



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Town of Acushnet

## Conservation Commission

122 Main Street, Acushnet MA 02743

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2018 FEB 28 AM 11:38

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 February 13, 2018 CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEETING

**Present:** Robert Rocha  
Everett Philla  
Marc Brodeur  
Heidi Pelletier  
Evelyn Bouley

**Absent:**  
Ted Cioper

Merilee Kelly, Agent  
Christine Lagasse, Senior Clerk

#### I. Meeting called to Order at 6:02 P.M.

#### II. Minutes for approval:

December 26, 2017 - A motion was made by Heidi Pelletier to approve the minutes of December 26. The motion was seconded by Everett Philla. Motion passed 3-0.

January 23, 2018 - A motion was made by Everett Philla to approve the minutes of January 23. The motion was seconded by Marc Brodeur. Motion passed 4-0.

#### III. Meeting Mail:

- Eversource Energy: Right-of-way (ROW 141) Maintenance Activities
- South Coast Rail Draft – Draft Supplement Environmental Impact Report
- Eversource Energy: Line 112 – Reconductoring and Structure Replacement Project

Anyone who is interested on the above topics can view the mailings in the Acushnet Conservation Office.

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. Agent Kelly informed the Commission she had received a letter of interest from a resident. The Selectmen are reviewing the letter of interest and should be making a decision soon on the appointment.

VI. New Business:

**NOI – Arruda / 148 & 158 Peckham Road (SE001-0526)** – A Notice of Intent was filed by Joshua Arruda for property located at 148 & 158 Peckham Road, Map 16, Lot(s) 7, 8 & 9. The applicant proposes construction of a common driveway with associated utilities, grading and drainage located within the 100 ft. buffer zone of a bordering vegetated wetland. The applicant is represented by Zenith Consulting Engineering, LLC. Plan name is “Special Permit Plan for a Common Driveway off Peckham Road, Acushnet, MA”. Plan dated 2/1/18.

Jamie Bissonnette of Zenith Consulting Engineering explained the Notice of Intent filing to the Commission. He said what is being proposed is a 24 foot wide common driveway which will primarily be gravel with small apron of pavement at the entrance; with associated drainage and 2 areas of crossings. Mr. Bissonnette indicated on the plan where the wetlands will be impacted and also where the replication area will be.

For the crossings, what is being proposed are two extra-large open-bottom box culverts and two that use 24” ABS pipes with rip rap spillways on the ends to handle drainage on other parts of site. Mr. Bissonnette said the project will catch runoff from the driveway into a forebay-like structure into an infiltration basin with an emergency overflow. He indicated where the houses will be constructed on the property based on the perc test results and upland areas. The septic systems will be placed in the general vicinity based on the perc results. Mr. Bissonnette spoke to the fact that the houses’ locations could change. The houses will be constructed with roof infiltration systems for the corresponding house sizes to handle the 100 year storm, based on 9 inches of flow.

Mr. Bissonnette indicated a drainage catchment, which he explained is basically a level spreader to catch some of the water from the gravel driveway. Then it will be sent through a rip rap apron.

He then proceeded to the wetlands sheet of the project. He reviewed the 1<sup>st</sup> crossing of the plan with the Commission. He said what is being proposed is a retaining wall structure with minimal grading on the sides. There will be enough room for a fire truck to get through as it will be 20 feet wide. In the back of the property there will also be a retaining wall of 20 feet in width and the high point will be at a box culvert. The planting scheme will be to set the obligate species on the outside and work its way to the facultative wet as it gets closer towards the upland areas. Mr. Bissonnette also reviewed the erosion control plan.

Agent Merilee Kelly questioned Mr. Bissonnette on the page of the plan that showed the homes and the 2 crossings; that the pipes are being placed in low spots. Mr. Bissonnette explained the swales will guide water around the houses and create a low spot to collect water and send it to the other side of the road. Robert Rocha asked if the well that is being installed is for everyone's purpose or just for one of the houses. Mr. Bissonnette said it was just for that one house; each house will have its own well.

Agent Kelly asked about the fill that will be brought in and how much will be used. Mr. Bissonnette explained how the fill will be used to grade the homes. She also questioned the retaining walls and how high they will be. Mr. Bissonnette responded by saying the walls will be approximately 4-4 ½ feet tall and will have guard rails also. Evelyn Bouley wanted to know, because the land will be so high on one side of the driveway if the fill would erode. Mr. Bissonnette said the slope would be about 8.3%, it would be at a pitch like a wheel chair ramp.

Marc Brodeur stated he would need to abstain from any voting on this project as he knows the family doing the project.

Mr. Rocha wanted to know where the silt sock will be placed while the work is being done. Mr. Bissonnette reviewed the placement of the silt sock and also stated it would be up to the discretion of Agent Kelly whether silt sock or silt fencing will be used, dependent on the weather conditions. Agent Kelly was concerned about erosion control being right on the wetland line. Mr. Bissonnette said he would not be opposed to any suggestions Agent Kelly might have. Mr. Bissonnette said he only wants to get the water going to where he wants it to go and is not building the homes yet.

Donna Lopes (abutter) of 178 Peckham Road said she had Mr. Bill Madden from G.A.F. Engineering review the plans; she handed out to the Commission the comments and recommendations Mr. Madden gave to her. Ms. Lopes is concerned with the runoff from the driveway. Agent Kelly questioned Mr. Bissonnette regarding the piles of fill already on the property; was to be used for this project? Mr. Bissonnette said he did not know. Ms. Lopes voiced her concern to the Commission in regards to the piles of fill already on the property. She said it has been very noisy and dusty with trucks coming in and dropping off fill onto the property. Ms. Lopes also questioned how the fill will be brought in to the project site. Agent Kelly commented to Mr. Bissonnette the fill currently on the property is not clean fill. Doris Arruda of 148 Peckham Road stated the piles were from Eversource when they were doing their project. Ms. Lopes interjected by saying trucks from different companies were dumping there. Mr. Rocha said all the piles will have to go if the project being proposed is approved.

Mr. Rocha said it would be beneficial to the Commission and Ms. Lopes if this issue could be discussed in the next meeting; as a vote cannot be made today; the DEP file number has not been issued yet.

Marc Brodeur stated that a filling station will need to be established for equipment working on the site. Mr. Bissonnette said something will be figured out for the filling station.

Agent Kelly had an additional question for Mr. Bissonnette:

- At the corner of the driveway, where does the run-off go?
- Will some of it go into the replication area?
- For watering the replication area will it be from a truck or well water?

A motion to continue till next meeting February 27, 2018 was made by Everett Philla and was seconded by Heidi Pelletier. Motion passes 5-0.

**Agent Updates:**

Ethics packages were given to Agent Kelly from the Town Clerk's Office. She handed out the packets to Commission member in attendance.

**VII. Future Business:**

- The next meeting of the Conservation Commission will be on Tuesday , February 27, 2018

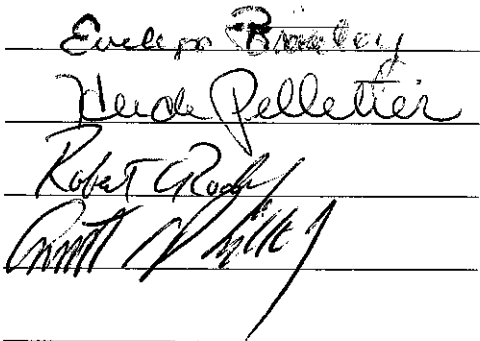
**VIII. Meeting adjourned at 6:37 P.M.**

A motion to adjourn was made by Everett Philla. The motion was seconded by Evelyn Bouley. Motion passed 5-0.

Respectfully submitted:

Christine Lagasse, Senior Clerk  
Acushnet Conservation Commission

Minutes Approved:



Date: 2-27-18