



Approved May 23, 2023

Town of Duxbury Conservation Commission

TOWN CLERK
2023 MAY 30 AM 10:44
DUXBURY, MASS.

Minutes of May 9, 2023

The Duxbury Conservation Commission met in person in the Town Hall Mural Room on Tuesday, May 9, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.

Members Present: Robb D'Ambruoso, Chair; Scott Zoltowski, Vice Chair; Sam Butcher; Corey Wisneski; Mickey McGonagle

Members Absent: Holly Morris; Thomas Gill, III

Staff Present: Nancy Rufo, Conservation Administrator; Debbie Ballem, Principal Assistant

Meeting was called to order by Chair, Robb D'Ambruoso at 7:00 p.m. He introduced seated Commission members and staff.

CONTINUED PUBLIC HEARING; Town of Duxbury/Duxbury Seawall Phase II, II, & IV, seawall construction

SE18-0000 (DEP file # pending)

Nancy Rufo informed board members that Town Contractor, Pat Brennan, requested to continue the hearing to June 13, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. Plan revisions are in still process and Mr. Brennan is also awaiting a response from MEPA.

Scott Zoltowski made a motion, seconded by Mickey McGonagle, to continue the public hearing on the Town of Duxbury Seawall Phase II, III & IV to June 13, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. Motion passed unanimously 5-0.

PUBLIC HEARING; Shea/Grady Construction; Notice of Intent; 0 Gurnet Road, single family home construction on open pile foundation

SE18-2040

Robb D'Ambruoso read the Legal Notice opening the hearing for 0 Gurnet Road. Nancy Rufo informed board members that she performed a site visit and determined the lot is marginal and within a highly sensitive area. Ms. Rufo recommended a peer review of the resource areas at the expense of the applicant and continuing the hearing to June 13, 2023 at 7:01 p.m. A proposal for the peer review dated April 23, 2023 from Lenore White of Wetland Strategies totals \$1,500.00.

Corey Wisneski made a motion, seconded by Mickey McGonagle, to retain Lenore White of Wetland Strategies to perform a peer review of the resource areas at 0 Gurnet Road. Motion passed unanimously 5-0.

Corey Wisneski made a motion, seconded by Mickey McGonagle, to continue the public hearing on 0 Gurnet Road to June 13, 2023 at 7:01 p.m. Motion passed unanimously 5-0.

CONTINUED PUBLIC HEARING; McKenzie Engineering; Notice of Intent; Land off Keene Street, Parkside development, drainage for subdivision

SE18-2028

878 Tremont Street, Duxbury, MA 02332; Telephone: 781-934-1100 x 5471; Fax: 781-934-1137

The mission of the Town of Duxbury is to deliver excellent services to the community in the most fiscally responsible and innovative manner while endeavoring to broaden our sense of community and preserve the unique character of our town.

Nancy Rufo informed board members the applicant requested to continue the hearing to May 23, 2023 at 7:02 p.m. The hearing will be hybrid in order to accommodate a quorum of Commissioners and a representative of the proposed project who will attend via Zoom.

Scott Zoltowski made a motion, seconded by Sam Butcher, to continue the hearing for SE18-2028 to May 23, 2023 at 7:02 p.m. as a hybrid meeting. Motion passed unanimously 5-0.

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

Minutes for Approval:

Regular Session Minutes: April 25, 2023

Corey Wisneski made a motion, seconded by Scott Zoltowski, to approve the April 25, 2023 Regular Session minutes. Motion passed unanimously 5-0.

Proposed 2023 Meeting Schedule

Board members approved all proposed dates, with the exception of December 26th, which was removed from the schedule.

Open Seat on Open Space Committee

Board members were notified by Pat Loring about an open seat on the Open Space Committee. The board currently has liaisons from Planning, Water, Board of Health, and Community Preservation Committee, who are all responsible for creating the Open Space & Recreation Plan. The Open Space Committee meets monthly, and each department reports on their projects. Currently there is no one from the Conservation Commission on the board. Mickey McGonagle put himself forward as the representative of the Conservation Commission.

Envision Duxbury

Nancy Rufo updated board members on the progress of the Envision Duxbury Action Items. Some of the items are ongoing, in process, or complete. Ms. Rufo suggested forming a working group that meets monthly to address actions items. Board members discussed the need for staff and funds to complete some of the items and proposed inviting Chris Ryan to a meeting to discuss what items should be prioritized, and what items might be possible through grant funding. Ms. Rufo agreed to arrange for Chris Ryan to attend an upcoming meeting.

Tree Policy Update

Board members reviewed the Town of Duxbury tree policy draft, and compared it with the Town of Lincoln tree policy. It was noted that the Town of Lincoln has a more comprehensive policy with a helpful FAQ section. Board members agreed to duplicate the Town of Lincoln policy, but replace the tree removal application form with the Duxbury form.

Mickey McGonagle made a motion, seconded by Sam Butcher, to adopt the Town of Duxbury Tree as discussed. Motion passed unanimously 5-0.

Regulation clarifications

Clarification of the Town of Duxbury wetlands regulation Section 23.9 was tabled until the next meeting on May 23, 2023. Robb D'Ambruoso offered to make the first revision and send to the Commissioners for discussion at the next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Board members discussed the status of North Hill and the possibility of forming a working group to determine what parcels would make sense for Conservation land, Municipal services, and housing. It was noted that the Rural & Historical Society could be helpful.

Nancy Rufo presented photos of completed trail maintenance necessary at North Hill previously discussed with Scott Zoltowski. Some trails were repaired, and trails that were washed out or required maintenance were blocked off due to safety issues. Board members discussed standing water and exposed roots that are unsafe and cause erosion and widening of trails. Ms. Rufo stated that the land management assistant is available for future trail maintenance and repair.

Mickey McGonagle informed board members that Joe Grady was approved for five hours per week with the Conservation Department through the end of the fiscal year (June 30, 2023). His primary focus will be an electronic/photo inventory of bridges and boardwalks, with the hope that he may also be able to make some progress identifying Conservation property boundaries if time permits.

Nancy Rufo updated board members on the status of unauthorized dirt bike activity on Conservation land. Duxbury Police notified Conservation that they located the owners of the dirt bikes and would have a discussion with them. The acting Chief of Police will be attending the Conservation meeting on June 13th to discuss overlapping interests with the Commission.

ADJOURNMENT: Sam Butcher made a motion, seconded by Scott Zoltowski, to adjourn the meeting at 8:08 p.m. Motion passed unanimously 5-0

The next Conservation Commission meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 23, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.