



TOWN OF BOXBOROUGH NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING Meeting Minutes

Conservation Commission
January 6, 2021
7:30 PM
Zoom

Approved: Jan. 20, 2021

Members Present: Dennis Reip (Chair), Dave Follett, Norm Hanover, Steve Schmitt, and Hoff Stuart

Members Absent: David Koonce

Also Present: Becky Neville, Finance Committee Member, and Elizabeth (Shuxuan) Li, Acton-Boxborough Regional High School Senior and Boxborough resident, as part of her environmental science class' service learning project on environmental issues in town.

At 7:33 PM, Dennis called the meeting to order and noted this meeting is being conducted via Remote Participation, pursuant to Governor Baker's Executive Order of March 12, 2020, due to the current State of Emergency in the Commonwealth due to the outbreak of COVID-19 a.k.a. the Coronavirus.

Motion was made by Norm, seconded by Hoff and voted unanimously by roll call to approve the minutes of Dec. 16, 2020 as amended. Reip yes; Follett yes; Hanover yes; Schmitt yes; Stuart yes.

Motion was made by Hoff, seconded by Dave and voted unanimously by roll call to approve payment of \$62.18 to Simon's Stamps for \$62.18. Reip yes; Follett yes; Hanover yes; Schmitt yes; Stuart yes.

Motion was made by Dennis, seconded by Dave and voted unanimously by roll call to approve payment of the Oxbow Associates invoice for \$750.00 for invasives management. Reip yes; Follett yes; Hanover yes; Schmitt yes; Stuart yes.

Becky Neville, Finance Committee Member, asked if the Commission needed all of the money allocated in the budget. The Commissioners replied funds would be used for upcoming projects like signage, boardwalks, and bridges.

Dennis reviewed the following correspondence:

The Building Inspector's email regarding 650 Massachusetts Avenue noted the fill is approximately 87 feet from the stream and he has notified the builder to correct this earthwork violation.

Oxbow Associates monitoring report for DEP 113-534 Taylor Farm Road. Invasives are present in the wetland replication at a high level. Herbicides will be used and native species will be replanted.

Carla Briggs email dated Dec. 17, 2020 reported at least one hunter was seen at Elizabeth Brook Knoll.

Panek Property Conservation Restriction field report of inspection on Nov. 28. 2020

Jonathan Greeno email regarding land use at 1197 Massachusetts Avenue.

LanSCom letter to Boxborough Conservation Trust regarding trail maintenance guidelines.

M Smithers, Acton-Boxborough Family Network, email inquiring about a family story walk on the Hager / Library property trails. She was advised it is municipal land under Boxborough Select Board jurisdiction. The Commission has no issues because the temporary activity should not adversely impact the Wetlands Protection Act interests.

Planner Request for Comments: 871 Massachusetts Avenue Site Plan Approval. The Commission noted they have no jurisdiction and this proposed project will not require their review.

Hearing Continuation Determination of Applicability (DoA)
Location: 329 Massachusetts Avenue Assessor's Map 15-003-000
Applicant / Owner: Jesse Floyd and Michelle Brosnahan
Application filed by Edson Architecture.
Present: Jesse Floyd, Michelle Brosnahan and Becca Edson
Project description: reconstruction of a storm damaged sunroom and garage within existing footprint.

An Order of Conditions 113-485 was issued for this site and the applicant has requested a Certificate of Compliance. Dennis inspected the site on Dec. 29, 2020 and found the site to be in conformance. Motion was made by Dennis, seconded by Dave and voted unanimously by roll call to approve the Certificate of Compliance 113-485.

Reip yes; Follett yes; Hanover yes; Schmitt yes; Stuart yes.

The Commission discussed the DoA and noted other large pines that could potentially damage the house during a storm. The Commission discussed the two following conditions to be added to the negative Determination:

1. Work shall conform to the conditions of the previous Order and Certificate of Compliance, File No. 113-485.
2. Tree trimming and removal work may be performed at any time in conformance with the Policy for Minor Maintenance Activity in Wetlands Buffer Zone.

Motion was made by Dennis, seconded by Norm and voted unanimously by roll call to approve a negative Determination of Applicability with conditions.

Reip yes; Follett yes; Hanover yes; Schmitt yes; Stuart yes.

199 Middle Road Enforcement Order Status Update

Dennis updated the Commission on his correspondence with Town Counsel.

He also noted the Building Department letter dated Jan. 5, 2021 confirming there have been no changes at the site. The Inspector viewed the site from an adjacent property.

At 9:02 PM, motion was made by Hoff, seconded by Norm and voted unanimously by roll call to adjourn. Reip yes; Follett yes; Hanover yes; Schmitt yes; Stuart yes.

Documents used during this meeting:

Agenda

Draft Minutes Dec. 16, 2020

Correspondence

329 Mass Ave Request for Certificate of Compliance

Certificate of Compliance

Request for Determination of Applicability and associated plan

Determination of Applicability