



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

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MINUTES OF April 26, 2017 CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEETING

Present: Robert Rocha
Everett Philla
Heidi Pelletier
Evelyn Bouley

Absent:
Ted Cioper
Marc Brodeur

Merilee Kelly, Agent
Christine Lagasse, Senior Clerk

I. Meeting called to Order at 7:00 P.M.

II. Minutes for approval:

April 12, 2017 - A motion was made by Everett Philla to approve the minutes of April 12. The motion was seconded by Heidi Pelletier. Motion passed 4-0.

III. Meeting Mail: (none)

IV. Appointments: (none)

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V. Old Business:

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

NOI – Nichols / 96 Ward Street (SE001-0516) – A Notice of Intent was filed by Gary & Catherine Nichols for property located at 96 Ward Street, Map 24, Lot(s) 416 & 417. The applicant proposes to construct a single family dwelling, garage, driveways, fill and grade, install a septic system, water service and other utilities, within the 100 foot buffer zone to a bordering vegetated wetland. The applicant is represented by Alan Ewing Engineering, Inc. Plan name "Sewage Disposal Plan of Land". Revised plan dated 3-30-2017.

Meeting was continued from April 12, 2017.

Al Ewing stated the last meeting had been continued because there was a concern there might be some wetlands to the left of the property. Mr. Ewing stated that he was able to obtain a plan of record for when the house next door was constructed four (4) years ago, and, it did not show any wetlands on that plan. Mr. Ewing also stated that his wetlands person did not find any wetlands. A copy of that plan was given to Agent Kelly.

Agent Kelly did not agree with that plan. She mentioned that there is a flag hanging at the end of the driveway. Mr. Ewing questioned Agent Kelly if the flag at the end of the driveway was just a common marker. Agent Kelly explained that the area looked like isolated wetlands. Agent Kelly pointed out on the plan it was not connected to the other wetlands area. She stated that it was not jurisdictional. Robert Rocha explained on isolated wetlands has no buffer zone.

Robert Rocha commented that he was irritated by the fact that Mr. Nichols did work on the property; he put in fill before the project was approved by the Commission. Mr. Rocha stated it showed a lack of respect for the process. He explained to Al Ewing that Mr. Nichols should have come before the Commission before starting any work on the project.

Mr. Rocha agreed that west of the property is isolated wetlands subject to flooding. Also, that the other flag line is off the property just to the north.

Everett Philla made a motion for a positive determination; it was second by Evelyn Bouley. Motion passes 4-0.

RDA – Oliveira/ North Main Street – A Request for Determination of Applicability was filed by Ronald Oliveira for property located on North Main Street, Map 4, Lot(s) 39H. The applicant proposes to construct a new septic system and dwelling on an existing retreat lot. The applicant would like to know whether the work depicted on plan(s) referenced is subject to the Wetlands Protection Act. The applicant is represented by Romanelli Associates, Inc./S&K Engineering, LLC. Plan dated 3-27-2017.

John Romanelli explained the continuance of the filing due to concerns of the Commission regarding the proposed driveway and runoff that it could create. Mr. Romanelli stated that he sat down with Kevin Silva the Engineer and designer of the project to discuss the driveway. Kevin Silva added to the plan a series of check dams to slow down the water that would come off of the driveway. Also, in the new design there would also be an area of riprap to diffuse the runoff. Mr. Romanelli did confirm that the driveway would be of gravel material. Mr. Romanelli also stated that he had his personnel hang all the remaining flags.

Evelyn Bouley stated that such a steep driveway would be difficult to plow in the winter months when it snows. Mr. Romanelli concurred that yes it will be. Mr. Rocha asked if some sort of alarm will be installed on the septic pump tank in case of a problem or pump failure. Mr. Romanelli stated there would be some sort of alarm on the pump. Agent Kelly questioned if the existing driveway will get any wider than what it is now. Mr. Romanelli said that it will remain the same width. Agent Kelly also was verified with Mr. Romanelli the placement of the check dams, that they will be off to the sides of the driveway and not into the driveway. Mr. Romanelli confirmed they will be off to the sides of the driveway.

A motion was made by Heidi Pelletier to issue a Negative determination, and was second by Evelyn Bouley. Motion passes 4-0.

VI. **New Business:** (none)

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OFFICE OF THE
CLERK OF THE
ACUSHNET
CONSERVATION
COMMISSION

Agent Updates:

The Town wide clean-up was a success. Participants included the Boy Scouts, Cub Scouts, Ms. New Bedford and several parents and towns people participated.

Next was a discussion of possibly changing the time that the Commission meets. It was agreed upon to change the meeting time to 6 p.m. The Commission hopes that the time change will possibly draw in individuals to join the Commission. The time change will run through the summer and at that time it will be re-addressed.

Future Business:

- The next meeting of the Conservation Commission will be on Wednesday, May 10, 2017

VIII. Meeting adjourned at 7:18 P.M.

A motion to adjourn was made by Everett Philla. The motion was seconded by Evelyn Bouley. Motion passed 4-0.

Respectfully submitted:

Christine Lagasse, Senior Clerk
Acushnet Conservation Commission

Minutes Approved:

Evelyn Bouley
Robert C. Rochefort
Robert C. Rochefort

Date: 5-10-17 5-24-17