

Nov. 14, 2023 MINUTES

In Attendance: Christine Morrison, Chairperson, John Turner, Co-Chair  
Brandon Avery, Samuel Biagetti, Sadie Saldana Absent

Kim George, Secretary

85A Brookfield Rd., Craig Kiernan, seeks Completion Certificate on OOCs previously issued in 2008. This property, which consists of raw land, was once planned as a subdivision but the subdivision was never built. Work will be done - but not as described in the OOCs. He wants to get the engineer started on the new plan for a septic design for single family dwelling - there may be two lots going in. He spoke to John Couture. The lots have been delineated and flagged in 2008 which is not upholding due to the amount of time since then. Craig has walked the land, he'll have it flagged if he decides to buy. Motion is made to approve an issuance for Certificate of Completion for Craig Kiernan, seconded, so voted unanimously.

Michael Toomey, Michael Toomey Inc., seeks Certificate Completion 82 Ward St., DEP #244-0123. OOCs in place are reviewed prior to a site visit being scheduled, particularly with orders pertaining to the proposed rain garden.

Ann Hicks is present on behalf of East Quabbin Land Trust, Cynthia Henshaw, also representing the EQLT, is not present. Cynthia is working with a Certified Soil scientist pursuant to the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service program. The program is an initiative to recognize soils/land suited for crop production. Ann is seeking a signature of approval that will support her efforts to pursue this program, an agriculture preservation restriction (APR), where land is restricted only to farming. Question is if land goes into this restriction does it have to be farmed, and does it change the tax collection to the town.

Other communities have already accepted the APR. There are six property owners interested in the program representing 400 acres of land in town that can potentially qualify for the program. A vegetable farm can qualify, pasture land and hay field land will qualify but this land has to be a working land making a certain amount of money, forest land will not qualify.

Motion is made to accept Ann Hicks proposal to support this program, seconded, so voted unanimously.

Motion is made to adjourn, seconded, so voted unanimously.