

Newburyport Conservation Commission
November 15, 2016
Senior/Community Center Board Room
Minutes

1. Call to Order

Chair Joe Teixeira called a meeting of the Newburyport Conservation Commission to order at 6:45 p.m.

2. Roll Call

In attendance were members Steve Moore, Paul Healy, David Vine, Dan Warchol and Joe Teixeira. Dan Bourdeau and Doug Muir were absent. Julia Godtfredsen was also in attendance.

3. Minutes

Paul Healy moved to approve the minutes of the October 18, 2016 meeting as submitted. David Vine seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

4. Plum Island Updates

Drone Photography

The Commission members agreed a continuation of the drone photography would not be productive at this time.

Reservation Terrace Dune Restoration Project

The work to restore the dune along Reservation Terrace is to begin on November 16. The sand will be stockpiled in the parking lot and trucked to the nourishment area along the frontal dune and in the depressed area at the back of the dune. The project includes fencing, plantings and signage. The expected completion date is December 16.

CZM Grant

The contract for the new grant has just been received. It was delayed because CZM wished to revise the scope. It should still be possible to complete the project by the June deadline.

The Merrimack Valley Beach Alliance Meeting

The meeting that was held on November 4 focused on the studies the Army Corp has undertaken in neighboring communities, not Newburyport. The topic of discussion at the next meeting, which is scheduled for December 9, will be emergency preparedness.

5. Old and New Business

Whittier Bridge Saltmarsh Monitoring Update

The item was tabled to December 5 because Mary Rimmer was not able to attend the meeting.

Evergreen Development

The item is before the Planning Board, which has concerns about water quality. Julia Godtfredsen encouraged the members to attend the December 14 Planning Board meeting.

6. Certificates of Compliance, Requests for Determinations, Requests for Minor Modifications

Thomas Melaragni

3 Kate Street

Request for Certificate of Compliance

DEP File #051-0786

A Partial Certificate of Compliance was issued for the house at the April 19, 2016 meeting. The Order of Conditions did not include a monitoring period for the plant materials, which have filled in nicely and appear to be thriving. The Order of Conditions had been amended to include the construction of a shed. This work has been completed according to the plans.

Paul Healy moved to issue a Certificate of Compliance. Steve Moore seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

7. Public Hearings

Steve Moore moved to open the public hearings. Dan Warchol seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Catherine Phelan □

231 Northern Boulevard

Notice of Intent

Mara Robinson represented the applicant and described the plans to improve the site. A deck with stairs and a ramp would be added to create a seating area near the shed. A raised wood planter would be constructed adjacent to the house to screen the utilities. A sculptural element would be added adjacent to the stairs to screen the view under the house. An outdoor shower was shown on the plan but was not included in the narrative.

A DEP file number has not yet been received. The NOI must be revised because the amount of impact to the coastal dune was not included on the form. The Commission members requested the dimensions of the planting box be added to the plan. They wish to receive cross sections of the deck and the planting box showing the lowest horizontal structural members would be at least two feet above grade. A notation must be included indicating the volume of gravel to be removed from the site and the amount of sand being brought in. The proposed location of the curb cut must be shown.

Steve Moore moved to continue the public hearing to the December 6 meeting. Dan Warchol seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Dan Warchol moved to close the public hearings. Steve Moore seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

8. Orders of Conditions

None

9. Adjournment

Paul Healy moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 p.m. David Vine seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.