

WEST TISBURY
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
MINUTES OF MEETING
January 26, 2021

Present: John Brannen, Geraldine Brooks, Whit Griswold, Angela Luckey, Binnie Ravitch, Peter Rodegast, Michael Turnell, and Tara Whiting-Wells

Absent: Donna Paulnock

Staff Present: Maria McFarland

Present for all or part of the meeting:

Whit Griswold called the meeting to order at 5:06P.M. The meeting was held via Zoom in accordance with the Governor's order suspending certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c.30A sec.20.

Minutes: The minutes of the January 12 meeting were approved as revised. Roll Call Vote: Binnie, Geraldine, John, Peter, Tara, and Whit voted in favor. Michael abstained.

Continued Public Hearing

Map 23 Lot 3.1.SE79-419: a public hearing under the requirements of G.L. Ch.131 § 40, as amended, and the West Tisbury Wetlands Protection Bylaw and regulations to consider a Notice of Intent filed by Vineyard Land Surveying & Engineering, Inc. on behalf of Kate and Geoffrey Lauprete and JMMoulton Realty Trust, (lessee) of property located at 71 Tisbury Lane West owned by Seven Gates Farm Corporation. The project consists of the installation of a 20'x 50' in-ground swimming pool, pergola, retaining wall, relocation of a septic tank and associated site work within the Riverfront Area.

By written request of the applicant, a motion was made and seconded to continue the public hearing to February 9 at 5:10 PM. Roll Call Vote: Binnie, Geraldine, John, Peter, Tara, and Whit voted in favor. Michael abstained.

New Business:

Map 3 Lot 2.1/237 Lambert's Cove Road: Maria reported that she got a call from the neighbor to this parcel regarding tree work being done near the wetlands. Sheriff's Meadow Foundation holds a Conservation Restriction on this property. Kristen Geagan of Sheriff's Meadow went to the neighbor's property to see what was happening. She and Kristen spoke to the landscaper in the property owner's driveway and asked them not to do any more work until they could talk to the property owner. An e-mail was sent to the property owner today requesting a site visit and that no further work should take place until such time. No action was taken.

Map 7 Lot 28.1/40 Cottle Lane Map 3: After notification by the Building Inspector and a call from an abutter regarding an unpermitted shed being constructed near Black Water Brook, a visit site was held on January 20. At the site visit, the property owner said the shed was to be used as a shelter for his cows. The shed will be put on skids, moved it from location to location, and will not be returned to this location. No action was taken.

Lots 71 & 72/256 Lambert's Cove Road: While at the site visit for the shed, members noticed the storage of building materials adjacent to the bank some plastic in the brook and trash along the bank behind the lumberyard. They were told that when it snows the snow is either pushed up against the bank. After a brief discussion about how the lumberyard was allowed to build so close to the brook and possible drainage issues, a site will be arranged to look at the storm water management systems in place. No action was taken.

Old Business

Map 3 Lot 68/ 20 Longview Road/ SE79-420: The Order of Conditions required the property owner to establish a 12 foot no mow zone around both ponds and along Black Water Brook except for 10 feet around seating areas with boundary markers to demarcate the no-mow zones. The board reviewed a revised project plan.

Tara said she did not want them to be able to mow right down to the pond in the seating areas, as we usually do not allow that and only allow a path to be mowed. Geraldine said the small amount of clearing around the benches is reasonable. Whit agreed.

A motion was made and seconded to approve this preliminary plan. Roll Call Vote: Binnie, Geraldine, John, Peter, and Michael voted in favor. Tara voted no. Motion carried.

Tiah's Cove Road Culvert Warrant Article: The Board of Selectmen discussed an article for the annual town meeting warrant to fund the replacement of this culvert. The Selectmen tabled their discussion and asked that someone from this board attend the January 26 meeting to discuss why the Commission thinks this project needs to move forward this year. Maria and Whit will attend the meeting.

Tara asked that the Commission be notified anytime there is a matter before the Selectmen that involves the Commission so that if necessary, someone can attend to represent the Commission. .

Administrative:

Joint Committee meeting letter: Members reviewed Whit's draft of the letter. The letter will be addressed to the Board Chairs. It was pointed out that the ZBA is the primary permitting board that the Commission coordinates with so they should be included in these meetings. The third and fourth paragraphs will be deleted. Maria commented that the letter could suggest one purpose of these meetings could be to discuss overlapping regulations that conflict or lack of regulations (such as Board of Health regulations regarding septic systems.) Maria will work on a redraft and circulate. No action was taken.

Brandy Brow: Maria will ask Jen to have the Highway Department repair the split rail fence where needed.

Correspondence:

Out:

James Pond/SE79-364: Extension of Permit

Map 30 Lot 11.1/ 85 Red Pony Road: Whitestone/Eddy Foundation Grant/ letter of support

Map 36 Lot 18/SE79-416/70 Taffy's Field Road: Approval of request to remove additional trees

There being no further business to conduct, the meeting adjourned at 6:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Maria McFarland
Board Administrator
APPROVED
FEBRUARY 9, 2021