



TOWN OF PELHAM CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Pelham, Massachusetts

Minutes for March 12, 2020

Present: Tilman Lukas, Dana MacDonald, David Gross, Richard Seelig, Meredith Borenstein

Also present: Judith Eiseman (Planning Board), Janice Gifford, Tom Terault

The meeting was brought to order by Chair MacDonald at 7:07 PM.

Beaver Dam Flooding on Packardville Road

Tom Terault reported that a beaver dam by Knights Pond Cemetery near 187 Packardville Road was causing flooding on his property. He noted that a swamp at that location is backed up over 100 feet. The Commission asked if Mr. Terault thought that the water will back up to the road and he replied that it could happen. Chair MacDonald suggested that the Department of Public Works should be notified so that they can survey the site. Commissioner Lukas said that it is possible that the beavers will run out of food and leave of their own accord. If that happens, the dam would breach within a couple of years. Chair MacDonald suggested that the Commission schedule a site visit to determine if an emergency permit to remove the beavers and the dam needs to be issued.

Review Advisory Assessment letter for 8 Amherst Road

Agent Borenstein described her visit to the site. She reported that there are no wetlands at base of slope and that all proposed work is at the top of the slope, near Amherst Road. The Commission suggested that the second to last paragraph in the draft letter about a conservation restriction be removed. The Commission also suggested that the letter should include a sentence indicating that the slope will remain undisturbed during construction.

Motion to approve as amended. Seconded. Approved 4-0.

Solar Bylaw Proposal

Planning Board Chair Eiseman discussed the Planning Board's solar installation bylaw proposal. The current draft of the bylaw limits installations to 5 acres plus sets other restrictions on siting. The Planning Board hopes to put the proposed bylaw on the May town warrant.

Review Advisory Assessment letter for 26 N. Valley Road

The Commission reviewed the advisory assessment letter for 26 North Valley Road drafted by Agent Borenstein.

Motion to approve as written. Seconded. Approved 4-0.

Pelham Conservation Commission minutes

March 12, 2020

Minutes from February 27, 2020

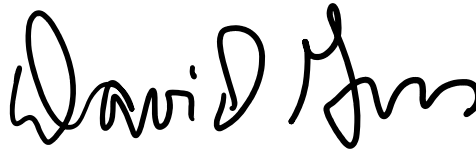
The Commission suggested simple typo corrections to the minutes. Motion to accept the minutes as corrected. Seconded. Approved 4-0.

Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic

Chair MacDonald noted that it may become necessary to avoid in-person meetings in the near future. He moved that the Commission may conduct its meetings via online teleconferencing if it is permitted by state law. Seconded. Approved 4-0.

It was moved, seconded and unanimously approved that the meeting adjourn at 8:42 PM.

Respectfully submitted by David Gross

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Gross", written in a cursive style.