

WEST TISBURY PLANNING BOARD MINUTES July 24, 2023, pg 1

PRESENT Ginny Jones, Leah Smith, Heikki Soikkeli, Amy Upton, Matt Merry.

ABSENT: John Rau

ALSO PRESENT: (Names as they appeared on the Zoom screen)

Glenn Deblase, Dilly Deblase. Margie Meltzer, San Larkosh, Farley Pedler, Ann and David Fielder, 508-395-5384, Eunki Seonwoo, Doug Hoehn, Libby and Jane Rossi.

Leah opened the meeting at 5:30 pm.

• Public Hearing on an application from Farley Pedler for an application for a review of the removal of trees within 20 feet of the center line of Dr. Fisher Road on a designated scenic road under an approved town bylaw on October 27, 1976 and under Chapter 40, Section 15C of Mass General Laws:

Farley Pedler appeared before the board and explained that he lives at 50 Dr. Fisher Road and he and David Fielder identified and removed some trees along the road in front of the Fielder property that they determined were obstructing emergency vehicular access, He was told by the B&Z Inspector that Dr. Fisher Road road was a protected way and he needed to stop cutting and contact the Planning Board to apply for a special permit. He then applied to the board.

Leah pointed out that there appear to be two reasons for the tree removal: emergency access and Farley's need to get a swimming pool delivered to his property. She said some people were not happy. Farley said he had since spoken with the neighbor and had apologized for removing trees on their property.

Jane read a letter from the fire chief which detailed a recent site visit to the road and the need to remove 3 more trees that are dead or dying. This would remedy access for emergency vehicles. Also, the existing deep potholes are an obstacle. However, a small amount of fill would suffice for emergency vehicles to get through the road.

Farley explained that he has discussed the situation with the neighbors and some are in favor and some are not. He said he needs to fill in the potholes for the trailer to deliver the pool. Ginny said the road association needs to discuss the issue as a whole. He said they holes will probably return to their current condition over time if that is what people want. He said just 3 trees will need to be removed along the Larkosh property and a large branch at the corner of Dr. Fisher Road and Pine Hill Road.

Matt Merry stated he had reservations about filling in the potholes. The road has access at both ends and the existing condition calms the traffic. Filling it in would be an issue. He suggested the board conduct a site visit to review the area.

Margie Meltzer said filling in the potholes would only be temporary; the surface of the road would erode back to its current condition. She felt Farley should be able to get his pool. Dan Larkosh said he had no objection to the trees being removed. The limb at the corner of Pine Hill

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and Dr. Fisher Road should go because people will start to cut the corner since the limb is in the way. He also stated the potholes should be filled in. He added that he owns his property to the center line of the road and could fill in the holes if he wanted to. Leah said that the owners cannot do whatever they wish but must abide by the zoning laws protecting scenic and protected roads. Matt said if the holes are filled in the burden will be on the decision of the road association; it wouldn't be fair to the neighbors.

Ginny said she had two issues, the first being the swimming pool delivery. She suggested finding an alternative pool. Secondly, trees cannot be removed on a scenic road without review and a special permit. Also, the Fire Chief's opinion does not grant permission to act.

Dilly DeBlase said she saw the impact the pool delivery would have on the road when Farley measured the delivery area, and she was not in favor. She said people walk, bike and ride horses, and if the holes were to be filled in the road would be very dusty and dangerous from the speeding cars. It was asked why the pool couldn't be delivered from the Old County Road entrance. That appeared to not be an option.

Matt suggested Farley mark the 3 trees the Fire Chief felt needed to be removed in one color, and mark the trees Farley felt should be removed for the pool delivery in a different color. The board scheduled a site visit for August 9th at 10:00 am.

The board voted to continue the hearing to Monday, August 14th at 6:15 pm, Ginny moved and Amy seconded the motion to continue. Ginny-yes, Amy-yes, Leah-yes, Matt-yes, Heikki-yes.

●Form A application from Doug Hoehn for a lot line adjustment to create an undersized non-buildable lot on Map 32, Lot 114.1, 32 Campbell Road:

Doug explained that the owner owns the abutting lot as well and wants to adjust the lines to accommodate for the existing horse riding ring. Lot 2 is not buildable by itself, the existing house will be demolished and the demo has been approved. The rear lot has 27 feet of frontage and the strip of land on the new lot will be the access to the riding ring. There are no plans to build on Lot 1.

Amy moved and Ginny seconded the motion to approve the application. Amy-yes, Ginny-yes, Heikki-yes, Leah-yes, Matt-yes.

ZBA Referrals:

- Stedman: Swimming pool:**
- Romano: Woodworking studio:**
- Middle Point Bend LLC: Garage:**

The board voted to refer the application back to the ZBA for their determination.

Ginny moved and Amy seconded the motion. Ginny-yes, Amy-yes, Leah-yes, Heikki-yes, Matt-yes.

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•Correspondence:

•O’Sullivan letter RE: Fischer subdivision at Flat Point Farm:

Ginny stated she has regularly disclosed to Mrs. Sullivan that she is a member of the Planning Board and Mrs. Sullivan is well aware of Ginny’s position.

Other Business:

Leah reminded the board to be mindful of the code of ethics each member has taken an oath to honor. Board and Committee Members may be asked to contact the Ethics Commission for clarification.

Meeting adjourned at 6:45 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Jane Rossi, Board Administrator.

**Approved on August 7, 2023- Ginny-yes, Amy-yes,
Matt-yes, Heikki-yes**