



TOWN OF WARE

Conservation Commission

126 Main Street, Ware, Massachusetts 01082

413.967.9648

Meeting Minutes from

Wednesday, December 14, 2022

Selectmen's Conference Room, Town Hall

Commission Members Present: Chairman Mark Swett, Vice-Chair Thomas Barnes, Dennis Cote

Commission Members in Remote Participation: Kristin Rosenbeck

Commission Members Absent: Peter Toper IV

Public in Attendance: Casey Birch, Glen Krovosky, Nicole Croteau, John Prenosil, Anna Marques

Public in Remote Participation: None

Governor Baker's Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c.30A, §20, dated March 10, 2020, allows remote participation under this Order due to the Coronavirus State of Emergency.

Topics may have been taken out of order according to posted agenda.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman called the meeting to order at 6:31pm and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPLICATIONS

RDA-2022-14 by Joseph Croteau Jr., 18 Lower Cove Road

Request for Determination of Applicability whether the work is subject to the WPA for the removal of four (4) threat trees.

The Commission reviewed the application for tree removal. Two trees are abutting the neighbors driveway and two behind the carport, all within 100ft to Beaver Lake. Removal of trees will be done by a local tree contractor who will be using crane to lower all limbs and trunks to the driveway staging area where a log truck will be for loading and tree limbs chipped. Tree stumps will remain 1-2 ft above grade. No stump grinding is permitted. Agent John Prenosil informed the Commission this was a standard tree removal and appears to have no issues. No further discussion.

MOTION by Thomas Barnes to issue a Negative Determination, sighting number 3 with the following conditions: any equipment needing refueling shall be outside the 100ft buffer; all motorized equipment must be parked outside the buffer zone overnight; any additional work may require a separate permit application; remove all tree debris from the site, stumps to remain 1-2feet above grade and no stump grinding. Seconded by Dennis Cote. No further discussion.

Roll Call: Mark Swett Yes Thomas Barnes Yes
Dennis Cote Yes Kristin Rosenbeck Yes
All in Favor 4/0/0.

[continue to next page]

ADMINISTRATION

A. Tractor Supply – 256 West Street, Concept Plan, General Discussion

Casey Birch presented a concept plan to the Commission and Agent to verify if the applicant should proceed with filing a Notice of Intent or RDA application. The Commission agreed a Notice of Intent would be required. Mr. Birch continued to explain the recent zone change which was needed to build. Explained the layout of the building in relations to the wetlands, streams, property lines and abutters. General discussion included the railroad in front of the property. Vice-Chair T. Barnes asked if the railroad is officially discontinued. Mr. Birch stated he will do the research and confirm. Glen Krovosky stated he flagged the site, noticed hydraulic soils. Any wetland disturbance will be restored. There will be no culverts on site. Once the traffic study is complete, the site may be modified. The closet point to the wetlands is 16feet. Chairman M. Swett suggested to install a fence to stop trash debris entering the wetland areas and wanted permanent boundary markers installed along the delineation. Submit an As-Built Plan indicating markers once construction is done and part of the Request for Certificate of Compliance. Town Manager Stuart Beckley asked about connection to the sewer lines, 300feet is too long he stated. Mr. Birch stated he would need to verify. Mr. Krovosky stated when the fence is installed, there will be a 4-6inch gap off the ground. End of discussion. No action taken.

B. Approval of Minutes – November 09, 2023

MOTION by Vice-Chair Thomas Barnes to approve the minutes as presented. Seconded by Dennis Cote. No further discussion.

Roll Call: Mark Swett Yes Thomas Barnes Yes
Dennis Cote Yes Kristin Rosenbeck Yes
All in Favor 4/0/0.

C. Forest Cutting Plan – Byron Stutzman 19821 Trust, Old Poor Farm Road

The Commission reviewed and acknowledged the application. No discussion. No action taken.

D. Beaver Issue – 1 Greenwich Plains Road

Agent J. Prenosil stated there is no set plan at this time, working with Beaver Solutions on how to proceed. Anna Marques inquired about possibly removing the dam. Town Manager S. Beckley would like to remove the dam, but not sure State Agencies would appreciate it. There are additional dams in the area that also need to be addressed. General discussion continued about those locations. Agent J. Prenosil is to follow up to see how deep this particular dam is to consider if removing the dam would have an effect on the raise of water in the pond. A. Marques stated MADOT will reinforce the wall near J. Pentlarge property and would like to discuss the structural details more in depth with whomever Mr. Pentlarge hires. No further discussion. No action taken.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Dennis Cote to adjourn at 7:15pm. All in Favor 4/0/0.

Next regular scheduled meeting is on January 11, 2023.

Minutes from December 14, 2022

Respectfully Submitted,

Nicole Croteau

Conservation Commission Administrator

Minutes Approved on: 03/08/2023

Swett _____
Barnes _____
Cote _____
Rosenbeck _____
Topor, IV _____