

**ACUSHNET BOARD OF SELECTMEN
REGULAR MEETING
TOWN HALL MEETING ROOM
JUNE 22, 2023**

**I. CALL TO ORDER
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Present: Chairman Kevin Gaspar, Sr., Selectman David Wojnar, Selectman Robert Hinckley, and Town Administrator James Kelley

Chairman Gaspar welcomed the room to the meeting with the Board of Selectmen on June 22, 2023, 2023 at 12:00 PM EST. Chairman Gaspar asked for a motion to call the June 22, 2023, regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen to order. Selectman Hinckley motioned to call the meeting to order. Selectman Wojnar seconded the motion. Chairman Gaspar asked for those in favor, and all were in favor.

II. NEW BUSINESS

Chairman Gaspar stated that the purpose of the afternoon meeting was to address conservation restrictions regarding the Buzzard's Bay Coalition.

Chairman Gaspar stated that the Acushnet Forest conservation restriction (CR) is part of the Mattapoisett River Valley Drinking Water Aquifer Protection Project, at which that Town Meeting recently supported with CPC funding. He continued to state that the Buzzard's Bay Coalition will own the property, but the Conservation Commission will co-hold the CR with partnering towns. He stated that public access will be allowed for passive recreation.

Chairman Gaspar stated that Tripp's Mill Brook will have a CR over the parcel that allows access to the Acushnet Forest property from Mattapoisett Road. He then stated that the Buzzard's Bay Coalition will own this property, but the Conservation Commission will hold this restriction. He stated that public access will be allowed for passive recreation.

Chairman Gaspar stated that Long Plain Forest mostly resides in Rochester, but 2 acres of it lie in Acushnet. He stated that the Rochester Land Trust will own the property, but the Buzzard's Bay Coalition will hold the CR. He stated that public access will be allowed for passive recreation.

Chairman Gaspar stated that the Conservation Commission met to discuss this topic the night before and vetted the topic well. He recognized Mr. Rocha and Mr. Decker for their work.

Mr. Decker spoke at the podium about the properties. He stated that all of the discussed properties reside in Acushnet and reiterated the access from Mattapoisett Road to the Acushnet Forest portion. He also spoke briefly on the Red Brick Farm that leads into Mattapoisett. He stated that the approval process of these CR's were necessary for the upcoming closing on these properties.

Chairman Gaspar asked about surveying and encroachments of these properties. Mr. Decker stated that the survey work has been complete. He spoke that the Buzzard's Bay Coalition will be in contact with the abutters about their purchases. Selectman Hinckley stated that he is in support of the project, but wants to make sure that neighbors are not disturbed with these projects. Mr. Decker stated that their plans make the public access as little intrusive as possible. He continued to state that the 80 acres of forestry was planned to be developed before the Buzzard's Bay Coalition purchased the land. Selectman Wojnar stated that he was in favor of everything listed.

Chairman Gaspar asked if there was a motion. Selectman Hinckley stated that he had three motions. He first motioned to accept the CR for Tripp's Mill Brooks project. Selectman Wojnar seconded the motion. Chairman Gaspar asked for all in favor, and all were in favor. Motion passed.

Selectman Hinckley motioned to accept the CR for the Red Brick Farm West project. Selectman Wojnar seconded the motion. Chairman Gaspar asked for all those in favor, and all were in favor. Motion passed.

Selectman Hinckley motioned to accept the CR for the Long Plain Forest project. Selectman Wojnar seconded the motion. Chairman Gaspar asked for all those in favor, and all were in favor. Motion passed.

III. SELECTMAN ANNOUNCEMENTS

IV. FUTURE BUSINESS

V. ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Gaspar asked if there was a motion to adjourn the June 22, 2023 Selectmen's Meeting. Selectman Hinckley motioned to adjourn the June 22, 2023 Selectmen's Meeting, and Selectman Wojnar seconded the motion. Chairman Gaspar asked for those in favor, and all were in favor. Meeting adjourned.

Approved by:

Kevin A. Gaspar, Chairman

Robert Hinckley, Member

David Wojnar, Member