



## **Town of Ayer Conservation Commission**

Town Hall \* One Main Street \* Ayer, MA 01432 \* 978-772-8220, ext. 143

Minutes for 6/8/2023

Location: Ayer Town Hall, 1st Floor

Present: Jon Schmalenberger (Chair), Mark Phillips (Vice-Chair), George Bacon (Member), Jen Amaya (Member), Jessica Gugino (Member/Clerk)

Not Present: Heather Hampson (Conservation Agent)

APAC taped: YES

All Public Hearings are opened under the Wetlands Protection Act (MCL Ch. 131, section 40)  
and under the Ayer Wetlands Bylaw (Article XXVI)

### **7:00 PM – Open Meeting**

- **Approval of Meeting Minutes**
  - **VOTE:** G. Bacon moved to accept the minutes for 5/25/2023 as amended; M. Phillips 2<sup>nd</sup>.
    - Motion approved unanimously 5-0.
- **Public Input**
  - None received.
- **Public Hearing (cont.d.): Amendment to the Order of Conditions (OOC) – 0 Washington Street, Ayer Solar II, Rohit Garg, MassDEP # 100-0444**
  - Assessor's Map 13 & 12, Parcels 13-1, 13-2, 12-1
  - Attorney Adam Costa, of Mead, Talerman & Costa, LLC, was present.
  - **VOTE:** Per the written request of the applicant, and with no discussion, G. Bacon moved to continue the Public Hearing for 100-0444 to 6/22/2023; M. Phillips 2<sup>nd</sup>.
    - Motion approved unanimously 5-0.
- **Conservation Commission Member Updates**
  - Friends of Pine Meadow
    - ComCom members were in agreement that scheduling an initial meeting for interested volunteers should happen at the Commission's next meeting on 6/22.
      - Waiting any longer may give rise to more conflicts, such as the 4<sup>th</sup> of July week or summer vacations.
    - Once formed, the group should have a fair amount of autonomy from the Commission in terms of straightforward trail maintenance.
      - In terms of signage or benches, they will need to consult with ConCom.
    - J. Gugino will let H. Hampson know that this item should be on the next agenda.
  - Pond Weed Management
    - J. Schmalenberger received an email from Susan Tordella asking when she could bring some consultants from a neighboring town before the Commission to



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discuss alternative methods of weed management that don't involve the use of chemicals.

- J. Schmalenberger replied to her that she simply needs to contact H. Hampson to get this scheduled on an agenda.
- North County Land Trust (NCLT)
  - G. Bacon asked if there was any update on NCLT and their contract with Ayer to manage Conservation Restrictions.
    - ConCom has been wanting to meet with a representative from NCLT for some time to see what progress has been made.
  - J. Gugino will ask H. Hampson to follow-up on this, and also to find out how much, if anything, the Town has paid to NCLT for its current contract period.
  - It was noted that this contract likely ends soon for the current Fiscal Year.
- **7:15 PM – Adjourn Meeting**
  - **VOTE:** G. Bacon moved to adjourn; M. Phillips 2<sup>nd</sup>.
    - Motion approved unanimously 5-0.

Minutes Recorded and Submitted by Jessica G. Gugino, Clerk

Date / Signature of Approval: \_\_\_\_\_

6/8/2023 *Jessica G. Gugino*