

Minutes of a Conservation Commission Meeting – 20 November 2013

Members present: Vincent – Chairman, Brown, Lollis, Carlson, Avakian

Absent: Province, Potter

MURPHY - License and maintain existing 103-foot long pier – Shear Pen Pond. Richard Barbini present for the applicant. Pier has been there for at least 40 years – way before zoning - but it has never been licensed. There is 3 to 3 ½ feet of water at the end of the pier. There are no utilities supplied to the pier and no lighting. MAC has approved the proposal. Marine Fisheries commented that if the boardwalk is rebuilt, it should be raised up across the marsh. Barbini reported that there are no plans to substantially rebuild the pier or the boardwalk at present. Brown made a motion to approve the project as proposed with the following conditions: If the boardwalk requires substantial rebuilding (more than 50%), then reconstruction must conform to DEP regulations, all maintenance /rebuilding to be done with untreated wood, no changes in dimension to pier or boardwalk permitted without the approval of the Conservation Commission, no utilities to pier without prior approval, and no white caps are permitted on pilings. Carlson seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

BARR Rebuild stone revetment, the Boulevard. Richard Barbini representing applicant. Property is the former Andrews property, adjacent to the town landing. All work will be done from the landward side. Just a small section of the revetment needs to be repaired. Mr. Barbini said that they will either use filter fabric or chink it. The existing toe stones will remain where they are. Mr. Barbini said that a cross-section of the revetment will be added to the plan. Carlson made a motion to approve the project as presented. Lollis seconded the motion. Standard conditions. Unanimously approved.

KNIGHT Request for determination of applicability to construct a 16 x 28 addition and retaining wall. Mr. Knight explained that they built house over 40 years ago – it is a two-bedroom, one bath structure. They would like to add an additional bedroom and bath. The addition is approximately 73-feet from the peat swamp at its closest point. Mr. Knight explained that the addition can not be moved further away without requiring extensive excavation. The retaining wall is necessary as the ground slopes up about 2 ½ feet. The wall will be between 32 and 36 inches. Mr. Knight submitted a letter of support from abutter Margaret Knight. Avakian made a motion to issue a negative determination with the condition that a siltation barrier be constructed no further than 15-feet from the addition and that a storage area for the excavated soils be shown on the plan. Lollis seconded the motion. Carlson and Vincent voted to issue the negative determination. Brown abstained. Motion carries 4 to 1.

MAJOR'S COVE Kayak rack and clearing of vegetation. Barbini present for the kayak portion of project; Jackie Driscoll for the view clearing. Commission went on a site visit to see the location of the expanded rack. Two double-tiered racks will essentially be cut in half to make four one-tiered racks. An additional area will be brush cut. Barbini submitted a revised plan showing the new locations. Two of the racks will remain where they are. Natural Heritage has signed off on the project. Carlson made a motion to approve the alteration and relocation of the racks. Brown seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Ms. Driscoll said that lowering the kayak racks will allow Major's Cove to maximize the view easement over the entire lot. Ms. Driscoll is proposing to cut the vegetation on the majority of the lot to a height of 3-feet. Vincent noted that the Commission has no requirement to enforce private view easements. Continued to the next meeting, 4 December, for additional site visit.

LANDRY Relocate pool and construct additions, Planting Field Way. Doug Hoehn & Bruce MacNelly present for the applicant. A revised plan was submitted including cross-sections of the pool. In addition to relocating the pool, the project involves the construction of two small additions. All construction will take place in existing lawn areas. The pool is being shifted over and a septic tank will need to be relocated. Pool will be 40-feet by 24-feet, and 5-feet deep. Continued to the next meeting, 4 December, for site visit.

SCHIFTER/WASQUE PARTNERS Kris Horiuchi, landscape architect, was present for a continued discussion of the proposed landscape plan and soil stabilization program. The primary concern is to stabilize the site for the winter. After consulting with Randall Shuey, the proposal is to have Landscape hydrostraw the site and return the stockpiled topsoil in the spring. The hydrostraw would be applied in a 3-inch layer. Ms. Horiuchi said that in 6 months time the hydrostraw will be compressed into biodegradable wood fiber and 4 to 8 inches of native loam will be returned to the site. Ms. Horiuchi said that the process was similar to hydroseeding, but without the seed.

Ms. Horiuchi said that using erosion-control blankets was explored, but it did not seem like a good option because the site is so windy. Ms. Horiuchi said that they could not put in enough staples to keep the blankets in tact. Carlson said he was concerned about what would happen if the hydrostraw dries out. Ms. Horiuchi said that the site will be monitored regularly to prevent that from happening.

Ms. Horiuchi said that the product will be mixed into the soil rather than removed, as initially proposed. Carlson asked if the product would increase the likelihood of the soil becoming hydrophobic. Carlson asked if Ms. Horiuchi had any experience with the product in similar situations. Horiuchi said that it is a new product, but that she will do some research and report

back to the Commission. The Commission also asked for an in-depth analysis of the components of the material and what they will break down into, as well as the possible effects on subsequent seeding.

Horiuchi said that they would like to stabilize the site as soon as possible.

Horiuchi noted that 94 trees, 1000 shrubs, and 5000 little bluestem plants have been stockpiled off-site for replanting in the spring. Avakian was concerned about the visibility of the house from the water and asked whether trees will be planted in front of the house. Ms. Horiuchi said that, in her experience, trees do not do well if they are planted on top of an exposed hill. She noted that the house is tucked in more than it was in its previous location. Ms. Horiuchi said that she will revise the plan to bring the planting zone up 20-feet and add more trees.

Brown asked about the source of the seeds. Ms. Horiuchi said that in addition to seed saved from the site, seeds from West Tisbury will be used. She commented that there is a 2 to 3 week period in late May when soil temperature is optimal for seeding. The agent asked for additional details such as how the seeds will be delivered, what type of irrigation is planned and for how long, and the total square footage of maintained lawn. Ms. Horiuchi noted that much of the lawn is outside the Commission's jurisdiction. Brown noted that the planning board decision specified that the entire landscape plan is subject to review by the Commission. Continued to December 4th.

WACKS Jim Greer was present to request an emergency permit for Mr. Wacks. Mr. Greer said that with the erosion of Norton Point the current is now directed to the Wacks property. The well is currently 37-feet from the edge of the bank, and the house 60-feet. Mr. Wacks would like to use sand bags as a temporary erosion-control measure. The bags would be placed between mean-low water and base of the coastal bank as described in the letter dated 20 November 2013. All components will be biodegradable and the applicant will be responsible for any clean-up. The use of heavy equipment is not proposed. Sand will be from local sources. Lollis made a motion to approve the emergency request. Brown seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

TATE Gift of land near Crab Creek. Lollis made a motion to accept the gift. Avakian seconded the motion. Unanimously approved. Agent will forward a letter to the Selectmen recommending that the town accept the gift.

Warrant articles were approved for submission to the Selectmen.

Meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Approved: _____