

Minutes of a Conservation Commission Meeting – 24 June 2015

Members present: Peter Vincent – Chairman, Stuart Lollis, Lil Province, Jeff Carlson, and Geoffrey Kontje

Absent: Christina Brown, Bob Avakian

Staff: Lisa Morrison, Jane Varkonda

Public Hearings:

McFarland Rebuild, relocate, and maintain beach stairs – North Neck Road. Harold Zadeh representing applicant. Stairs were damaged in the recent winter storms. The plan is to relocate the stair 8-feet to the right to avoid a washed out area in the bank. The bank is approximately 27-feet high. A cross-section was submitted. Stairs will be constructed with ACQ posts driven into the beach. Mr. Zadeh noted that he built these stairs over 30 years ago. Path will be reconfigured slightly to connect to new stairs. No replanting necessary. Province made a motion to approve the project as presented. Carlson seconded the motion. Unanimously approved with standard conditions.

Swartz Doug Hoehn and Gerry Conover representing applicant. Project involves building a low retaining wall to match walls on the property. This wall will tie into a portion of an existing retaining wall. All work will be done by hand. The intent is to try to add some protection from rising tides. Wall will be just 17-inches high. No fill will be brought in or out. Cement footings will be hand-dug and go down about 18-inches. A removal Plexiglas panel will be installed across the boardwalk in the off-season. After some further discussion, the board voted to continue the hearing to the next meeting, July 8th, for a site visit.

O'Brien NOI to remove portion of existing house and build an addition, Plantingfield Way. Doug Hoehn representing applicant. Middle part of house will remain. Mr. Hoehn noted that the applicant had a prior order of conditions which included a pool. The pool is not included in this application. The project is outside the state's jurisdiction but within the town's. The 100-year storm line runs through a corner of the house. The house site is – for the most part - high and dry. Minimal grading will be required. Applicant will return with a final landscaping plan. The addition will have a 1000 s.f. footprint, with an overall increase of about 1900 s.f. Garage will remain. The net change will be from 4700 s.f. (existing) to 6600 s.f. (proposed). The

property is on town sewer. Applicant hopes to start construction this fall. After some further discussion, the board voted to continue the hearing to July 8th for a site visit.

Other Business:

Homlish Restoration update, Jane's Cove. Former Cherchio property. Applicants cut an illegal path, partially on neighbor's property. The agent reported that the restoration has gone well and recommended now allowing the applicant to cut a path on their own property. Applicants understand that they cannot yet cut the proposed view channel. Future maintenance of trail will depend on how well replanting takes. Province made a motion to approve the cutting of the path. Lollis seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Katama Airfield Airfield Commission Jamie Craig was supposed to attend. Agent said that the airfield manager is asking permission to hold the Wild Food Challenge at the airfield in October. Approximately 500 people would attend. Agent said that she was not sure that a private event is appropriate on this property. She said that parking would not be permitted, and she doubted that the Nature Conservancy would approve the proposal due to the fragile nature of the area. After some further discussion the board voted unanimously to deny the request.

Rankow A copy of DEPs decision regarding the property on South Water Street was read.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

Approved: _____