

Conservation Commission Minutes

Monday, February 25, 2019

Approved: March 11, 2019

Member Leah Basbanes called the meeting to order at 6:31 pm. Alan joined at 6:35 and proceeded to chair the meeting.

Members Present: Tara Alcorn, Juan Amodei, Leah Basbanes, Bill Moeller, Alan Chaney

Members Absent: Jeff Haight and Kieran Meehan

Meeting Held: Dunstable Town Hall- 511 Main Street- Grange Room

Borrego Solar Project Update

Ryan Bailey from Borrego solar came to update the Commission on the solar project. Alan gave the green light to the Goss Pleasant St solar installation. There was a question about the Blodgett St site. The project designers decided to avoid doing work in the large Isolated Land Subject to Flooding at the Pleasant St site altogether. Leah mentioned that it may be a federal wetland. A few things moved around on the plans of the Blodgett St site. The roadway moved to the south skirting the 100' buffer line as it heads to Robert Kennedy's property. Ryan is planning on cleaning up the permit to reflect changes and had a question about whether he should apply for an amended order of conditions or simply submit an edited document. Alan stated that an updated amended plan was appropriate. Ryan told us that the solar company was working with the state on the Blanding's turtle on the Pleasant Street site, and that they are shrinking the footprint as much as possible to preserve habitat and, thereby, mitigate potential impact to the turtle population. The array in the North side of the Pleasant Street site near the two fingers of wetlands was eliminated. The redesign is now encroaching on the 100' property line setback. They plan on going to the Zoning Board of Appeals to either do an ANR plan or obtain a waiver for the property setback. The wetland areas will not be impacted. Leah made a motion to support the variance changes, Bill seconded. There was discussion of a potential Zoning Board of Appeals meeting on March 28.

Request for Determination- Water Department

James Cray from Wright- Pierce and Charles Caron from Caron Environmental came to discuss a water department infrastructure improvement to accommodate a new storage tank. Wetlands were flagged- they are near the intersection of 113 and Pond Street. This is a riverfront area. All work will be done in the existing roadway, which is exempt from the Wetlands Act. Silt sacs and catch basins will be used. Two hydrants will also be replaced. Leah made a motion to issue a Negative 3 determination. Juan seconded, all were in favor. This work will be done in either June or July, pending Town Meeting approval.

Notice of Intent- Main Street Town Wells

James Cray and Charles Caron went over a plan to make improvements to the existing gravel access and piping at a well site off Main Street. This road passes through the Conrad Sergeant

Conservation Area and will go through a wetland. The gravel access road is in need of repair. They plan on smoothing it out and widening it. It will stay gravel. This is in a riverfront area, and there are some wetlands present. The wetland will not be altered but the road is in the flood plain. The new road will have the same elevation so should not impact flood storage. It will be 14' wide throughout. They plan on adding a swale going up the hill. A new water line will be added to the well and piping will be replaced. A replacement of the electric line will also be installed within the roadway. They do not currently have a DEP number, so a request for continuance until the next meeting was made.

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Juan made a motion to accept the minutes, Bill seconded, the motion passed unanimously.

Dog Signs

Tara brought in dog leash signs for the members to review. These will be posted in the kiosks at Flat Rock and Stone Arch Bridge conservation areas. The green and white leash signs will be put 10' up at the same time.

Pine Tree Down on Massapoag

Leah mentioned that a resident from Massapoag emailed her with pictures of a pine tree that was down at 161 Pond Street.

Motion was made by Leah, seconded by Juan and passed unanimously to close the meeting at 7:45 pm.