



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Town of Acushnet
Conservation Commission
122 Main Street, Acushnet MA 02743
Tel: 508 998-0202 Fax: 508 998-0203

Robert Rocha, Chairman
Ted Cioper, Vice-Chair
Marc Brodeur
Everett Philla
Heidi Pelletier
Evelyn Bouley

Merilee Kelly, Conservation Agent
Christine Lagasse, Senior Clerk

MINUTES OF November 14, 2017 CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEETING

Present: Robert Rocha
Marc Brodeur
Everett Philla
Evelyn Bouley

Absent:
Ted Cioper
Heidi Pelletier

Merilee Kelly, Agent
Christine Lagasse, Senior Clerk

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I. Meeting called to Order at 6:05 P.M.

II. Minutes for approval:

October 24, 2017 - A motion was made by Everett Philla to approve the minutes of October 24. The motion was seconded by Evelyn Bouley. Motion passed 3-0.

III. Meeting Mail: (none)

IV. Appointments: (none)

V. Old Business:

There is still an opening on the Commission for a new member; anyone interested should send a letter of interest to either the Selectmen or Conservation Agent Merilee Kelly.

NOI – Koska / Park Dr/Deep Brook Dr (SE001-0523) – A Notice of Intent was filed by John Koska for property located at Park Drive & Deep Brook Drive, Map 17 Lots 66-84 & Map 18 Lots 12R-U, 18, 18F-G. The applicant proposes to construct two (2) subdivision roadways for the development of a fifteen (15) lot single-family residential subdivision within the 100 foot buffer zone to a bordering vegetated wetland. The applicant is represented by G.A.F. Engineering. Revised plan name “Deep Brook Estates a Definitive Subdivision Plan off Park Drive Acushnet, Massachusetts”. Plan dated 10/24/17.

Bob Rogers of G.A.F. Engineering said he presented the revised plan dated 10/24/17 at the last hearing which showed the majority of the changes made, including the two (2) existing culverts and the replication area. Both were discussed at the last hearing. The hearing was continued until another site visit was done by the Commission members who could attend. Mr. Rogers and Commission members looked at the location of the detention basins, the replication areas, and the culverts. Also walked most of the site. Mr. Rogers said he hoped the Commission is prepared to vote on the Order of Conditions with whatever special conditions are deemed appropriate. He mentioned that he will be meeting with the Planning Board on Thursday, November 16, 2017. If the Commission votes to approve the Order of Conditions tonight he will submit the same plans for the Planning Board meeting. The plans have not changed since the last meeting with the Commission.

Agent Kelly said the additional site visit clarified things and helped to visualize where the lots will be. Evelyn Bouley commented it was a very good design. Ms. Bouley said she would like to see the brook untouched and protected. Everett Philla said he would like to vote on the roadways and detention basins and to consider each house lot on its own, as they did on Blacksmith Drive.

The Commission discussed special conditions to include in the Order of Conditions. A motion was made by Everett Philla to issue an Order of Condition with the following special conditions:

- All lots must obtain a permit from Conservation before ANY WORK begins
- Contact Conservation Agent before any work begins
- No work is to begin until all wetland flags are up
- Stockpiling of soils or other materials shall be in upland areas only
- Storage and fueling of machinery shall be done in upland areas only
- Catch basins and culverts shall be maintained regularly by owner/contractor until Town accepts roadways
- In the event of culvert/pipe failure during construction of roadways, detention basins or on any lot, owner/contractor is to replace with open box culvert according to stream crossing standards

The motion was seconded by Marc Brodeur. Motion passes 4-0.

VI. New Business:

RDA – Buzzards Bay Coalition/ Keating Woods, 73 South Main St. – A Request for Determination of Applicability was filed by the Buzzards Bay Coalition for property located at 73 South Main Street, Map 25, Lots 36 and 39. The applicant proposes to install trail improvements for public access and conduct habitat management activities, including removal of invasive species and impacted trees and shrubs, within a wooded area containing bordering vegetated wetland and the associated 100 foot buffer zone. Plan name “Keating Woods Trails and Habitat Management Plan”, plan dated 11/2//17.

Sara da Silva Quintal, Restoration Ecologist with the Buzzards Bay Coalition explained the project in detail to the Commission. It is on the twenty-two (22) acres of wooded lands near the Acushnet River with frontage on South Main Street. Ms. Quintal stated the primary goal for the property is to protect it and make sure that it is permanently conserved. The Commission recently signed a Conservation Restriction on this property.

Ms. Quintal expressed that the Coalition is interested in improving the habitat diversity of the property and making it accessible to the public with trails. She indicated on the plan the proposed trail network. There will be approximately 3,500 linear feet of trails. Ms. Quintal proceeded to explain what would be needed in order to make the trails: clearing of invasive species, removal of some trees and shrubs, etc. She specified what new plants and seed would be added. The work needs to be completed by the end of the year, as the grant money for the project will expire by the end of the year. Agent Kelly asked if the planting of the new plants and seed will be done this year. Ms. Quintal stated it would be a dormant planting and would be completed by the end of the year.

A motion was made by Marc Brodeur to issue a negative determination, and was seconded by Everett Philla. Motion passes 4-0.

Agent Updates:

- Agent Kelly attended a class on a stormwater tool that the EPA has developed.
- There should be a RDA coming in for the next meeting.
- There was an article in the Neighborhood News about the Pollinator Garden. We’ve received a couple calls from individuals interested in helping out with the garden.
- Currently we have no timeline as to when the Conservation Department will be moving into the Parting Ways Building; probably it will be this winter.

VII. Future Business:

- The next meeting of the Conservation Commission will be on Tuesday, November 28, 2017

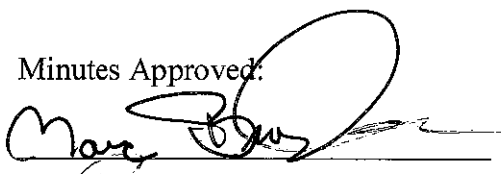
VIII. Meeting adjourned at 6:34 P.M.

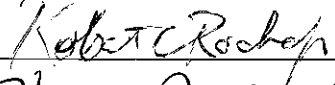
A motion to adjourn was made by Everett Philla. The motion was seconded by Marc Brodeur. Motion passed 3-0.

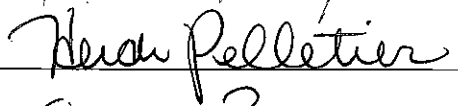
Respectfully submitted:

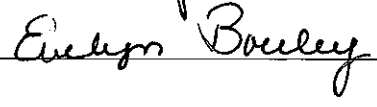
Christine Lagasse, Senior Clerk
Acushnet Conservation Commission

Minutes Approved:









Date: 11-28-17

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