

Minutes of a Conservation Commission Meeting – 9 September 2015

Members present: Peter Vincent – Chairman, Stuart Lollis, Christina Brown, Jeffrey Carlson, Lil Province, Bob Avakian

Absent: Geoffrey Kontje,

Staff: Lisa Morrison, Jane Varkonda

Major's Cove Property Owner's Association Phragmites removal, and selected cedars adjacent to kayak rack. Jackie Driscoll, president of the association, presented the project. The association would like to cut a stand of phragmites located at the far end of common area, which are slowly encroaching from the inlet. The phragmites are blocking a view easement, as in some places they are over 15-feet high. The association would also like to remove two to three cedars and maintain the brush at a height of 4-feet high. Lollis pointed out that phragmites can often grow 6-feet in one year and that the association should consider contacting Sheriff's Meadow Foundation or another organization that has some familiarity using herbicides. Ms. Driscoll said that they may pursue that route in the future but, for now, they would just like to cut the phragmites down to restore the view.

Brown suggested that the association could cut the plants and see what happens. She noted that the cut plants should be removed on a daily basis.

Carl Sherr, a Major's Cove resident, noted that once one phragmites is cut, two seem to grow in its place. He was worried that the seeds would be carried to his property on the wind. The agent noted that phragmites do not spread by seed. Mr. Sherr was also concerned about tax consequences.

Ken Williams, another Major's Cove resident, said that he thinks the phragmites needs to be treated rather than cut.

Ms. Driscoll was asked to explain the brush cutting as the plan was somewhat vague. Ms. Driscoll said that they would like to maintain the brush at a height of 4 feet. The agent noted that the brush is primarily groundsill bush and that she will research the area prior to issuing the order. Province made a motion to approve the project as presented with conditions. Lollis seconded the motion. Unanimously approved with conditions.

Freedberg Addition to existing residence, relocated septic, associated site work – Beach Road. Chris Alley was present for the applicant. The applicant, Paul Freedberg, was also present. The property formerly belonged to John Mason house. It is the last house on the left before Cow Bay. Main house is two stories and is visible from the pond. The old garage will become a shed and the septic tank will be relocated. The house is located in the shore zone, so only a 10% addition would be permitted. The property is near two different wetlands. After some further discussion, the hearing was continued to

the next meeting, 23 September, for a site visit. Location of the addition will be staked prior to the site visit.

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

Approved: _____