

**Town of Franklin**



**Conservation Commission**

**TOWN OF FRANKLIN  
TOWN CLERK**

**2020 JAN 23 A 10: 02**

**RECEIVED**

**December 19, 2019  
Meeting Minutes**

Chair Bill Batchelor called the above-captioned meeting to order this date at 7:00 PM at the Franklin Municipal Building, Council Chambers, 355 East Central Street, Franklin, Massachusetts. Members in attendance: Jeff Livingstone, Jeffrey Milne, Staci Dooney. Members absent: Paul Harrington, Alan Wallach, Braden Rosenberg. Also present: Jen Delmore, Conservation Agent.

**Commencement**

Chair Batchelor announced the meeting would be audio and video recorded.

*Note: Documents presented to the Conservation Commission are on file.*

**Public Hearing – NOI – 800 Washington Street – O’Koren**

Mr. Russell Waldron of AES on behalf of Mr. Joe O’Koren, applicant/owner, addressed the Commission for the construction of a two-car garage in the buffer zone to bordering vegetated wetlands and within the riverfront area to Miscoe Brook. He stated he met with Ms. Delmore at the site; a few flags were changed and a few flags are not shown on the current plans. He noted he had not flagged the detention basin. He stated he would be submitting revised plans. Once the new flags get entered onto the plans and the buffer zones get adjusted, the garage will be within the 50 ft. buffer zone. He stated there is 2,017 sq. ft. of disturbance.

Ms. Delmore reviewed the project. She stated that once it is determined where the flags and the buffer zones fall, the applicant will have to submit a variance request with an alternative analysis if the building will be within the 50 ft. buffer zone. She stated the wetland disturbance area near flags #23 and #25 has debris that may need to be removed.

Mr. Waldron stated the applicant already removed most of the debris; there is a pile of woodchips and some brush remaining. He recommended leaving some of the older debris that is greatly decomposed.

Mr. O’Koren stated the woodchips were not treated; they are from branches that he chipped.

Ms. Delmore stated the current pile is approximately 5 ft. x 5 ft. x 3 ft.; some of it is underwater.

Chair Batchelor and Commission members discussed that it would be better to leave the untreated woodchips and let them rot rather than use equipment to remove the material as that would leave a disturbance. It was determined that the woodchips should be raked and spread to aid in regrowth; equipment should not be used in that area.

Ms. Delmore stated the remaining brush will not be able to be raked.

Mr. O’Koren stated he planned to use a small machine to pull out the remaining brush that is in or near the water.

Chair Batchelor stated he was going to have Ms. Delmore handled that issue; he does not want the area more destabilized than it already is.

Ms. Delmore confirmed she had already discussed with the applicant using the small machine to reach in and pull out some of the branch material. She agreed a machine should not be used in the other areas such as near flag #23 where the woodchips are; raking out that area makes more sense. She reviewed the originally submitted plans for the gravel driveway. She stated Mr. O'Koren has requested to pave that area so the gravel will not keep running into the wetland. She stated a new plan would have to be submitted with that revision.

Chair Batchelor confirmed that if the applicant would like to pave that area, he would have to resubmit the plans. He stated paving would be the preferred method as it would add stability to the area.

Ms. Delmore stated she recommended the erosion control be extended.

Mr. O'Koren stated he would extend the erosion control and show it on the plans.

There was a motion made by Jeffrey Milne to continue the public hearing for the NOI for 800 Washington Street to January 2, 2020 at 7:10 PM. The motion was seconded by Staci Dooney and accepted with a vote of 4-0-0.

**Public Hearing – ANRAD – Map 309 Parcel 18 Prospect Street**

Ms. Delmore stated the applicant submitted a request to continue this public hearing; the site visit has been rescheduled multiple times due to snow.

There was a motion made by Staci Dooney to continue the public hearing for the ANRAD for Map 309 Parcel 18 Prospect Street to January 2, 2020 at 7:15 PM. The motion was seconded by Jeffrey Milne and accepted with a vote of 4-0-0.

**GENERAL BUSINESS**

**Minor Buffer Zone Activities:** None.

**Permit Modifications/Extensions:** None.

**Certificate of Compliance: 428 Partridge Street**

Ms. Delmore stated the project was for the construction of a pool which was never installed. The new homeowner is requesting an invalid Order of Conditions because the work never commenced; they would like to close out the old Order. She recommended approval.

There was a motion made by Jeffrey Milne to approve the Certificate of Compliance for 428 Partridge Street. The motion was seconded by Staci Dooney and accepted with a vote of 4-0-0.

**Certificate of Compliance: 11 Winding Brook Road**

Ms. Delmore stated the project was for the removal of seven trees in the backyard that were in danger of falling. She conducted a site visit and confirmed the trees were cut, the stumps remain, and the site was stable. She recommended approval.

There was a motion made by Staci Dooney to approve the Certificate of Compliance for 11 Winding Brook Road. The motion was seconded by Jeffrey Milne and accepted with a vote of 4-0-0.

**Violations:** None.

**Minutes: November 21, 2019 and December 5, 2019**

There was a motion made by Jeff Livingstone to approve the meeting minutes for November 21, 2019. The motion was seconded by Jeffrey Milne and accepted with a vote of 4-0-0.

There was a motion made by Jeffrey Milne to approve the meeting minutes for December 5, 2019. The motion was seconded by Jeff Livingstone and accepted with a vote of 4-0-0.

**Discussion Items:** None.

**Chair and Commission Comments:** None.

**Executive Session:** None.

There was a motion made by Staci Dooney to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Jeffrey Milne and accepted with a vote of 4-0-0. The meeting adjourned at 7:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

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Judith Lizardi  
Recording Secretary