



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

Robert Rocha, Chairman
Everett Philla, Vice- Chairman
Heidi Pelletier
Evelyn Bouley
Paul Valente
Richard Pimentel
Ryan Rezendes

Merilee Kelly, Conservation Agent
Joann DeMello, Senior Clerk

MINUTES OF JANUARY 26, 2021
CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEETING

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Present: Robert Rocha
Everett Philla
Heidi Pelletier
Richard Pimentel
Ryan Rezendes

Merilee Kelly, Agent
Joann DeMello

Absent: Paul Valente
Evelyn Bouley

Alex Weisheit, Town Counsel KP Law
Luke Legere, PJK Counsel
Patrick Hannon, Assistant Health Agent
Joseph Correia, Health Agent
Michael Toohill, Coneco Engineers & Scientists
Douglas Vigneau, PJK Environmental Compliance Manager
James Tetreault, Thompson-Liston Associates, Inc.
Charles Caron, Caron Environmental
Robert Robinson, PJK Vice President Aggregates
Mike Warner, PJK Site Manager
Amy Ball, Horsley Witten Group, Inc. – Senior Wetlands Scientist
Michelle West, Horsley Witten Group, Inc. – Project Manager

I. Meeting called to order at 6:02 p.m. held via zoom.

II. Minutes for approval:

A motion was made by E. Philla to approve the minutes of January 12, 2021. R. Pimentel seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

III. Meeting Mail: None.

IV. **Appointments:** None.

V. **Old Business:**

NOI – P.J. Keating Company / 72 South Main Street SE 001-0558 - A Notice of Intent was filed by P.J. Keating Company for property located at 72 South Main Street, Map 15, Lots 15 – 18. The applicant proposes to grade the eastern slopes of the existing silt piles located at the rear of the P.J. Keating quarry property. Applicant is represented by Douglas Vigneau of P.J. Keating Company. Plan name is Site Plan of Land at 72 South Main Street in Acushnet, MA, dated December 21, 2020. Agent Kelly along with Patrick Hannon and Mike Toohill did a site visit today and viewed a large amount of runoff from the silt piles into the wetland. Attorney Weisheit would like the delineation to be peer reviewed. Mr. Hannon said the wind blows the dust from the top of the piles; his suggestion would be to reduce the height of the silt piles and move them out of the buffer zone. James Tetreault explained the slope and stabilization process. Mr. Hannon stated that the stabilization process effort failed when they hydroseeded the other pile. Agent Kelly asked if the hydroseed used will remain the same as the last time? Mr. Vigneau said no it is a different formulation. Attorney Weisheit suggested the peer review again for accuracy regarding the delineation and what fill has found its way in the resource area. Charles Caron said the line is fairly distinctive, 1 area has some changes since last delineation. Mr. Hannon thru the Chairman addressed Mr. Vigneau regarding Michael Toohill from Coneco Engineers and Scientists regarding his qualifications for peer review. Attorney Legere stated removing silt from the wetland could do more harm than good. Mr. Caron suggested possible hand removal. Attorney Weisheit and Mr. Vigneau are in agreement to have the consultants determine to what extent the silt needs to be removed safely. Mr. Toohill, Mr. Caron and Agent Kelly to form the team to do the investigation. Mr. Vigneau would also like to be involved. Flag line and silt runoff to be reviewed. Mr. Vigneau has requested to continue this meeting to February 23, 2021. Chairman Rocha asked if there are any questions from the audience. None. E. Philla made a motion to continue the hearing until February 23, 2021. H. Pelletier seconded the motion. Roll call vote Ryan – Yes, Rick – Yes, Everett – Yes, Heidi – Yes, Chairman, Rocha – Yes. Motion passed 5-0.

VI. **New Business:**

NOI – Town of Acushnet DPW – Guillotte Street / SE 001-0559 A Notice of Intent was filed by the Town of Acushnet DPW for property located on Guillotte Street, Map 25, lot 10AK. The applicant proposes to construct two stormwater retrofit practices (dry swale & sand filter) on Guillotte Street and in River View Park adjacent to the Acushnet River with the primary purpose of reducing bacteria and nitrogen loading into Buzzards Bay by implementing the proposed stormwater retrofits. The applicant is represented by Michelle West of Horsley Witten Group, Inc. Plan name is “Buzzards Bay Watershed Stormwater Retrofits” dated December 31, 2020. Amy Ball of Horsley Witten Group was present to discuss the project. The project is intended to improve stormwater runoff and water quality, increase habitat value for fish and wildlife and improve recreation opportunities. A. Ball said the project is grant funded by the Buzzards Bay National Estuary Program. Construction will consist of a sand filter and dry swale which will be

designed in accordance with stormwater standards. Mitigation measures include plantings near the resource area down gradient from the sand filter. Agent Kelly would like to have an explanation on how the sand filter works. Michelle West of Horsley Witten Group shared an image of the proposed drainage. A diversion structure will be installed in the outfall pipe to divert flow from small storm events into the sand filter. As for large storm events, flows will by-pass the sand filter and continue to the outfall pipe. This will allow for treatment and removal of pollutants from smaller storms. The sand filter works with sand media and is also planted with native species to absorb some of the nutrients. Agent Kelly asked how often does it need to be cleaned? Ms. West said the sand filter itself should not need to be maintained except after a large storm. Maintenance 2 to 4 times a year is considered regular maintenance, after 20 years it may need to be refreshed. Chairman Rocha asked will the DPW handle the yearly maintenance? Agent Kelly said the DPW will handle it. Joe Correia does not want to see any ponds or filters hold any water due to mosquito control. M. West said you will see water but it would dissipate within 24 hours, surface water should not be held. Mr. Correia asked how far above high tide mark is the bottom of the filter. M. West replied it is close to the elevation of the mean high. Agent Kelly asked where is the swale being placed? M. West said it is alongside the road in the right of way. Paul Santos – abutting neighbor Guillotte Street, has concerns about drainage. Also some flooding at the end of Guillotte Street – he noticed since the new walking area has been constructed the area floods, can someone from the Town look at it when it rains heavily? R. Pimentel asked if trees are proposed? A few river birches can be replaced and are proposed. R. Rezendes asked what is the construction time for the sand filter? M. West said depending on the weather and time of the year variables..approximately 2 months. R. Rezendes commented that the existing erosion control (silt fence) isn't effective. He would like to see a turbidity curtain used during construction or something similar. M. West said a silt fence is being used now, a silt sock is proposed with plantings and they will consider a turbidity curtain. Chairman Rocha asked any comments from the audience? None. R. Rezendes made a motion to issue a positive order of conditions with the condition of a turbidity curtain be considered. E. Philla seconded the motion. Roll call vote Ryan - Yes; Everett - Yes; Heidi – Yes; Rick – Yes; Chairman Rocha – Yes. Motion passed 5-0.

VII. Discussion:

Wetlands By-Law Chairman Valente was not present at this meeting. Table to next meeting.

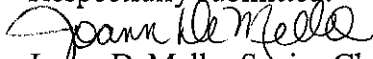
Hunting on Conservation Land Agent Kelly said she has not received any feedback, she will get an update. E. Philla would like to reach out to the Board of Health also regarding deer ticks and disease.

VIII. Agent Updates: Agent Kelly is working on EPA Mapping for Stormwater. Chairman Rocha noted that the DPW does periodic cleaning of stormwater basins, how do we get them to schedule it? Agent Kelly to speak with DPW Director Daniel Menard.

Meeting adjourned at 7:09 P.M.

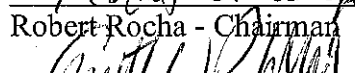
A motion to adjourn was made by R. Pimentel. The motion was seconded by E. Philla.
Motion passed 5-0.

Respectfully submitted:

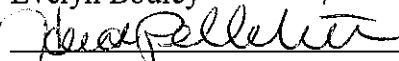

Joann DeMello, Senior Clerk
Acushnet Conservation Commission

Minutes Approved:

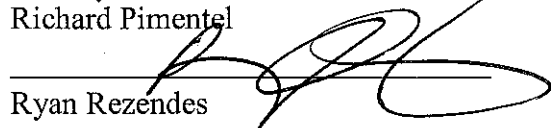
 CHAIR
Robert Rocha - Chairman


Everett Philla - Vice-Chairman
absent

Evelyn Bouley


Heidi Pelletier


Richard Pimentel


Ryan Rezendes
absent

Paul Valente

Date signed: February 9, 2021

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