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The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Town of Acushnet
Conservation Commission
130 Main Street, Acushnet MA 02743
Tel: 508.998.0202

Robert Rocha, Chairman
Ted Cioper, Vice-Chair
Everett Philla
Heidi Pelletier
Evelyn Bouley
Paul Valente

Merilee Kelly, Conservation Agent
Joann DeMello, Senior Clerk

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**MINUTES OF January 14, 2020
CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEETING**

Present: Robert Rocha, Chairman
Everett Philla
Heidi Pelletier
Paul Valente

Absent: Ted Cioper
Evelyn Bouley

Merilee Kelly, Agent
Joann DeMello

I. Meeting called to order at 6:01 p.m.

II. Minutes for approval:

A motion was made by E. Philla to approve the minutes of December 23, 2019. P. Valente seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0.

III. Meeting Mail: None.

IV. Appointments: None.

V. Old Business:

NOI – Town of Acushnet DPW SE001-0541 A Notice of Intent was filed by the Town of Acushnet DPW for property located on Hamlin Street, Map 23 & 24, lots 22, 26, 26A and 18-26, 23A, 23C, 23D, 25 A-C. The applicant proposes to dig a trench and lay a pipe with catch basins and manholes to relieve drainage issues on Hamlin Street within the 100' buffer zone to a bordering vegetated wetland. The engineer has requested additional time for project review. E. Philla made a motion to continue to the next meeting. H. Pelletier seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0.

VI. New Business:

NOI – Alan Clapp – Acushnet Solar, LLC / 1050 Main Street SE001-0543 A Notice of Intent was filed by Alan Clapp – Acushnet Solar, LLC for property located at 1050 Main Street, Map 7, Lots 24 & 24B. The applicant proposes to construct a large scale solar project on a portion of the 1050 Main Street property. The solar panel system will be located in the central upland portion of the site with driveway access onto Main Street within the 100' buffer zone of a bordering vegetated wetland. Steven Gioiosa of SITEC, Inc. was present to discuss this project and presented the Commission with the green cards. Alan Clapp of Nexamp was also present. The Commission conducted a site visit on Saturday. Mr. Gioiosa stated there are 3 separate wetland areas, all have been delineated. The work at its closest point will be approximately 50 feet to the wetlands. Equipment pads will be placed about 200 feet away from the wetland area. A 7 foot fence will be placed around the entire project but will not obstruct wildlife at ground level. The driveway will be gravel. The stormwater management area will have a berm and wiring and electrical will be underground. The erosion control is depicted on the plan. Construction shall last approximately 3 to 4 months. Chairman Rocha asked about the wiring, will it be in a conduit? Mr. Gioiosa replied yes. Agent Kelly asked what will be used for groundcover? Mr. Gioiosa said the seed mix is listed on the plan and is used specifically for solar panel projects. Agent Kelly asked can you add in something for the pollinators? Mr. Clapp stated they have some clover mixed in, the plan does not reflect it but he would like to use it. Mr. Valente asked will the stormwater collection be natural? Mr. Gioiosa said yes, it's a natural flow- shallow in depth and not holding water for a long period of time. Irene Pires 1020 Main Street had some flooding concerns, street already has a puddling problem and will the run off from the panels add to this concern? Mr. Gioiosa said the water flow is managed and will be contained with no change in the drainage pattern. Maria Goncalves 990 Main Street asked about the cables being placed close to the water table. Mr. Gioiosa said they have done test pits out there and used the data for the design. Chairman Rocha said water cannot be increased onto neighboring properties. M. Goncalves asked what the panels constructed of? Mr. Clapp said they do not contain hazardous material but do contain a small amount of lead. Mr. Gioiosa said there will be a knox box located on the service drive for firefighters/emergency personnel. E. Philla made a motion to issue a positive order of conditions. P. Valente seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0.

VII. Agent Updates:

Agent Kelly had the following updates:

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- Agent Kelly informed the Commission there will be ½ day conference on Saturday, February 1, 2020 put on by the Southeastern Massachusetts Land Trust to be held at the Upper Cape Technical High School.
- Complaint regarding 123 Perry Hill Road – Antone Faria. Mr. Faria was sent a letter from Agent Kelly to do a site visit on Saturday, Mr. Faria did not allow access to the property. The complaint is Mr. Faria has been filling in wetlands. Mr. Faria requested a copy of the complaint from Agent Kelly and he will forward it to his attorney. Agent Kelly said that Mr. Faria falls under the Right To Farm Act but filling in a wetland is not allowed.
- Complaint regarding Porter Street – Antone DeMello. Mr. DeMello was sent a letter from Agent Kelly to do a site visit on Saturday. The Commission was able to view the tree cutting and water flow diversion. Agent Kelly said that Mr.

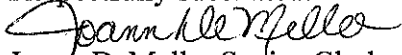
DeMello spoke to her and said his son is a landscaper and he hasn't been cutting any trees down recently. The Commission noticed the water diversion/stoppage. Mr. DeMello claims he wanted to build a pond for his exotic birds. Chairman Rocha said this work would need a filing. Agent Kelly to send Mr. DeMello an application for an RDA.

- Complaint regarding 2 Tillie Way – Aaron Carvalho. Agent Kelly sent a letter to do a site visit on Saturday. Agent Kelly said the complaint regarded large amounts of fill in the wetlands. Agent Kelly to send a certified letter for the next site visit.
- MACC Spring Conference will be held on February 29, 2020 at Holy Cross College.
- The office will be closed on January 28 and January 29, 2020. Merilee and Joann to attend Excel training classes.

Meeting adjourned at 6:55 P.M.

A motion to adjourn was made by P. Valente. The motion was seconded by H. Pelletier.
Motion passed 4-0.

Respectfully submitted:


Joann DeMello, Senior Clerk
Acushnet Conservation Commission

Minutes Approved:

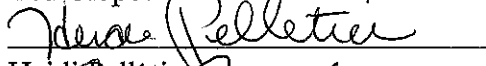

Robert Rocha

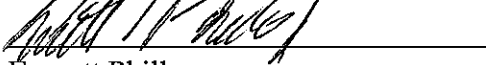
absent

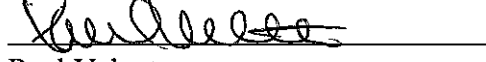
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Everett Philla


Paul Valente

Date: February 25, 2020

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