

OFFICIAL MINUTES: Business Meeting
Eliot Conservation Commission
Eliot, Maine 03903

DATE: July 1, 2020

OFFICERS:

Chair: Kari Moore

Vice Chair: Vacant

Secretary: Lisa Wise

Treasurer: Vacant

THIS MEETING WAS HELD VIRTUALLY ONLINE. THE CALL IN INFORMATION FOR THE PUBLIC WAS PROVIDED BY KARI MOORE PRIOR TO THE START OF THE MEETING.

1. Call:

The meeting was called to order with roll call at 6:34 PM by Kari Moore. In attendance: Kari Moore (Chair), Alice Lynch (Member), Christina Karas (Member), Lynn Bublely (Member, acting secretary), Lisa Wise (Secretary), Melissa Albert, (General Assistance Administrator).

2. Review and approve past minutes:

Meeting minutes from June 2020 were reviewed, changes made, and accepted unanimously at this time.

3. Public Input: There is no public attendance tonight at this meeting.

4. Financial Report/ Budget:

No expenditures noted for the month. \$5000 is the amount recommended in the Town budget for the land bank. Budget meeting will be held on July 14, 2020 and amount to be allocated to Conservation Commission to be determined at this meeting.

5. Project Development/ Permit Review:

●0 Harold Dow Highway- Retail space and commercial condominiums. Public hearing was held on Tuesday June 16, 2020 (PB 19-23). Kari Moore was in attendance. Comments from the Conservation Commission were offered regarding the proposed maintenance of a meadow buffer. Planning Board will allow the Commission to add language to condominium ownership that they would be responsible and need to maintain this meadow buffer.

● Surry Lane subdivisions- Public hearing July 7, 2020. Small subdivision, 9.5 acres off Beech Road. Vernal pool assessment completed, and vernal pools do not meet the standards according the Maine State standards for vernal pools. This project will go before the Planning Board on July 7, 2020. Conservation Commission has concerns regarding the potential unnecessary impact to wetland habitat. Question was raised about width of buffer to the road. We must review the Subdivision Ordinance for clear guidance on buffer. Trees on the property have been cleared and it is not apparent why this is allowed prior to the approval of the site plan. Kari Moore will draft memo to be sent to the Planning Board with the Commissions concerns.

● Parcel 45-15 (off Rt. 236) Kari Moore Spoke to Dana about this parcel of land. Ryan Ward is a person who is a developer that has an interest in developing marijuana manufacturing. He has expressed interest in having the parcel be in conservation and/ or contributing money to the land bank. It is town land but is not designated as conservation land. According to Dana the developer does not want to develop the land but perhaps develop out of the buffer? This parcel was presented at the Planning Board meeting this week. This parcel contains wetlands associated with Sturgeon Creek. Ryan is invited to attend tonight's Conservation Commission meeting. He is unable to attend.

6. Foreclosed property and watershed considerations:

(Map 22, Lot 4) Parcel of land behind the Beech Rd. This parcel went before the Select Board on 6/11/2020, Kari Moore in attendance. The Board agreed that the parcel of land would become and remain conservation land.

7. Education/ Outreach:

No Education/ Outreach discussed at this meeting.

8. Town Forest and Compatible Use:

● Dana has been in touch with Kari Moore regarding management of town forest spaces. He would like to submit a RFP (Request for Proposal) to see what plan can be proposed for town forest management. Lisa Wise will reach out to the Maine Association of Conservation Commissions to see if they have a RFP. Kari Moore has a memo that was drafted 2 years ago regarding forest management. She will re-send the memo to Dana.

73 **9. Round Table:**

74 No round table issues/ concerns voiced at tonight's meeting.

75 **Next meeting scheduled for Wednesday August 5, 2020 at 6:30 PM**

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77 10. Meeting is adjourned at 7:18 PM

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80 Respectfully submitted,

81 Lynn Bublely

82 Acting secretary

83 CC: Eliot Town Clerk, Commission Members, Commission File