

GEORGETOWN CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Memorial Town Hall * One Library Street * Georgetown, MA 01833

MEETING MINUTES – September 21, 2023

Conservation Commissions Present: C. Shreder, C. Candia, R. Chane, T. Howland, L. Umberger, Ida Wye
Staff Present, J. Lopes, Conservation Consultant part time Agent.

Absent: R. Bancroft

START of the MEETING:

At 7:01 pm, the meeting started with Mr. Shreder reading Governor Maura Healy's supplemental budget bill allowing for remote meetings.

Minutes

1. No meeting minutes present for approval

Notice of Intent

2. **196 West Main Street** - (DEP #161-0938); GCC 2023-xx NOI
Replace former deck with a new footprint deck. Michael Desmond and Susan Burns homeowner's representing the project. The former footprint of the deck was 8' x 30' the new footprint is planned at 15' x 20' with the 15' feet closer to the wetland. R. Chane motioned for a site visit on Monday 9/25, 2023 at 6pm – C. Candia seconded. Roll call Chane, Candia, Howland, Shreder, Wye yes – Umberger No R. Chane made a motion to continue 196 West Main Street to Oct 19, 2023 at 7:10 pm – seconded by T. Howland. B. Roll call Was taken vote all in favor except Umberger abstained. Carl informed the applicants that the Con Com office needs a letter in writing that the Con Com has permission to enter the property for the site walk.
3. **1-3 Tenney Street** - (DEP #161-0940) – GCC #2023 –x NOI
Abandon existing septic system, install a new subsurface sewage system, cut trees, and install associated utilities The proposal is to install a standard 2-bedroom septic system to replace a failed 2-bedroom septic system. Where the placement of the septic will be there will be removal of invasive knotweed. R. Chane asked that the herbicide application in that area to be hand wiped and not sprayed to avoid contaminating the wetlands. No abutter comments. R. Chane made a motion to approve the septic; seconded by T. Howland. Roll call vote all in favor with one abstain from C. Shreder. R. Chane made a motion to close 1 – 3 Tenny Street – seconded by T. Howland. Roll call taken ll in favor with C. Shreder abstaining.
4. **47 West Street** - (DEP #161-0921) – GCC #2022-07- NOI – continued from June 15, 2023

Demolition of an existing barn and restoring the grades and revegetation with a wildflower mix to benefit pollinators, within the 100' Buffer Zone to Bordering Vegetated Wetlands. *Please note the original agenda was posted with a typo on the GCC # for this project – the correct GCC # is 2022-07 (not 2023). Mike Seekamp, Seekamp Environmental presented the plan to remove a deteriorating barn from the property of which approximately 25% of the building falls within 100' of wetland. The area and grade to be restored after the barn is removed and seeded with a wildflower/pollinating mix. There were no abutter comments. R. Chane made a motion to approve the project using straw waddles – second by T. Howland – R. Chane, C. Candia, T. Howland, L. Umberger and I. Wye approved – C. Shreder abstain – motion approved. R. Chane made a motion to close 47 West Street – seconded by T. Howland – all in favor with one abstention from C. Shreder – project closed.

5. **47 West Street** (DEP #161-0889; State NOI) – Mike Seekamp informed the Conservation Commission that they intend to bring this project before the ZBA to remove the project out of the Wetland boundaries. R. Chane made a motion to continue 47 West Street to Oct 19, 2024 at 7:20 pm; seconded by T. Howland. R. Chane, C. Candia, T. Howland; L. Umberger; I. Wye – motion approved with C. Shreder abstaining.
6. **10 Taylor Street** (DEP #161-0939; GCC 2023-08)
Subsurface sewage disposal system upgrade. An emergency approval to replace this septic system was given at the Jul 20, 2023 meeting at that time the project did not have a DEP number. Jim Scanlon confirmed the septic has been completed. No abutter comments. R. Chane made a motion to approve the already installed septic system – seconded by L. Umberger. R. Chane; C. Candia; T. Howland, L. Umberger; I. Wye all vote yes – C. Shreder abstain – motion approved. R. Chane made a motion to close 10 Taylor Street – seconded by C. Candia – motion approved with C. Shreder abstaining.
7. **206 West Main Street** (DEP #161-0937; GCC 2023-10)
Remove a portion of a paved parking lot, landscaping improvements, and manage invasive species within jurisdictional areas.
Thorsten Akerley from Williams Sparages reviewed the invasive species management plan, discussed the dog waste management plan. No abutter comments. R. Chane made a motion to approve 206 West Main Street with the following conditions: 1. To include granite no cut stones every 25' per a prior order of conditions on this property and 2. Submission of a dog waste management plan – seconded by L. Umberger. R. Chane; C. Candia; T. Howland; L. Umberger; I. Wye approve – C. Shreder abstain motion approved. R. Chane made a motion to close 206 West Main Street – seconded by L. Umberger – all members in favor – C. Shreder abstain – motion to close project approve.

Discussion

In other business Harry Nelson provided an update on the Manager's building and septic at camp Denison. He mentioned that various funding avenues were in process; the commission asked for a detailed description of where the funding is coming from – Harry will provide that. Harry Nelson also had some overdue bills that the commission voted to approve this evening so they can get paid.

The Conservation Commission voted to accept the open space parcel of land donated from 66 Parish Road project – all members presented voted yes to accept the deed.

John Lopez mentioned he had an application for a plot at the community garden and that he will get with the town administrators office to determine how the funds and handled.

Carl Shreder voiced concern for meeting minutes – Rebecca Chane offered to help with getting the meeting minutes up to date.

Items not reasonably anticipated by the Chair 48 hours in advance of the meeting

7. . R. Bancroft brought up a recent salary study and it was noted that the Conservation Commission Admin (Julie Cantara) is 18% behind in salary. Carl asked for a motion to increase Julie Cantara's salary by 18%. R. Bancroft submitted the motion, C. Candia Seconded the motion. Bancroft, Chane, Candia, Howland and Shreder unanimously approved the motion. Motion to approve 18% pay raise for Julie Cantara, Georgetown Conservation Commission Administrator

8. Donation of Land of Thurlow Street – Carl mentioned that work is in conjunction with Greenbelt, this item will be continued

9. Illegal ATV riding on Conservation Land at Hampshire Woods. This ATV riding at Hampshire Woods has become a large issue and the resolution was to form a task force consisting of the Georgetown Water Dept; The Georgetown and Groveland Conservation Commissions; The Georgetown and Groveland Police Departments; the Parker River Clean Water Association; Mass Environmental Police; Mass Wildlife Management and National Grid. The location of the ATV's has been removed and demands to stop riding on Conservation Land have been requested.

10. Camp Denison manager's apartment upgrade. Harry Nelson and Jim Lacey were present. Mr. Lacey gave an update on the status of the project to upgrade the Nature Center from a one-bedroom dwelling to a two-bedroom dwelling and a new septic system will be necessary. The Conservation Commission agreed to a site walk on June 22, 2023 at 6pm.

R. Bancroft made a motioned to adjourn at 8:30 p.m. seconded by C. Candia. A roll call was taken all in favor.