



Town of Sterling Conservation Commission

Barbara Roberti, Chair

Matthew S. Marro, Field Agent

1 Park St, Butterick Municipal Bldg- Room 207.

Sterling Massachusetts 01564

Tel 978 422 8111 ext 2321

Email mmarro@sterling-ma.gov

MINUTES May 19, 2020 at 7:30 PM

In attendance: Mr. Michalak, Vice Chair Pineo, MS Smith, Ms. Valentine, Chair Roberti, Mr. Emsley. Mr. O'Neill. Mr. Pavlowich

In response to the COVID-19 (Corona Virus) is currently following the guidance from the Sterling Board of Health, Massachusetts Department of Public Health and the CDC regarding the virus and steps communities can take to prevent the spread and all town facilities are currently closed to the public. In accordance with the Governor's Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G. L. c. 30A, § 20, all public meetings are being conducted remotely.

The following information is also provided for members of the public that would like to participate in the meeting remotely (through www.zoom.us):

To Participate Remotely: **Participants may use cell phones, tablet and computers with audio and video capabilities as they have been tested. If you have trouble accessing or have general questions you can email during the meeting to mmarro@sterling-ma.gov Emails must be signed by full name address and phone number.**

Join Zoom Meeting - VIDEO AND AUDIO BY COMPUTER, TABLET, CELL PHONE and add this link into your browser or click on the link:

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/7370885635>

Meeting ID: 737 088 5635

TELEPHONE PARTICIPATION ONLY DIAL :

+19292056099, US (New York)

Meeting ID: 737 088 5635

Find your local number: <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/fb5qHKOKtc>



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1. Meeting Notices and communications.
2. Minutes from the previous meeting
3. Old business- Follow-up Items from Warrant articles / Grant applications (If any)
4. New Business-
 - 4.1 Follow up on Tree City Designation (if any)
 - 4.2 Open Space discussion items
 - 4.3 Prior enforcement action items and wrap ups–Investigation into tree cutting at Stephanie Anne Lane- Mr. Marro noted that the property owners agent Rob Levada had their attorney send a not trespass/stop work letter to the abutting resident that was cutting into the land. Mr. Marro will review the situation with Mr. Levada for the future.
5. Certificates of Compliance/Extension permits
- 7 Agents Report
 - 7.1 Storm water updates
 - 7.2 Forest Stewardship grant and Forest cutting update (plans)
 - 7.3 Treasury Report – update
 - 7.4 Town Beach Project Scopes Update (Funding)

8. Adjourn

Public hearings
7:30 PM ::

7:30 PM In accordance with MGL ch 131 s 40 as amended, there will be a public meeting on a request for a determination made by John Powell for the construction of a shed at 24 North Cove Road The Public meeting will be convened on May 19 2020 as a scheduled Zoom meeting.

John Powell presented the commission with a sketch diagram showing the outline for a shed that was 24 feet from the water's edge. Mr. Marro, after reviewing the site recommended a negative determination as there was no apparent wetland impact that would result. Mr. Michalak recommended a negative determination, Mr. Pineo seconded and the commission unanimously approved the motion by roll call vote.

7:40 PM: In accordance with MGL ch 131 s 40 as amended, there will be a public meeting on a request for a determination made by John Filgate for the construction of a retaining wall at 18 Square shire Road within various rights of way within the town of Sterling. The Public meeting will be convened on May 19 2020 as a scheduled Zoom meeting.

John Filgate appeared before the commission. Ms. Valentine and MR Marro recounted that this was brought to the commission as a result of an enforcement order. After consideration it was noted the wall was a preexisting 35 foot section of wall being updated. Ms. Valentine moved for a negative determination with the conditions the erosion protection that she and Mr. Marro ordered on site be maintained through the life of the project. Mr. Michalak seconded and the commission voted unanimously by roll call vote to approve the motion



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7 : 50 pm : In accordance with MGL ch 131 s 40 as amended, there will be a public meeting on a request for a determination made by **DCR at a lot next to 71 South Nelson Road** to demolish and remove the dilapidated horse feeding sheds and the former riding ring structures from this property. The site is primarily composed of farm fields and is developed with a horse riding arena and horse feeding sheds. The site is fairly flat.

Paula Davidson of DCR narrated the project for the commission. MR Michalak moved to issue a negative determination. Mr. Pavlowich seconded and the commission approved the motion by unanimous roll call vote.