

Rochester Conservation Commission
May 16, 2023

Present: Christopher Gerrior, Chairman
Bendrix Bailey, Vice Chairman
Matthew Bache
Mike Gifford
Carl MacDermott
William Milka

Absent: William Clapp

Merilee Kelly, Conservation Agent
Dawn DeMaggio, Board Administrator
Danielle Craig, Recording Secretary

The meeting convened via Zoom video conference ID #8621677. Chairman Gerrior called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The meeting started with everyone reciting the Pledge of Allegiance. He took attendance of members, staff, applicants and representatives and stated the meeting was being broadcasted on Zoom and was being recorded.

Public Meeting

A Request for a Determination of Applicability filed by Sharon Grant for property located on 24 Mayflower Lane, Rochester, MA 02770, Lot 41 on Assessor's Map 21. The applicant seeks to install a set of exterior stairs to the existing garage within 70 feet of the wetlands with all other work being performed inside the garage.

Sharon Grant was present for the meeting. She stated she had nothing to add. The board was presented with the plans for the stairs. She stated that they do not plan to pour any new concrete and will be using pressure treated wood. Agent Kelly visited the site and stated that the stairs are a good distance from wetlands. She stated she had no issues with the work.

Member Bailey made a motion to issue a positive determination of applicability.
Member Bache seconded the motion.

The motion was passed by a vote of 6 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstained. (6-0-0)

Commission Business

Minutes: May 2, 2023 (*voting quorum: Christopher, Ben, Matt, Bill M., Mike, Bill C., Carl*)

Member Bailey made a motion to approve the minutes from May 2, 2023.
Member Bache seconded the motion.

The motion was passed by a vote of 6 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstained. (6-0-0)

Vouchers: Fileguard / April Storage / Invoice #81703 / \$19.50

Member Bailey made a motion to approve the voucher.
Member Bache seconded the motion.

The motion was passed by a vote of 6 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstained. (6-0-0)

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New Business

Notice of Intent to Sell Chapter 61A Agricultural and Horticultural Land for Residential Use, vacant land off Mary's Pond Road

Agent Kelly stated this is a small piece of land in a very residential area with a cranberry bog behind it. They are putting in a road with a cul-de-sac so she thinks they may have plans to build another home on the property. Member Bailey stated his recommendation is for the Select Board to not purchase this property.

Member Bailey made a motion to recommend to the Select Board to decline the purchase of this property. Member Bache seconded the motion.

The motion was passed by a vote of 6 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstained. (6-0-0)

Old Business

89 Box Turtle Drive

Liz Lydon, Town Counsel Representative, gave an update on the matter. She stated there is a new hearing date in September. She stated that due to the fact the owners have provided a "Restoration Plan", her recommendation is to stop the daily fines and wait to see the "revised" plan. She has been in contact with the lawyer representing the owners of 89 Box Turtle Drive. They have agreed to present these revised plans and to attend the Conservation Commission meeting, either on June 6th or 20th. She asked the board if they could make a motion to approve the stop of fines until the meeting in June. The board members agreed that they will stop fining with the condition the owners attend the June 6th Conservation meeting. If the owners or their representative do not attend the meeting on June 6th with the revised Restoration Plan, the fines will resume immediately. The Constable, Marc Slabodnick, who has been delivering the daily fines was present for the meeting, and stated that he has never billed the town for the delivery of these fines.

Member Bailey made a motion to cease fining under the condition of a present representative with the revised Restoration Plan at the Conservation Meeting on June 6th.

Member Bache seconded the motion.

The motion was passed by a vote of 6 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstained. (6-0-0)

Informal Discussion

Member Bailey stated that thanks to the help of volunteers, Mattapoissett River has been cleared from Snipatuit Pond to Mattapoissett near Route 6. 20-30 different trees and some brush were cleared. This is beneficial for the herring and the natural flow of the river.

Adjournment

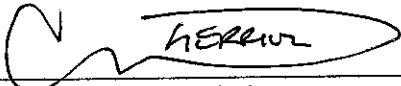
Member Bailey made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:24pm.

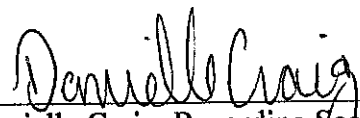
Member Milka seconded the motion.

The motion was passed by a vote of 6 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstained. (6-0-0)

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Date: 20 JUN 2023


Chairman Gerrior, Chairman


Danielle Craig, Recording Secretary