

Minutes of the Taunton Conservation Commission January 10, 2022

Present: Chair Steven Turner, Vice Chair Debra Botellio, Commissioners Joshua Borden, Richard Enos, Matthew Haggerty and Jan Rego. Commissioner Luis Freitas absent. Conservation Agent, Michele Restino and Recording Secretary Denise Irving also present.

Motion to approve the minutes of the November & December meeting. DB, second JB, so voted.

Motion to move Election of Chair/Co-Chair and Executive Session until the end of the meeting. DB, second JB, so voted.

Continued Certificate of Compliance:

1. 34 Railroad Ave., Malloch Group, COC, SE73-2798 – to close out Order of Conditions. Motion to continue to 2/7/22 meeting DB, second JB, so voted.

Continued Public Hearing:

1. 147 Winthrop Street, McClean, NOI, SE73-2912 reconfigure parking to include 2 spots in front and removal of a concrete patio. Motion to continue to 2/7/22 meeting JB, second DB, so voted.

2. 187 Run Brook Circle, Moniz/Run Brook Dev., LLC, NOI, SE73-2962 – construct a SFH w/ on site sanitary system, roof recharge system, driveway, utilities, & grading. Motion to continue to 2/7/22 meeting DB, second JB so voted.

3. Dora Drive (Assessor's Lot 101-27), Dora Estates, LLC, NOI, SE73-2961 – construction of a three unit residential building. Motion to continue to 2/7/22 meeting JB, second DB, so voted.

Public Hearing:

1. 43 Chandler Avenue (Assessor's Lot 54-459), Rodriques, NOI, SE73-2965 – construction of a four unit multi-family building. Motion to continue to 2/7/22 meeting DB, second JB, so voted.

2. Run Brook Circle Lot 14 (Assessor's Lot 49-109), Moniz/Run Brook Dev., LLC, NOI, SE73-2966 – construction of a SFH w/onsite sanitary system, roof recharge system, driveway, utilities and grading. Motion to continue to 2/7/22 meeting DB, second JB, so voted.

Certificate of Compliance:

1. 190 Run Brook Circle, Run Brook Development, LLC, COC, SE73-2908 - to close out Order of Conditions. Christopher Moniz, present. Motion to approve DB, JB second, so voted.

Public Meeting:

1. Run Brook Circle Lot 27 (Assessor's Lot 49-103), Run Brook Development, LLC RDA, DSE-1292 – to construct SFH w/ onsite sanitary system, roof recharge system, driveway, associated utilities & grading. Christopher Moniz, present. Motion to issue a Negative Determination with Special Conditions 1-4, 14, 16, 18, & 19. JR, second JB, so voted.

Motion to return to order, DB, second JB, so voted.

Certificate of Compliance:

1. 851 Cohannet Street, DeSousa, COC, SE73-2719 – to close out Order of Conditions. DB voice concerns that the shed was 25' away and now only 10'. MR states the shed was not on the original plan. Motion to approve JB, second LF, DB no, motion carries.

Continued Public Hearing:

1. 175 S. Walker Street, Andrade/175 S. Walker Street, LLC, NOI, SE73 -2960 – for construction of a cluster of four mixed-use buildings for residential townhouses & commercial office space. John DeSousa, Northcounty Group present. JB requests JD ask for a continuance to give time to take care of the Planning Board issues and have the DIRB meeting. The Commission has not seen revised plans that they requested last month. JD requests continuance until March and will provide new plans. He states that he came tonight to request the continuance. JD also requested copy of the sign in sheet. Motion to continue until 3/7/22 meeting JB, second DB, so voted. ST allows public input as neighbors have been waiting when JD could have requested to continue prior to the meeting. Lorraine Carr, 181 S. Walker Street has concerns that the water pipe is already at full capacity. ST states that should be addressed at the DIRB meeting. She also would like to see a topography map, snow removal concerns. When her septic was done there was a lot of ledge. She has everything in her basement on

pallets due to flooding. Victor Santos, 414 Winthrop Street asks if the stream is perennial and MR states that it is intermittent. VS stated that the 42" pipe is not big enough to handle and should have been bigger when Nichols Mills was done. It will definitely back up. Again ST states that it should be brought up at the DIRB hearing. The Water table has not been determined and storm water doesn't go into the sewer. Who will be reviewing their plan that is submitted? ST states the City Engineer will review and the Commission will also require a final plan. Crystal O'Leary, 200 S. Walker Street and also on behalf of her parents that live at 191 S. Walker Street. She has a video from the last large rain storm showing the water flow and would like to email it to the Commission. ST requested that she email it to MR and then she will forward to the Commission.

Public Hearing:

- 1. 188 Plain Street, Rogers, NOI, SE73-2964** – for septic system repair. Brad Fitzgerald, SFG Associates present. BF gave his presentation of the project. Motion to approve with Special Conditions 1-5, 8, 9, 17, 19, 21, 25-27. JB, second DB, so voted.
- 2. 0 Whittenton Street (Assessors's Lot 31-352 Lot 2), Riendeau, NOI, SE73-2963** – to construct a SFH w/ utilities, driveway, & associated site grading. Brad Fitzgerald, SFG Associates and Rick Riendeau, owner present. RE asks if the rain will run off in the back? – BF states that it works its way back to the wetlands. JB asks if the house could be made smaller? – would not be financially feasible. JB asks would he be willing to put a post and rail fence as a boundary. RR is not opposed to that. JB requests that RR add approximately 40' of post and rail fencing, 2' off of flagged wetlands, A15-A17 along erosion control line. (to be added as Special Condition #43). DB asks how long have you owned the property? – less than a year. Owner wasn't aware of all the conservation issues when he purchased the property. Motion to approve with Special Conditions 1-5, 7-9, 16, 17, 19, 21,25-27, 43. JB, second RE, DB no, motion carries.

Other Business:

- 1. Friends of Boyden** – AJ Marshall, Park & Rec, Dan Rezendes, Greg deMelo, Elizabeth Sisskind, & Margaret Travis, Friends of Boyden present. Letter was submitted by Dan Rezendes to address safety concerns of the fencing and picnic area. ST asks how old is the fence? – AJM approximately 12-18 months old. The

post and rail was installed. There was chain link but that was only temporary. DR has concerns about the fence and the sloping of the grounds – not the quality of the fence. Fence looks good but doesn't minimize the risk of someone getting hurt. The slope is the danger. DR is concerned for families with children that could slip thru the fence and with the eroded ground sloping they could tumble down the hill to the water. DB states that the Army Corp. of Engineers had done a study and the grounds have been eroding 35-40 years now. ES is concerned for toddlers and little ones that can get thru or under the fencing. AJM states the fence is doing what it was designed to go. It was never designed to keep a child out. Maybe the fence could be moved back further into the picnic area & mesh installed along the back of the fence? AJM also stated they are working on getting grants. It's a constant battle with falling trees smashing fencing. Maybe a three rail fence would be better? AJM will work up some cost estimates. Black chain link fencing would be approximately 35-50 thousand, post and rail is approximately \$15 a foot. Maybe install a snow fence further down the bank to prevent a slide down? ST asks if FOB has any funds for this? GD states FOB has minimal funds. He has also checked into fencing prices 42" galvanized welded wire would be about \$9500, 48" high not wired mesh runs about \$6500. DB states this is a Wildlife Refuge and not a park. DB would like to ask MA Wildlife for their advice. Doesn't want to see anyone get hurt. AJM thinks moving the fence could be a solution and is a little resistant to chain link. If we do chain link fencing it will be black vinyl as this is what is used for all City projects now. AJM is willing to work with FOB on this. MH thanks everyone for their concern and taking up the issue. He asks if a vertical timber could be put in place to the existing post and rail fence so the fence would not have to be moved and the vertical timbers would offer protection that is needed. AJM will check into that. Making the post and rail a picket fence would look better than chain link and the Park & Rec crew could probably do the work instead of hiring outside. ES shows photos showing large gaps in the sections of fence. AJM asks are you asking for additional fence? JB asks what is the funding source for all of this? Can filing fees be used? ST thinks we could maybe use but let's wait to see what AJM comes up with for a proposal. AJM states that his department has a small fence budget. Maybe this could be a cost share project. Let's work on it and give an update at the February meeting. Motion to continue to 2/7/22 meeting DB, second RE, so voted.

DB will contact MA Wildlife. JB requested that FOB be put first on the February agenda. MT stated people are dropping off all kinds of things on the trails now. It started with the fairy houses but now there is all kinds of things out there. Motion made for MR to work with AJM to get signage up stating that unwanted knick knacks are not to be left on the trails and will be removed by FOB. DB, second JR, so voted. MT will also work with MR on the Bent Awards for presentation in either April or May.

2. Election of Officers – Chairman & Co-Chairman

Motion to re-elect Steven Turner as Chairman, accepted, JB, second RE, so voted. Motion to re-elect Debra Botellio as Co-Chairman, accepted, RE, second MH, so voted.

3. Executive Session – roll call vote, all said yes & will not be returning to regular meeting.

Executive Session – no votes taken, continue to 2/7/22 meeting.

Motion to adjourn at 7:30 p.m. JB, second DB, so voted.