

Minutes of a Conservation Commission Meeting - 17 April 2019

Members present: Peter Vincent – Chairman, Christina Brown, Lil Province, Bob Avakian, Geoffrey Kontje, and Jeffrey Carlson.

Staff: Jane Varkonda, Lisa Morrison

Public Hearings:

SWARTZ (Continuation) Landscaping within the 100-foot buffer zone, elevated walkway, salt marsh restoration. Filing was in response to an enforcement order. Attorney Sean Murphy was present for the applicant. A report of the site visit was given [See agent's notes].

The applicants have agreed to remove the lawn grasses and replace with native grasses; reduce the size of the lawn; remove ornamental plantings from the resource area; remove or relocate the patio, bench, and shed from the resource area. Additional violations to be addressed include: piles of grass clippings and plant material adjacent to the shed and the bird bath; and uplighting.

An additional filing with the state, town, and Chapter 91 will need to be made to remediate the illegal excavation and removal of salt marsh.

Murphy said that the applicants would like to keep the Irrigation in lawn.

The agent said she would like to see the wood chips removed from paths in the resource area, which will just end up in the harbor.

Staff will prepare a document indicating everything that needs to be done on site prior to the issuance of a new order. The agent would also like to see a proposal for restoration of the salt marsh prior to issuing any new orders. Carlson made a motion to continue the hearing to the next meeting, May 8th. Province seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

SHERIFFS MEADOW FOUNDATION Amend order of conditions to include restoration of an additional wet meadow at the Sanctuary. Kristen Geagan was present for the foundation. Ms. Geagan submitted photos of prior restorations

that happened more quickly and more successfully than anticipated. They would like to expand the project to an additional area.

Province made a motion to approve the amendment as presented. Carlson seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Other Business:

Airfield Commission. Province made a motion to reappoint Peter Vincent to the Airfield Commission. Brown seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Farm Institute. Staff will draft a letter for the ZBA hearing on May 1st re: holding special events at the Farm Institute.

MV Museum [Province abstaining] Vincent reviewed the second draft of the "Term Sheet" which was drawn up by Vincent and town counsel. Commissioners suggested two minor alterations, which will be forwarded to town counsel.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

Approved: _____