



TOWN OF PELHAM CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Pelham, Massachusetts

Minutes for April 6, 2020

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

The meeting was held online via Zoom due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and state-mandated restrictions on meeting in person. The link to the Zoom meeting was published as part of the regular Commission agenda.

The meeting was brought to order at 7:02 pm.

Minutes from March 12, 2020

It was moved that the minutes from the March 12 Conservation Commission meeting be approved. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously (5-0).

Request for Certificate of Compliance (COC) for 328 Amherst Road

Property owner Pat Millington has a purchase offer on her property at 328 Amherst Road. The Orders of Conditions on work at the property have been followed based on a visit to the site by Chair MacDonald.

Chair MacDonald moved that the Commission approve the Certificate of Compliance for this project under MGL 131 Sec 40, Wetlands Protection Act, and the Town of Pelham Wetlands Bylaw. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

The Commission discussed the procedure for signing the COC. It was noted that the Rhodes Building is closed to the public. Agent Borenstein will leave the printed document in the Conservation Commission mailbox. Commission members will call the town administrator or town clerk when they are in the office to have them bring the COC out for signatures.

It was moved that we eliminate the requirement under the Town of Pelham Wetlands Bylaw that the form requires notarization in light of state-imposed limitations on personal interactions. Seconded and approved unanimously.

Abbreviated Notice of Resource Area Delineation (ANRAD) filing fees

Agent Borenstein reported that TRC corporation from Lowell has enquired about the cost of filing an ANRAD in Pelham. There was discussion that the Commission had, at a previous meeting, set the fee at \$100, but that was not confirmed during the meeting. Chair MacDonald noted that the Commission will require a peer reviewer for the delineation report. Additionally the Commission will require a peer reviewer for soil analysis. Commissioner MacDonalds noted that TRC may not be aware of the Pelham Wetlands Bylaw to which their project must adhere.

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He also noted that the Commission cannot initiate a review process until the state's emergency order is lifted at which point the Commission will have 45 days to complete a review.

Rebuilding the Town of Amherst Water Treatment Plant on Amherst Road

Agent Borenstein and Chair MacDonald met Philip McClellan, a consultant from Tata & Howard, at the Amherst water treatment facility on Amherst Road. The facility needs to be completely rebuilt as it was damaged by lightning and its open wastewater treatment holding ponds do not conform to current standards. The project will replace the entire building and the wastewater from the treatment process will be diverted to the Amherst sewer system for downstream treatment. The old treatment ponds will be filled. The driveway to the facility and the building footprint will not be changed. It was noted that there are wetlands to the south of the project.

Meetinghouse Road Rental Property

The Meetinghouse Road rental property owned by Mrs. Partridge was discussed. Chair MacDonald visited the site and noted that the vehicles that were stored near the stream bank have been moved the driveway. Additionally, the considerable amount of trash also within the buffer zone of the stream has mostly been moved. Bill Pula from the Board of Health has taken the lead in dealing with the cleanup.

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

Respectfully submitted by David Gross

