



**Town of Groveland**  
**Economic Development, Planning &**  
**Conservation Department**  
**Conservation Commission**  
183 Main St  
Groveland, MA 01834

Michael Dempsey, Chair  
Stephanie Bartelt, Vice Chair  
Bill Formosi  
Terry Grimm  
Fredrick O'Connor  
Thomas Schaefer

**BOARD:**  
**MEETING DATE:**  
**MEETING PLACE:**  
**TIME:**  
**COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:**

Conservation Commission

**December 14, 2022**

Town Hall and Zoom

7:00 PM

M. Dempsey, S. Bartelt, T. Grim, B. Formosi (remote), T. Schaefer

**COMMISSIONERS ABSENT:**  
**GUESTS:**

F. O'Connor

Nancy Cole (Compass Real Estate, 2 Hawthorne Ln, Concord MA), Martha Kadel (2 Middle St, West Newbury), Matthew Steinel (Millennium Engineering, 62 Elm St, Salisbury), Jeremy Potter (8 Stonebridge Rd, Groveland), Joe Vasapolli (1 Webster Way, Groveland), Steve Benanti (50 Wood St, Groveland)

**APPROVED 01-11-2023**

**MOTION:** Grim motions to accept the December 9, 2022 meeting minutes with the typo fixed on the first page. Schaefer seconds the motion. Voted: Grim, aye. Schaefer, aye. Formosi, aye. Bartelt, aye. Dempsey, aye. O'Connor, abstains. 5-0-1 the motion carries.

*Note: Minutes are not a transcript; see the recorded meeting for verbatim information.*

**MOTION:** Dempsey motions to open the meeting at 7:02 PM on December 14 2022. Grim seconds. Voted: Formosi, aye. Dempsey, aye. Bartelt, aye. Schaefer, aye. Grim, aye. The motion passes.

**Approval of Conservation Commission CPA Project Submission**

**Dempsey:** The title for this application is Planning, Maintaining, and Preserving Our Trees, and it falls under the recreation and historic categories for CPC. It is a request for approximately \$110,000. It is a response to seeing many of the trees around Town dying and looking diseased. The first portion is to address the trees in Elm Park, both short term and long term. The second is a pilot project to reforest about a quarter of an acre of land at the top of the hill Veasey Park. The third is to address the Washington Street buffer zone along the base of the hill at Veasey Park, get rid of some of the invasive, replant some native trees, etc. Encouraging tree plantings when people are developing land will be incorporated in policies going forward. The other significant portion is for Groveland to become a Tree City USA.

**Grim:** Is this within Conservation Commission jurisdiction? I just want to see how it affects the Commission and why we're involved?

**Dempsey:** Veasey has slowly started to make progress with its landscaping and at a BOS meeting a month ago they were discussing the trees at Elm Park, so it made sense to roll all the tree projects into one application.

**Grim:** What's the issue at Elm Park?

**Dempsey:** The trees haven't been maintained there and a couple have some damage. They had an arborist come in who is recommending a few things as well.

Formosi: It also would help to have the Commission associate with this. Where would the trees along Washington Street be?

Dempsey: It would be from 199 Washington Street to 167 Washington Street.

**MOTION**: Bartelt motions to submit the CPA project as presented. Schafer seconds. Voted: Formosi, aye. Dempsey, aye. Bartelt, aye. Schaefer, aye. Grim, aye. The motion passes.

#### **PRSD Seasonal Waiver Request**

Dempsey: We went last Friday to do a site visit and everything seemed in order, some erosion controls needed to be re-staked.

Grim: Have the erosion control issued been fixed?

Schindler: I haven't heard from him. I will reach out when I communicate the outcome of the meeting tonight.

**MOTION**: Grim motions to extend the extension until the end of February 2023, with the understanding we will re-evaluate at the February 2023 meeting. Bartelt seconded the motion. Voted: Formosi, aye. Dempsey, aye. Bartelt, aye. Schaefer, aye. Grim, aye. The motion passes.

#### **Seasonal Waiver Requests**

*None.*

#### **Approval of November 9, 2022 Minutes**

**MOTION**: Grim motions to approve the November 9, 2022 meeting minutes. Bartelt seconds the motion. Roll call. Formosi abstain, Schafer abstains. The motion passes.

#### **Environmental Program Coordinator Update**

Schindler: Things are going well. The cross-country sewer project has begun, no work in jurisdictional areas has started yet. The only item to complete for the Community Trail is some stripping which should be finishing up soon. Also there has been some clearing at Estys Park that is within 200 feet of the River. I've been working with the owner on figuring out a solution for this in the long term. Meanwhile I have told him he must stop work and present the Commission with a plan.

**MOTION**: Dempsey motions to open the hearing portion of the meeting at 7:32 PM. Bartelt seconds. Roll call. All in favor.

#### **8 Stonebridge Road – GRDA Tree Removal & Seasonal Waiver Request**

Schindler: The homeowner had an arborist come out to assess trees near the house as last winter a tree fell onto the house and crashed into one of the bedrooms. The arborist who would be doing the work would be doing it all by hand, and there would be no stump grinding. The homeowner is present if you have any questions.

Grim: How many days would it take for it to come down.

Potter: Just one day. There is no equipment, he climbs the tree and cuts from the top. There would also be no stump grinding.

Bartelt: Are you planning on replanting the trees you're taking down.

Potter: I have no problem doing that.

**MOTION**: Schafer makes a motion to grant the seasonal waiver request for one day to remove the trees by hand by the January 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023 meeting, and to issue a negative determination to remove the proposed trees at 8 Stonebridge Road. Dempsey seconds. Voted: Formosi, aye. Dempsey, aye. Bartelt, aye. Schaefer, aye. Grim, aye. The motion passes.

#### **0 Center Street Lot 1 – RDA/GRDA New Driveway & Drainage**

Steinel: Here to represent the applicant Martha Kadel who is here. This plan shows two ANR lots that were approved by the Planning Board earlier this year. This application specifically covers Lot 1. A small

amount of work will be draining from the house and will be draining to the 100-foot buffer zone. The Board of Health is waiting to issue their approval until the Conservation Commission has reviewed the plans. There is also an electric pole proposed about 80 feet from the wetlands. All of the septic is outside of the 100 foot buffer zone, although there is some very minor grading within the buffer zone.

Dempsey: Is everything outside of the 75 foot buffer zone?

Steinel: No the sump pump drain will daylight between 50 and 75 feet.

Dempsey: How many trees are going to be taken down for this?

Steinel: It is a very heavily wooded area, we haven't marked all of the trees.

Schaefer: It looks like you'll be taking down a lot, and we have a limit in the bylaw for 40% of trees within the buffer zone.

Steinel: There aren't many trees being cleared within the buffer zone for this particular lot.

Commission: I think we need a site visit with the lots staked out. We would like to know how many trees are within the 100 foot buffer and how many will be taken down.

Steinel: We can get the survey team out ASAP.

Nancy Cole: We have a closing January 5<sup>th</sup> and we would like this to be done before then. Is there a way a decision can be made with contingencies?

Grim: I don't think that will be possible with everything that needs to be done.

Dempsey: Lets schedule for December 27<sup>th</sup> at 10 am, abutters are welcome at the site visit.

**MOTION**: Dempsey motions to continue to the next meeting. Grim seconds. Voted: Formosi, aye.

Dempsey, aye. Bartelt, aye. Schaefer, aye. Grim, aye. The motion passes.

#### **0 Center Street Lot 2 – NOI/GNOI New Driveway & Drainage**

Steinel: The work associate with this is only the driveway and in ground utility services. There will be no direct impacts to the wetlands themselves, no impact within the 25 feet. The plans lay out exactly what portions of the buffer zone at to be disturbed.

Schaefer: Similar to the prior application, please stake out where the driveway will be, approximate the amount of trees. It looks like you'll be clearing right up to the 25 foot buffer zone.

Steinel: Yes in some areas that is what is proposed.

Formosi: Point of clarification, is it all the buffer zone, even if work isn't being done in there, counted towards the full percentage?

Dempsey: Correct

Schaefer: I would like to see some straw bales as well at the bottom of the steeper slopes.

Steve: How far is the driveway from the crest of Center Street?

Steinel: About 180 feet.

Commission: Like with the prior application, we will need more information before we can make a determination on this application.

**MOTION**: Grim motions to continue. Schaefer seconds. Voted: Formosi, aye. Dempsey, aye. Bartelt, aye. Schaefer, aye. Grim, aye. The motion passes.

**MOTION**: Dempsey motions to close the hearing portion of the meeting at 8:23 PM. Grim seconds the motion. Voted: Formosi, aye. Dempsey, aye. Bartelt, aye. Schaefer, aye. Grim, aye. The motion passes.

#### **Calls, Meetings, and Upcoming Projects**

*None at this time.*

#### **Open Discussion**

Dempsey: To circle back to the CPC tree application, in your packets you'll find

#### **Next Meeting: January 11, 2023**

**MOTION**: Grim motions to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 PM. Schaefer seconds the motion. Roll call. The motion passes.

*Meeting Materials: December 14, 2022 Agenda, Email from Matt Waltermire RE Pentucket – Seasonal Restriction Waiver 12-9-2022, South Field Instillation Schedule, Groveland Conservation Buffer Map, Draft November 9, 2022 Meeting Minutes, 8 Stonebridge Road GRDA Application Package, 0 Center Street Lot 1 GRDA/RDA Application Package, 0 Center Street Lot 2 GNOI/NOI Application Package*