

Plympton Conservation Commission
Minutes of Open Meeting – August 15, 2017

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

Not Present: John Mathias

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

Correspondence

None discussed.

New Business

1. Concerns with Winnetuxet River levels. Jim Mustacaros of 76 Parsonage Road came in to hear the report on the dam; he had expressed concerns with the low levels of the river. Conservation Commission Chair Rick Burnet reported that the dam at 60 Parsonage road has a hole in it and that's why there's no water.

2. 129 County Road. Neighbors have complained about the clearing in the wetlands. Bob Quinley of 125 County Road appeared and said for the record that he wasn't the one complaining about the clearing; reportedly Mr. Gazzola is visiting all the neighbors to determine who complained. Other neighbors present included HL Reynolds of 121 County Road, and Joel Fanton of 137 County Road.

Rick Burnet visited the property but was not granted access to walk the property. Rick Burnet spoke to Dan Gazzola Jr, and asked that no more work in the wetlands should occur; the stopping of work only lasted a few days. When Dan Gazzola, Sr., property owner spoke with Rick Burnet over the phone, Mr. Gazzola reported that he has hired a specialist to mark the wetlands.

An enforcement order was sent yesterday. Along with the cease and desist order, further conditions discussed tonight were ratified and will be sent tomorrow. The further conditions include an order to mark the wetlands, that the Commission is allowed entry to determine jurisdictional activity, and that the owner comes to the next Conservation Commission meeting to discuss.

Michael Silba, Environmental Police Officer appeared since complaints were made to him. Officer Silba noted that if an inspection is needed, if the owner refused entry, Officer Silba could mandate access. If wildlife habitats are being destroyed or the animals being harassed, that is when it becomes his scope. It was agreed that the neighbors would call Rick Burnet if there's work being done in the back. The Conservation Commission will schedule a site visit.

3. Gun Range on Rt. 58. Members of the Commission attended a Zoning Board of Appeals hearing today. There were concerns that it was being used as a gun range in a residential/agricultural zone. Of interest to the Commission is a large area of land in the back

that allegedly has been cleared in the wetlands on his neighbor's property, and the debris has reportedly been placed in the stream. The owner said he had not cleared the wetlands, but only up to the stream. A site walkthrough will be requested for Thursday at 8 am.

4. 23 Ring Road. Work continues to be done in the wetlands (excavation of a ridge and pushed the material within 100' of the wetlands). A cease and desist will be issued.

5. 273 Main Street. Mr. Jaffarian officially withdrew his NOI.

6. Building Applications Signed – Determined Non-jurisdictional.

23 Upland Road – construction of a 2-car garage and mudroom

70 Winnetuxet Road – construction of a 3-car garage

44 Parsonage Road – barn construction

94 West Street -above ground swimming pool

61 Crescent Street – construction of a new single-family home

Old Business

6. Order of Conditions for 61 Crescent Street, Map 7, Parcel 4, Lot 2-B. Owner Kenneth Thompson appeared and provided stamped plans, as requested by the Commission. Neighbor Dave Gerity expressed concerns with permission being granted to build a house; his concerns were regarding the level of ground water where the home would be placed. Mr. Gerity was advised that an appeal needs to be submitted within 2 weeks; Mr. Gerity noted that he has 10 days to notify the State of his appeal. Mr. Gerity questioned why there was no order that no further grading could be done within the 100' boundary (should the property be sold). It was noted that the order of conditions is only good for 3 years, and any work would need permission from the Commission.

Minutes. The minutes from the October 4, 2016, November 15, 2016 and August 1, 2017 meetings were accepted with amendments.

Next Meetings: The usually scheduled Tuesday, September 5th meeting will be changed due to lack of quorum. The meeting will likely happen on Wednesday, September 6. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 19, 2017 at 6:30 pm.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 pm by a motion from Ms. Leddy and seconded by Ms. Nover, with unanimous approval.

Respectfully recorded and submitted by Amy Cronin