

Pembroke Conservation Commission

Meeting Minutes

March 11, 2019

In attendance: Ammy Heiser (Chair), Carol Bertsimas (Vice), Ayn Whytemare (Secretary), Mike Crockwell (BOS liaison), Brent Edmunds (PB liaison), Wendy Weisiger, David Baril (Alternate)
Public: Jay Pritchard of Pritchard Farms, Harold Thompson, Mike Potash of Resource Management Inc.

1. Call to order @7:05PM

2. Planning Board Applications

- a. **San-Ken 4th Range Road development** Planning Board would like more detail about what we think the impacts of this plan will be. BOS will be having a site walk on May 4th, all are welcome (Time TBD).

- a. **Wetland Impacts** We are troubled about the management of water resources on site given the current levels of water/wetlands. The introduction of heavy equipment and impervious surfaces has the potential to adversely and continually effect the planned homes and surrounding neighborhood. We feel this would have long term consequences and negatively impact existing infrastructure “downstream” from the site which is not designed to handle the volume of water that will be displaced. In addition, leach fields in such a wetland area need to be looked at for deleterious effect.
- b. **Opening Range Roads** Our Range Roads are a great recreational resource for the town and opening up Flagg Road from Class 6 to Class 5 would diminish that resource and potentially cause conflicts with residents of the planned homes.
- c. **Impact on Rural Character of that Area of Town** The farm has been an open field for many generations and is considered a great scenic value. Adding 50 homes and approximately 100 cars will have a profound effect on the character of the neighborhood.
- d. **Agricultural Impact** Jay Pritchard: Very Rocky, Wet, sink holes. Hay or pasture would be the best/only use for the open fields. Water is everywhere, it keeps him from haying as often as he would like. Map 262-45 (the Robinson Farm) is designated as Prime Farmland by the town.

3. DES letters or applications Did not receive anything of note.

4. Review and approve minutes – November 12 2018, December 10 2018, January 14 2019, February 11 2019

- a. **November 12 2018:** Ammy will send out edited version to be considered next meeting.
- b. **December 10 2018:** Carol moved to accept as amended, Ammy seconded. All in favor, David abstained.
- c. **January 14 2019:** Submitted as Work Session Notes since only 3 people attended.
- d. **February 11 2019:** Wendy moved to accept as written, Carol seconded. All in favor, Ayn and Mike abstaining.
- e. **ACTION ITEM:** Ayn will send approved minutes and other notes to Linda Williams (December '18, January '19, February '19)

5. Conservation Lands Jay Pritchard and Mike Potash are interested in spreading Biosolids on the Hillman parcel. Since Five Rivers Conservation Trust holds the conservation easement, they need to be involved in management decisions. They are concerned about heavy metal

impacts. Letter from them attached. Mike Potash informed us that they will be using Class A rather than Class B biosolids. Class A does not have the soil testing requirement or the NHDES permitting that go along with Class B biosolid. Ammy suggested we speak with 5 Rivers to clear up the Class A/B confusion and who has responsibility of which decisions. Ayn suggested we have soil testing for heavy metals every 5 years as is required for Class B. We have an expired crop plan and lease agreement with Lee Grimes. We will need to speak with him about transferring the farming responsibilities to Jay Pritchard. Wendy researched the process. We need to have an approved NRCS crop plan. To do this Jay needs to have a current lease with us and ask NRCS to help him develop the plan. The Town also requires proof of insurance from the farmer. These actions will bring us into compliance with the conservation easement.

6. Potential land acquisitions

- a. Sixth Range Rd/Doherty Abutter** Approved for sale to us by BOS. ACTION ITEM: Ammy will contact David Jodoin
- b. Poirier/Coughlin** They have been to the ZBA and approved the new lot arrangements. Next is Planning Board.

7. Other business –

- a. Monitoring day** Saturday April 6th meet 9am at Town Hall. ACTION ITEM: Everybody, recruit volunteers.
- b. Facebook** ACTION ITEM: David will add Wendy as an administrator
- c. Monitoring Forms** online. ACTION ITEM: Wendy will speak to David Jodoin about the GPX data.

8. Mail and correspondences None to report.

9. Adjournment 8:59 pm.

NEXT MEETING APRIL 15, 2019

Respectfully Submitted, Ayn Whytemare

From: alison@5rct.org
To: cbertsimas@comcast.net
Sent: 2019-03-07 4:41:47 PM
Subject: Hillman Farm- Biosolids

Carol,

Thanks for taking my call, and for correcting the email address I had for you.

I reviewed the easement. It specifies that there needs to be an NRCS approved conservation plan for agricultural operations on highly erodible land. Whether the Hillman farm field is classified as highly erodible land would be on the farm's most recent AD1026 form filed with the Farm Services Agency. This is something that the Town of Pembroke, as landowner should be able to get a copy of provided that you have the Farm Services Agency assigned tract number and farm number associated with the parcel. If you don't have this number, I have asked Sue Knight with NRCS in Dover to look through her files for it.

Regardless, any biosolids application would need to comply with, at a minimum, NRCS standards for the spreading of livestock manure for soil nutrient management as well as the procedure laid out in the attached NH DES paper on biosolids. You will note as you read the paper that the spreading of biosolids requires a site permit, obtainable through the DES Wastewater Engineering Bureau and that the proposed site permit is subject to a public hearing in the town where biosolids would be applied.

If the Farm Services Agency AD1026 on the farm classifies it as "highly erodible land," the requirements would likely be more stringent.

Basically, as long as NRCS and NHDES requirements are met and town ordinances are abided by, the spreading of biosolids may be allowed. However, the Town of Pembroke, as landowner, can decide to disallow it regardless of whether it could ultimately receive a permit. Does this make sense? Or is my answer as clear as biosolids? ☺ Feel free to give me a call for additional clarification and I will be sure to let you know what I hear from NRCS.

Best,

Alison

Alison Scheiderer

Land Conservation Specialist