

approved
4/5/23



**CARVER CONSERVATION COMMISSION
MINUTES OF MARCH 1, 2023 MEETING**

Present: Chairman Savery Moore, Vice-Chair Alan Germain, Dan Badger, David Hall, Curtis Lake, Environmental Agent Gary Flaherty and Recording Secretary Ashley Swartz

Mr. Moore opened the meeting at 7:00 PM

DISCUSSION/BUSINESS:

Mass. Trails Grant Funding

Sarah Hewins Chair of Carver Trail and Conservation Stewards Committee. Applied for a MA trails grant for equipment – they have currently been using their own equipment. As she applied, she learned they needed American made iron or steel equipment – the list has been narrowed down. Sue Moquin said the equipment could be purchased through the Conservation funds (\$1,330). This grant is a reimbursable grant – which means the Conservation Funds will fund the project in its entirety and then be reimbursed through the grant. The Wetlands Protection Funds have now been changed to the “Conservation Maintenance” funds. These funds could be used for this project. There is currently about \$54,000 in that account. Mr. Germain noted he would be okay using the funds and if they get refunded through the grant – great. Mr. Moore asked if this was funded (\$6,651) if this would be procured immediately. Sarah explained this could be piecemealed – but can buy all at once (so the reimbursement matches the missing balance in one lump sum). Motion to approve the \$6,651.42 – regardless of whether or not they can be reimbursed by the grant - made by Mr. Germain, seconded by Mr. Badger, 3-0-2 (with Mr. Badger and Mr. Moore abstaining). Sarah noted that the grant application will reference the Cole Property – she did that for ease of communication but the equipment can be used for all projects.

0 Purchase Street (SE126-647) COC

Floating solar project – DEP asked them to pull an NOI order of conditions. They took some dip water and soil samples. They are being analyzed and wanted to close the order of conditions. Motion to approve made by Mr. Germain, seconded by Mr. Badger, approved unanimously 5-0-0.

Amend language on proposed Town Warrant Article involving Wetlands By-law 9.2.1.2

“Invasive Species” was added to the by-law. It was pointed out that the language of the by-law appeared to be promoting invasive species. Mr. Moore changed it in the list, the by-law, and executive summary.

CONTINUED PUBLIC HEARINGS

0 Wade Street

This property is from the RDA – gifting to Conservation. They have asked for a continuance. The abutter to this property has built structures on property that is not his – it belongs with the RDA. Mr. Moore noted that they are speaking with the property owner on Friday regarding the options. Once this discussion has taken place, they will be able to revisit the Conservation approval.

4 Stanley Lane**NOI SE# 126-658**

Greg (Outback Engineering). After last meeting, he has provided revised plans based on the changes suggested. The pool has been moved so it aligns with the sun porch (outside 100-foot), moved the tree line has been moved from the 65 to the 100. On the slopes they have proposed a New England native plant mix with erosion control blanket (to stabilize the slopes). Members noted they appreciated the changes made and were pleased with the results. Mr. Moore said it takes care of the issues they had and doesn't impact the home owner too much. There are Conservation signs being placed on the tree line. Mr. Hall asked about the amount of soil being removed – asking if they have numbers on that. Mr. Moore agreed that there was a lot of soil removal, but it was indicated during the last meeting that the developer has to take into consideration future projects that homeowners could want (pools, decks, landscaping, etc.) because the Committee will not be as gracious for the next project. Greg assured that these messages are being relayed to the developer. Motion to close the hearing made by Mr. Germain, seconded by Mr. Badger, approved 4-1-0, with Mr. Hall opposing. Motion to approve the NOI made by Mr. Germain as shown on the drawing revised February 27, 2023, with standard order of conditions, seconded by Mr. Badger, approved 4-1-0, with Mr. Hall opposing.

NEW PUBLIC HEARINGS**36 Bunnys Road**

Timothy Hughes requesting an RDA for repairing and expanding two existing decks with the closest work located approximately 25 feet from the Bordering Vegetated Wetland. Mr. Moore gave a quick overview of what would take place. Mr. Badger said even though the proximity to the waterway, the way this is designed, they are not any closer to the water. Gary suggested a negative three determination if approved, providing there is some erosion control. Motion to close the hearing made by Mr. Germain, seconded by Mr. Hall, approved unanimously 5-0-0. Motion to issue a negative determination for the plans dated February 8, 2023, seconded by Mr. Hall, approved unanimously 5-0-0.

25 Walker Road**NOI SE126-660**

James Garfield with Morse engineering. Currently a 1,500-gallon tank and two leaching pits. They want to install a new leaching field and utilize the existing tank. There is only two places this leaching field could be located is either the front or back yard – if placed in the front it would be too close to the well. The existing leaching pits are usually six feet in depth. This chamber will be five feet above the ground water table. The system will be a foot below grade and matches the existing grade. The pits will be pumped, crushed and likely removed. Mr. Germain said this was a textbook case of a hardship due to the property lines in this neighborhood. He noted this was a vast improvement and couldn't see an alternative. Mr. Moore agreed, Mr. Hall noted this was better for the pond. Motion to close the hearing made by Mr. Germain, seconded by Mr. Hall, approved unanimously 5-0-0. Motion to approve the NOI on the plans revised February 9, 2023 made by Mr. Germain, seconded by Mr. Hall, approved unanimously 5-0-0. Motion to approve the variance on plans dated February 9, 2023 as shown with conditions set forth by the Agent, seconded by Mr. Lake, approved unanimously 5-0-0

0 Old Center Street**ANRAD SE126-659**

Bob Rego, Riverhawk Environmental. They are looking to have the property delineated, a former cranberry bog on behalf of JLK Realty & Development, LLC. The wetland flags were hung by Brad Holmes who the Committee met today during the site visit. The Applicant is requesting under the ANRAD confirmation of Isolated Vegetated Wetland on the property. Mr. Moore noted the neighbor was NSTAR and the high-tension lines – asking if there was easement over the property – Bob noted if that existed it would be on the plan so he was comfortable saying there was no easement. Mr. Badger asked about older maps that showed this was formerly a waterway that has been filled in. He asked if it should be noted for future projects but Gary said its been about 10-15 years since this existed. Bob said this was

not a natural waterway (to the best of his knowledge). A neighbor asked some questions about the isolated wetlands and if that changed the protection. Motion to close the hearing made by Mr. Germain, seconded by Mr. Lake, approved unanimously 5-0-0. Mr. Germain made a motion to approve the ANRAD dated February 7, 2023 (with no revisions), seconded by Mr. Hall, approved unanimously 5-0-0.

MINUTES

To be read and approved – February 1 and February 15, 2023

Motion to approve the amended minutes from February 1, 2023 made by Mr. Germain pending the updated spelling from 21 Crystal Lake Drive, seconded by Mr. Badger, approved unanimously 5-0-0.

Motion to approve the amended minutes from February 15, 2023 made by Mr. Germain, seconded by Mr. Badger, approved unanimously 5-0-0.

Mr. Hall noted he would not be in attendance the next two meetings.

Mr. Germain said they clarified the roll-back taxes for this coming year will go into the Land Acquisition Trust Fund. He said Conservation should consider capping the funds. Mr. Badger asked what the process to do that looked like – Mr. Germain said this is the forum to make those decisions. The process to move these funds is not simple – it's a legislative process. Mr. Germain said they could also look to change the wording to use the funds to keep in Conservation but change the use. Mr. Moore said he would like to have the copy of the legislation. He noted the concern with capping it – since real estate changes frequently – noting the Lakeview property purchase. The conversation continued around if property taken out of 61A – and if it could be purchased by Conservation. There was discussion about how that could work – since the roll-back taxes are coming from 61A properties. They noted the changes that could be made to the legislation in order to use the funds effectively.

Motion to adjourn made by Mr. Germain, seconded by Mr. Hall, approved unanimously 5-0-0.

Meeting ended 8:13 PM.

Minutes submitted by Ashley Swartz.