

Newburyport Conservation Commission

February 3, 2015

City Council Chambers

Minutes

1. Call to Order

Acting Chair Paul Healy called a meeting of the Newburyport Conservation Commission to order at 6:45 p.m.

2. Roll Call

In attendance were members Doug Muir, Dan Warchol, Jim O'Brien and Paul Healy. Julia Godtfredsen was also in attendance.

3. Minutes

Jim O'Brien to approve the minutes of the January 20, 2015 meeting as submitted. Dan Warchol seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

4. Old and New Business

The City Council Planning and Development subcommittee held a public meeting on January 29 about the Colby Farm property. City staff members presented ideas on the ways the land might be used. The discussion did not result in any conclusions and a follow up meeting is likely to be scheduled. While the site is not large enough for a much-needed baseball diamond, the City is considering the purchase of the parcel because of its location near schools and its ability to accommodate other types of fields.

The MACC Annual Environmental Conference will be held in Worcester on Saturday, February 28.

Doug Muir moved to approve the expenditure of funds not to exceed \$1,600 for the purchase of a computer to be used by the Conservation Agent. Dan Warchol seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

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

John Powers ☐

163 Old Point Road ☐

Request for Determination of Applicability

The applicant wishes to replace seven stone blocks in a seawall that had been installed to replace a wooden bulkhead. Some of the blocks have now deteriorated and the soil behind the wall is being undermined. Since the January 20 meeting one of the stones was lost during a storm. The Commission members had requested that the contractor attend a meeting to discuss the construction plan. John Davidovich of Davco Excavating Company said the replacement of the seven stones would be a two-day job. Only one of the blocks is in the bottom course. Dan Warchol moved to issue a Negative Three Determination with the conditions that all of the work

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shall be done from the landward side, steel plates shall be used under the excavator, any vegetation damaged by the work shall be replaced in the spring and the Conservation Agent shall be notified immediately if the stability of the slope is undermined or if any additional work becomes necessary. Doug Muir seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

6. Public Hearings

Dan Warchol moved to open the public hearings. Doug Muir seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Mark Wojcicki, Wojcicki Holdings, LLC

143A State Street

Notice of Intent

DEP File #051-0926

The applicant requested a continuance. Dan Warchol moved to continue the public hearing to the February 17, 2015 meeting. Doug Muir seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Joshua Holden, Massachusetts Electric Company

95 Water Street

Notice of Intent

Julia Godtfredsen said a meeting between the applicant and the Mayor had been scheduled but was cancelled due to the snowstorm. Dan Warchol moved to continue the public hearing to the February 17, 2015 meeting. Doug Muir seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Dan Warchol moved to close the public hearings. Doug Muir seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

7. Orders of Conditions

None

8. Other Business

Julia Godtfredsen said the City was selected to receive an EPA flood resiliency grant. A workshop will be held in the spring on preparing for flooding.

9. Adjournment

Doug Muir moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:20 p.m. Dan Warchol seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved. The next meeting of the Conservation Commission will be held on February 17, 2015.