due to snow and rain their bogs were full. On Monday, February 12th, Dan Gazzola left a voicemail cancelling the scheduled site visit, providing no reason. The voicemails were played on speakerphone.

Based on the owner’s call describing the flooding, as well as the plans, it is clear that the mean annual high water markings should be in about another 100’. On the plans, the edge of the brook (the bank) was flagged, not the mean annual high water marking. From google earth, it is evident that clearing has been done in the prohibited riverfront area as well as stockpiled stumps in that area.

Since the owner did not request any continuance, and because the owner refused to pick up certified letters, the hearing was closed. Findings can be made with the information available. During the next meeting, a vote will be taken.

6. 138 Center Street NOI Hearing Continuation. A site visit was completed by the Commission on 02/15/18. Joe Webby presented the plans for the house. Based on the onsite,

we saw groundwater when digging down 12 -16". Immediately below the plow layer was hydric soil. It was noted that there was hydric soil. It was recommended to get a 3rd party opinion from a soil scientist to determine if the upland area is converted wetland. It was also questioned if the ditch was the original stream (from historical maps) and soil reports, and onsite analysis. An estimate will be obtained from Art Alan, Ecotec, Soil Scientist. Is the BVW line correct or not, or is it wetland being farmed. The hearing will be held on March 20th.

7. 45 Palmer Road Violation. The Commission noted that the original permission was given in 2013 for a duplex home and now it is a contractor's yard. They are in violation of what was approved. It was also questioned how it is zoned.

8. Clearing on Palmer Street. Near the Halifax Plympton line on Palmer Street, there is a major clearing area. A letter will be sent to request a site inspection to ensure no clearing has been done near the wetlands.

9. Outback Arms. Gene Beliveau agreed to have the Commission come out for a site visit. It is scheduled for Tuesday, February 27 at 8 am.

Minutes. The minutes from the December 5, 2017 and February 6, 2018 meetings were accepted as written.

Next Meetings: The next meetings will be held on Monday, February 26, 2018, Tuesday, March 6th, 2018 and Tuesday, March 20th at 6:30 pm. The meetings are typically held on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of month.

Respectfully recorded and submitted by Amy Cronin