

**Town of Webster
Conservation Commission
Minutes of the Meeting – April 13, 2020**

A meeting of the Conservation Commission was held on Monday April 13, 2020 via conference call in accordance with Governor Baker's emergency order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c.30A,§20 due to the public health emergency relating to the Coronavirus pandemic.

Attending: Chairman Joseph Wigglesworth, Vice Chairman Michelle Sherillo, Dan Duteau, Klarissa Johnson, Fred Bock, Hayden Brown

Absent: Robin Jewell

Staff –Mary Overholt, Conservation Agent, Kelly Gorham, Clerk

Meeting called to order: 5:33 p.m.

Meeting Minutes

Mr. Duteau motion to approve the meeting minutes from February 27, 2020. Ms. Johnson second. Vote all in favor by roll call (Mr. Wigglesworth – AYE; Ms. Sherillo – AYE; Mr. Duteau – AYE; Ms. Johnson – AYE; Mr. Bock – AYE.)

Motion to continue the minutes from March 9, 2020 made by Ms. Sherillo. Ms. Johnson second. Vote all in favor by roll call (Mr. Wigglesworth – AYE; Ms. Sherillo – AYE; Mr. Duteau – AYE; Ms. Johnson – AYE; Mr. Bock – AYE.)

Mr. Bock motion to continue all public meetings and hearings to May 18, 2020 at 5:30 p.m. at a location to be determined. Ms. Johnson second. Vote all in favor by roll call (Mr. Wigglesworth – AYE; Ms. Sherillo – AYE; Mr. Duteau – AYE; Ms. Johnson – AYE; Mr. Bock – AYE.)

Discussion

The Discussion items are taken out of order.

Wetland Bylaw Update – Mr. Wigglesworth met with Brandon Faneuf, consultant from Ecosystem Solutions, to review the latest version of the bylaw. The formatting needs some changes. Regulations have been added that benefit the Town. The bylaw will be sent out to the Commissioners for review and comments. It will be presented at Town Meeting, which has been moved to June 23rd due to the Covid-19 public emergency. A meeting on the Setback Policy needs to be rescheduled before Town Meeting to allow for public comment.

Ms. Overholt suggested some potential changes for the bylaw. The abutter notification radius could be changed from 100 feet to 300 feet. This would cost more for the applicants but is in the best interest for the abutters. The Commission agreed that this was appropriate. Only one extension will be allowed and this is at the Commission's discretion. Peer review fees should be adjusted. The current fees are \$1000.00 for commercial projects and \$250.00 for a single family home. CME used to review projects. Most of the time the \$250.00 is not used and is refunded when the project is completed. This is a lot of extra administrative work. This puts money in the applicant's account in case a restoration plan is necessary,

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and is released upon receipt of a Certificate of Compliance. The Commission did not agree on the utility of requiring the \$250 fee for single family homes.

271 Killdeer Road – There were some complaints regarding excessive docks and vegetation clearing. A letter was sent to the owner, Mark Rubin . There were some old rotten docks under the water, they were causing injury to people wading in the water. When those docks were removed, vegetation was pulled out with them. Mr. Rubin spoke with the Building Commissioner and DPW regarding the runoff from the street. DPW came out to clean the drain. There is still some more wood to be removed from the water. They haven't done any more work. Ms. Overholt shared photos from GIS on the screen. The current brings debris into that area. There is one floating dock in the water which is for sale. The Killdeer Association also spoke to him. The dock needs to be registered with the state with a Chapter 91 permit. An Emergency Order can be issued for the removal of the material that is left. It is considered dredging. Ms. Overholt will schedule a site visit in May after the State emergency order is lifted. Mr. Wigglesworth thanked Mr. Rubin for coming before the board.

An Enforcement Order needs to be ratified for **2 Checkerberry Island**. There is excess gravel and erosion controls are not set where they are on the plan. Work has been going on for a while. The permit expires May 25th. The applicant needs to appear before the Board and hire a wetland scientist or engineer to find the limit of work. Ms. Sherillo motion to ratify the Enforcement Order. Ms. Johnson second. Vote all in favor by roll call (Mr. Wigglesworth – AYE; Ms. Sherillo – AYE; Mr. Duteau – AYE; Ms. Johnson – AYE; Mr. Bock – AYE.)

Browns Brook Road – They are replacing the platform that the shed sits on with the same footprint. The house is less than 10 feet from the stream. There is no debris and no erosion. An Emergency Certificate was issued. Mr. Bock motion to ratify the Emergency Certification for 17 Brown's Brook. Ms. Johnson second. Vote all in favor by roll call (Mr. Wigglesworth – AYE; Ms. Sherillo – AYE; Mr. Duteau – AYE; Ms. Johnson – AYE; Mr. Bock – AYE.)

Some tree cutting was done at **57 Rawson Road**. Next to Browns Brook there was some landscaping done. Some grading and peastone was put down.

The power company cut some trees on **Minebrook Road**.

Ms. Sherillo motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:36 p.m. Ms. Johnson second. Vote all in favor by roll call (Mr. Wigglesworth – AYE; Ms. Sherillo – AYE; Mr. Duteau – AYE; Ms. Johnson – AYE; Mr. Bock – AYE.)

Next Meeting Date: April 27, 2020 – Location to be determined.

Respectfully submitted,
Kelly Gorham
Clerk for the Conservation Agent

Conservation Commission Approval: _____ Date: _____
Chairman