MEETING MINUTES
ASHLAND CONSERVATION COMMISSION
October 7, 2019

Present: William Moulton (Vice Chair)
Carl Hakansson
K.G. Narayana
Greg Wands
Maeghan Dos Anjos (Agent)

Absent: Gene Crouch (Chair)
Cathy Van Lancker

Call to order: 7:03 P.M.

7:03 Discussion, Town of Ashland- David Foster, regarding 133 West Union Street, valentine property.
Mr. David Foster was present for the discussion, and explained that he was looking for guidance on how to cross the wetland system and the stream that traverses across the property. Mr. Foster explained that he wants to clear the land on the northeastern side of the lot. Mr. Hakansson stated that Stumpy’s had provided an estimate for clearing portions of the lot.

Mr. Hakansson briefed the Commission on his recollection of the property. Mr. Moulton suggested a temporary crossing and told Mr. Foster to prepare a RDA for the crossing. Mr. Hakansson suggested a site visit. The site visit was scheduled for Monday, October 14, 2019, at 9:00 a.m.

Mr. Wands asked for clarification from Foster as to whether or not he wanted a temporary or a permanent crossing. Mr. Foster indicated that he needs a temporary one for now, and will address a permanent crossing in the future.

7:17 Discussion, Sustainability Committee, Report on Net Zero Goal
Ms. Margy Gassell (Sustainability Committee member) was present for the discussion. Ms. Gassell provided a summary of Net Zero Goals, and stated that part of the goal is to reduce greenhouse emissions by 45% by 2030. Ms. Gassell further explained that the intent of Net Zero is to reduce gas emissions on an annual basis to achieve a carbon neutral goal. Ms. Gassell stated that the Select Board has asked for a plan to be presented by the Sustainability Committee at Town Meeting.

Mr. Hakansson asked Ms. Gassell if she was looking for an endorsement. Mr. Hakansson clarified the jurisdiction of the Conservation Commission and stated that while it is outside the jurisdiction of the Conservation Commission, carbon sequestration is becoming more relevant, and that the Commission may need to look into amending its bylaw as carbon sequestration becomes more relevant. Mr. Moulton agreed with Mr. Hakansson statements.
Mr. Hakansson made a motion, seconded by Mr. Narayana to endorse the Net Zero resolution. Motion passed 4-0-0

Ms. Margi Gassell said that she also wanted to talk to the Commission about trees and their effects on wetlands. Mr. Hakansson said that the topic of trees should be tabled for another time. The Agent said it would be best if the Chair could be present for a discussion of that nature given his background as a wetland scientist.

7:25  NOI, 95-931, Massachusetts Department of Transportation, Route 126 (Pond Street), drainage, traffic, and safety improvements (continued from 9/9/2019) (continuing to 10/7/2019)
Mr. Moulton stated that a request for continuance was submitted to the Commission.
Mr. Hakansson made a motion, seconded by Mr. Narayana to continue the hearing to November 4, 2019. Motion passed 4-0-0.

7:25  NOI/SMP, 95-929, William Rodenhiser, 81 West Union Street, two commercial buildings, and associated work (continued from 9/9/2019)
Mr. Peter Barbieri (Representative - Attorney), and Mr. Bart Lipinski (Representative - Engineer) were present for the hearing. The Commission reviewed a document sent by the Agent to the Applicant. Mr. Barbieri reviewed these comments and stated that comment numbers 7-11 will need to be addressed by the Engineer (Mr. Darren Grady) whom was not present at the hearing.
Mr. Narayana, made a motion, seconded by Mr. Wands to continue the hearing to October 21, 2019.

7:40  Request for COC, 95-877, Lodestar Energy, 175 Butterfield Drive, solar array
Mr. Kevin Midei (Applicant - Lodestar Energy) was present for the meeting. Mr. Midei provided a brief history of the project and the site, stating that an RDA was issued to address changes made during construction. The OOC could not cover these changes because it expired before they noticed the changes that were made.
Mr. Midei stated that the wetland scientist, Tom Hughes, went through the replication areas and had found some invasive plants, and also found that the fence did not contain a required gap that would allow for wildlife passage. Once these things were observed, the RDA was submitted to the Conservation Commission.
The Agent stated that she was satisfied with the replication areas and the work that was done. She recommended a full Certificate of Compliance be issued.
Mr. Wands made a motion, seconded by Mr. Narayana to issue a complete COC. Motion passed 4-0-0.
7:47 Request for Extension, 95-886, Orlando Enterprises, 0 Megunko Road, landscape facility

Mr. Mark Orlando (applicant) was present for the meeting. Mr. Hakansson provided an overview and stated that there are two members on the Commission that were not on the Commission when the OOC was issued. Mr. Hakansson thanked Mr. Orlando for attending the past meetings and continuing his request to other days.

Mr. Hakansson explained to the Applicant that at the time of the NOI, there was a discussion held among the Commission about Trolley Brook, and when the hearing was closed and a motion was made, Mr. Hakansson and Mr. Crouch were not at that hearing.

Mr. Hakansson said that he would suggest that the extension be granted.

Mr. Hakansson made a motion, seconded by Mr. Wands to issue the Extension for 0 Megunko Road. Motion passed 4-0-0.

7:53 Agent Announcements

The Agent mentioned that work started at 60 Pleasant Street. Mr. Moulton said that the silt fence was not entrenched. The Agent said that she had told them to entrench the silt fence.

8:00 Member Prerogative

Mr. Hakansson said that the garage at 22 Eliot Street was painted. Mr. Hakansson said that there is a coyote marking within Warren Woods right along the old deer corridor.

Mr. Wands thanked the Agent because contractors were working on the detention basins located off of Summit Pointe.

8:21 Review of the September 23, 2019, Meeting Minutes

The Commission reviewed the Meeting Minutes from September 23, 2019.

Mr. Wands made a motion, seconded by Mr. Narayana, to accept the September 23, 2019, Meeting Minutes as amended. Motion passed 4-0-0.

8:20 Sign Documents

Extension 95-886, Orlando Enterprises, 0 Megunko Road, landscape facility
COC 95-877, Lodestar Energy, 175 Butterfield Drive, solar array

8:23 Adjournment

Mr. Narayana made a motion, seconded by Mr. Wands to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed 4-0-0.

Documents Reviewed by the Conservation Commission on 10 / 7 / 2019

- Conservation Commission Agenda 10-7-2019
- Document entitled, Meeting Minutes 9/23/2019
- Document entitled, Resolution to Adopt a net Zero Emissions Goal, dated 3/20/2019
- Document entitled, Comments on Filing (for 81 West Union Street), and dated 10/7/2019.
Photographs submitted by Kevin Midei for solar array at 175 Butterfield Drive