



**Pembroke Conservation Commission
Minutes of the Meeting of
June 3, 2021
Virtual**

Disclosure: These minutes are not verbatim – they are the administrative agent’s interpretation of what took place at the meeting.

All materials presented during this meeting are available in the Pembroke Conservation Commission office.

Open Meeting Law, G.L c. 30A § 22.

Members present: Arthur Egerton, Vice Chair; Robert Clarke, Sr., Member; Ronald Boidi, Member; Sandy Gremlich, Member

Members Not Present: Gino Fellini, Chair; Mark Sotir, Member; Richard Madden, Member

Staff present: Melissa Joyce, Administrative Agent

At 6:04PM, Mr. Arthur Egerton, Vice Chairman, opened the meeting and stated pursuant to Governor Baker’s March 12, 2020 Order suspending certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A §20, and the Governor’s March 15, 2020 Order imposing strict limitations on the number of people that may gather in one place, this public hearing of the Conservation Commission is being conducted via remote participation. No in-person attendance will be permitted, but the public can view this meeting while in progress. PACTV is providing this service on Comcast Government Access channel 15, and for those without cable, on their PRIME streaming channel by visiting www.pactv.org/live. Members of the public attending this meeting virtually will be allowed to make comments if they wish to do so, during the portion of the hearing designated for public comment, by emailing the provided contact information. All votes during this meeting will be made via roll call.

ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS

Forms for Vote and Signature:

Certificate of Compliance – COC (DEP #SE056-970) – 216 Mattakeesett Street - A motion to issue a Certificate of Compliance was made by Mr. Clarke and seconded by Ms. Gremlich. Vote by roll call, Mr. Clarke, yes, Ms. Gremlich, yes, Mr. Boidi, yes, Mr. Egerton, yes. Motion passed unanimously.

Certificate of Compliance – COC (DEP #SE056-416) – 2 Crescent Avenue - A motion to issue a Certificate of Compliance was made by Mr. Clarke and seconded by Ms. Gremlich. Vote by roll call, Mr. Clarke, yes, Ms. Gremlich, yes, Mr. Boidi, yes, Mr. Egerton, yes. Motion passed unanimously.

Certificate of Compliance – COC (DEP #SE056-983) – 20 Copperwood Road - A motion to issue a partial Certificate of Compliance was made by Mr. Clarke and seconded by Ms. Gremlich. Vote by roll call, Mr. Clarke, yes, Ms. Gremlich, yes, Mr. Boidi, yes, Mr. Egerton, yes. Motion passed unanimously.

Certificate of Compliance – COC (DEP #SE056-1065) – 36 Copperwood Road - A motion to issue a partial Certificate of Compliance was made by Mr. Clarke and seconded by Ms. Gremlich. Vote by roll call, Mr. Clarke, yes, Ms. Gremlich, yes, Mr. Boidi, yes, Mr. Egerton, yes. Motion passed unanimously.

Minutes – May 6, 2021 – A motion to accept the minutes was made by Mr. Clarke and seconded by Mr. Boidi. Vote by roll call, Mr. Clarke, yes, Ms. Gremlich, yes, Mr. Boidi, yes, Mr. Egerton, yes. Motion passed.

Agent's Report:

Sign at Veteran's Park was destroyed and needs to be replaced. Flags have been placed for Memorial Day. Several areas of town have been taken care of by a local landscaper over the past few years as a favor, including Veteran's Park and Birch Street. Landscaper has moved on and new volunteers to do the upkeep are needed. Mr. Boidi suggested looking to the network of volunteers from Open Space.

The trees at Elmer Street have been planted and are ready for inspection from NRCS. Mr. Egerton stated that Mr. Madden has planted all the trees and wrapped them to protect them deer. Mr. Clarke will reach out to NRCS.

Open Space Liaison Report:

Continued trail clean ups are happening. The State Forester recently came to a meeting to discuss the forestry management plans that are available through the state, including cranberry bog restoration plans. Community garden plans will now begin, and he hopes to have a document prepared for approval soon.

Hearings:

Request for Determination of Applicability (RDA) – 59 Highland Drive

In attendance: Maria Baylis

Project is to construct a steel building on the property. Closest point to the wetlands is a potential vernal pool 52 feet away. BVW is 105 feet away. Mr. Egerton asked if there were any alternative spots to place the building. Mr. Clarke stated the position is acceptable, and the vernal pool is protected. Mr. Boidi asked if there would be a driveway leading to the building. The homeowner stated it may be crushed stone or just left natural. There are some trees that will be removed, most are dead, and some brush cleared. Mr. Clarke stated the Commission requests for each tree removed either 3 be planted elsewhere or \$10 be donated to the tree fund. Mr. Boidi stated that the vernal pool should be protected as a natural habitat. Mr. Clarke agreed to walk the property with the homeowner and contractor to assure the potential vernal pool is protected and the building is placed in an appropriate area.

A motion to close the hearing was made by Mr. Boidi and seconded by Mr. Clarke. Vote by roll call, Mr. Clarke, yes, Ms. Gremlich, yes, Mr. Boidi, yes, Mr. Egerton, yes. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion to issue a negative 3 determination with the usual conditions as well as those stipulated tonight was made by Mr. Clarke and seconded by Ms. Gremlich. Vote by roll call, Mr Clarke, yes, Ms. Gremlich, yes, Mr. Boidi, yes, Mr. Egerton, yes. Motion passed unanimously.

Request for Determination of Applicability (RDA) – 354 School Street

In attendance: Scott Matthews

This project is for an addition on the rear of the house. There is an abandoned cranberry bog 31 feet away. There is open space between the home and bog, no tree removal.

A motion to close the hearing was made by Mr. Clarke and seconded by Mr. Boidi. Vote by roll call, Mr Clarke, yes, Ms. Gremlich, yes, Mr. Boidi, yes, Mr. Egerton, yes. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion to issue a negative 3 determination with the usual conditions as well as those stipulated tonight was made by Mr. Clarke and seconded by Mr. Boidi. Vote by roll call, Mr Clarke, yes, Ms. Gremlich, yes, Mr. Boidi, yes, Mr. Egerton, yes. Motion passed unanimously.

Request for Determination of Applicability (RDA) – 190 Barker Street

In attendance: William Chenard, Town Manager

The deed requires that the home be removed from the property. Existing home is 97 feet from the BVW. Mr. Clarke that the area will be graded to match the existing slope. The water service will be investigated for future use at the potential community gardens that will be established on the property. Mr. Clarke recommended having a some sort of safety measures set up during the demolition to reduce distractions on that curve of the road.

A motion to close the hearing was made by Mr. Boidi and seconded by Mr. Clarke. Vote by roll call, Mr Clarke, yes, Ms. Gremlich, yes, Mr. Boidi, yes, Mr. Egerton, yes. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion to issue a negative 3 determination with the usual conditions as well as those stipulated tonight was made by Mr. Clarke and seconded by Ms. Gremlich. Vote by roll call, Mr Clarke, yes, Ms. Gremlich, yes, Mr. Boidi, yes, Mr. Egerton, yes. Motion passed unanimously.

Discussions:

Community Garden at The Arthur and Michelle Lage Preserve –

The Open Space Committee has proposed the establishment of community gardens at the Lage Preserve and requests approval from the Conservation Commission.

Mr. Egerton suggests a sub committee to oversee the operations of a community garden. Mr. Clarke asked if this would be under the authority of the Open Space or the Conservation Commission. Mr. Boidi stated that Conservation would be the authority to avoid a middleman. Mr. Clarke suggested that Open Space form a plan and present it to Conservation outlining the management plans of the gardens. Mr. Clarke also stated that approval and open communication with the Town Manager's office is essential. Mr. Chenard recommended that the board approve the establishment of the gardens so that the plans can begin. He also explained that requesting a revolving fund is necessary and will eventually need to be voted on at Town Meeting for approval. These funds would be available before that vote to hold any funds raised and would allow the establishment of the gardens.

Mr. Clarke moved that Conservation authorizes the Open Space Committee to continue and form plans for Community Gardens at 190 Barker Street, seconded by Ms. Gremlich. Vote by roll call, Mr Clarke, yes, Ms. Gremlich, yes, Mr. Boidi, yes, Mr. Egerton, yes. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Boidi said that he will report back with plans from the Open Space Committee. The question was raised to whether a revolving fund would be limited to the gardens at this property only or be available to future projects. Mr. Chenard said that would be at the discretion of the town.

Mr Boidi motioned to close the discussion, seconded by Mr. Clarke. Vote by roll call, Mr Clarke, yes, Ms. Gremlich, yes, Mr. Boidi, yes, Mr. Egerton, yes. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr Boidi motioned to request the town establish a revolving fund for Pembroke Community Gardens, seconded by Ms. Gremlich. Vote by roll call, Mr Clarke, yes, Ms. Gremlich, yes, Mr. Boidi, yes, Mr. Egerton, yes. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Chenard said that he would speak with the town accountant to get the account established. Mr. Boidi asked when he would be able to get donations from local companies to get the fund moving. Mr. Chenard stated after town meeting, funds would be able to be deposited to the account.

A motion was made by Mr. Clarke and seconded by Mr. Boidi to adjourn the meeting at 7:00pm. Vote by roll call, Mr. Clarke, yes, Ms. Gremlich, yes, Mr. Boidi, yes, Mr. Egerton, yes. Motion passed unanimously.