



MENDON CONSERVATION COMMISSION

20 Main Street
Mendon, Massachusetts 01756

Meeting Minutes of March 25, 2021

This meeting was held remotely via publicly accessible video and teleconference as a precautionary measure against the COVID-19 Coronavirus.

The remote meeting began at 7:07 PM. The Clerk reviewed the protocols for conducting remote meetings.

Members present: Damon Tinio, Mike Ammendolia, Peter Coffin, Bill Aten (lost contact ~7:20 pm)

Chairman Tinio called the meeting to order at 7:10 PM.

The Commission continued discussion of resident concerns about runoff reported between Kelley Rd. and Blackstone St. Damon Tinio reported that several commissioners and others had visited the possible runoff source sites and measures had been taken to mitigate the issues, including breaching of beaver dams by the Mendon Highway Department and installation of erosion controls in several locations.

The Commission continued discussion of residents' concerns about flooding impacts between Talbott Farm Rd and Rt. 140. Commissioner Tim Aicardi had inspected potential source sites on Cape Rd. and directed one property owner to install rip rap to redirect flows toward storm drains and remove snow banks to restore drainage. Peter Coffin reported on his inspection of areas farther downslope, pointing out that a large (5+ acre) portion of a hillside had been clear cut and erosion controls below had been overpowered, allowing silt to be carried into the wooded wetland areas. The Clerk was directed to send a letter to the owner of 23 Cape Rd. requesting their participation in the next meeting to address the situation.

At 7:20 pm the Commission opened the Public Hearing to review Notices of Intent for a proposed single-family house at **27 Park St. / Freeman Place. (DEP# 218-0809)**. Margaret Bacon, of Civil Site Engineering, presented the plan. It was agreed that the plan will need revision to include a sump and erosion controls around the well location. Mike Ammendolia made a motion, seconded by Peter Coffin, to continue the hearing to the April 22 meeting at 7:15 pm.

As the roll call vote was being taken, it was discovered that the online connection with Bill Aten had been lost and a quorum was no longer present. The connection was never restored, so the Commission continued the meeting without considering any decisions or taking any votes.

The Commission discussed encroachments into the Gaskill Meadows Conservation Area that need correction by abutting property owners with some of the residents who had received invitations to discuss their responsibilities with the Commission. The owners of 54 George St., 2 Pond St., 4 Pond St., and 12 Pond St. each reviewed their individual situations. It was agreed that efforts would be made to more precisely delineate the boundary line between the Open Space and residents' properties so everyone could be more accountable to their responsibilities.

The next Conservation Commission meeting was scheduled for April 22, 2021.

The Commission resumed discussion of mowing in the **Gaskill Meadows Conservation Area**, which needs to be completed before April 15, 2021. The Clerk volunteered to gather more detail from bidders to justify quoted prices.

Keith Gazzillo, of Solitude Lake Management, presented options for the 2021 treatment program for **Lake Nipmuc**. The Commission is entertaining proposals from several vendors. The Commission will award a contract at an upcoming meeting.

The property owner of 13 Blackstone St. requested a site visit with a Commissioner to advise him on cutting of trees near a wetland area. Damon Tinio volunteered to schedule a consultation.

At 8:37, Mike Ammendolia made a motion, seconded by Peter Coffin, to adjourn. Roll call vote: Damon Tinio: aye; Mike Ammendolia: aye; Peter Coffin: aye.

Minutes prepared by Bill McHenry, clerk