

Town of Phillipston Conservation Commission

MINUTES, Tuesday, June 16, 2015

Location: Town Annex, 15 Templeton Road

ATTENDANCE

Commissioners present (quorum met):

Terry Dymek, Chair
Rose Frizzell, Vice-Chair
Caroline Williams, Clerk

Commissioners absent:

Dawn Odams - notice given
Peter Stanley – no notice
Thomas Brouillet, Associate – no notice

Visitors attending: 8 additional individuals, (see attached meeting sign-in sheet)

Meeting convened, 7:09 pm by Commission Chair Dymek

APPOINTMENT - Public Hearing for Notice of Intent, Solar Panel Array, 190 Baldwinville Road.

Greg Carey of Clean Energy Collective and Wesley Flis of Whitman & Bingham Associates presented information on the proposed site layout and anticipated future operation. The landowner, Bert Leardes was also present. July Schmitz, Circuit Rider with MA DEP attended to advise the Conservation Commission.

The 1 megawatt solar installation would be ground mounted on approximately 8 acres and the energy produced sold to subscribing residential customers. The site is currently an auto salvage business for which aerial and ground view photographs were shown. Cars would be removed from the site with an existing building remaining. Two streams and an area of endangered species are within the project property. A filing was made with MA Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program.

Land use and clearing would be restricted by the Commercial zoning district boundary on the property's south side. On the northeast, total disturbed area would be 10,500 square feet with trees removed, leaving stumps and allowing brush growth. The currently disturbed areas will have loam and seed placed within the 100 foot buffer zone and will be maintained as a grassed meadow. The developer's engineer stated the grass would offset drainage from the array bases. No cutting would occur within the wetland and no work within the riparian zone.

A silt fence and straw waddles will be used for erosion control. No hard drainage structures would be used – only grass. Construction would take 3 months from Summer to Fall with no work by next spring.

Vice-Chair Frizzell inquired if chemical weed control would be used. The company representatives said no, only mechanical mowing. The type of grass would typically be low growth fescue. Chair Dymek read the erosion control notes from page 4 of the supplied plan. According to Mr. Flis, they would be filing with the EPA due to the size of the project area.

A special permit was requested by the company from the Planning Board which will meet on the

Town of Phillipston Conservation Commission

request June 17, 2015.

Three conditions were placed by the Conservation Commission on the Order of Conditions. (1) If herbicides are to be used, the Commission must be notified in advance; (2) Cut trees must be removed from the site; (3) The plan will be amended per input from MA Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program (NHESP) of the MA Division of Fisheries and Wildlife.

Motion made by Commission Clerk Williams to approved Order of Conditions as read; motion seconded by Vice-Chair Frizzell; motion unanimously passed.

Clerk Williams agreed to hand deliver the signed Order to the applicants and Planning Board at the Town Hall the next evening, June 17 prior to the Planning Board meeting at 7 pm.

UNSCHEDULED REQUEST – None

MINUTES

Commission Clerk Williams motioned to approve the meeting minutes for Tuesday, June 2, 2015; Commission Vice-Chair Frizzell seconded; motion unanimously approved.

CLERK'S REPORT

Commission Clerk Williams inquired if Windows Security was sufficient for the new laptop, which was affirmed by the Chair. A printer had been purchased by the Clerk and was set up earlier that evening by the Chairman.

TREASURER'S REPORT – deferred until the Treasurer could be present.

OLD BUSINESS - None

NEW BUSINESS

Equipment Disposal – The Clerk asked permission to dispose of the old laptop and received approval. She informed the Commission that the ArcGIS software CD's were being retained.

CLOSING

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, July 7, 2015 at 7 pm.

Commission Clerk Williams motioned to adjourn the meeting; Commission Vice-Chair Frizzell seconded; motion unanimously approved.

Meeting adjourned, 8:03 pm.

Submitted 07/21/2015
Caroline Williams, Clerk

Approved 07/21/2015

Town of Phillipston
Conservation Commission

Date: 6/16/2015

Town of Phillipston, MA
Conservation Commission
MEETING SIGN-IN SHEET



	Name	Address	Phone	Purpose
1	Erin Don			TGN
2	Doug Carlton			CEC
3	GREGG CAREY		617-834-8567	Clean Energy Collective
4	Wesley F. Iii	W. Thomas Birmingham Associates LLC 510 Mechanics Sr Community Mt	978-537-1296	Clean Energy Collective
5	CLARKE FEWNER	2 LIBBEX LANE RYE NH	603-326-9692	STELLAR ENERGY
6	Judy Schmitz	191 School St N	508-767-2722	DEP
7	Anthony W. Jones	505 Royalston Rd	978-821-5841	Resident
8	Bert Leavelle	190 Saddlebrook Dr	978-244-9371	homes inc
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