

Newburyport Conservation Commission

February 21, 2017

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, Doug Muir and Joe Teixeira. Dan Warchol, David Vine and Dan Bourdeau were absent.

3. Minutes

Paul Healy moved to approve the minutes of the January 14, 2017 meeting as submitted. Doug Muir seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

4. Enforcement

17 82nd Street

David Vine recused himself from the discussion. Tom Hughes represented Tom Lawrence and said he is working with Lisa Mead and Everett Chandler to complete a Notice of Intent for the deck. Snow cover has prevented the surveying of the existing conditions. Mr. Hughes wishes to submit the filing fee and an incomplete NOI at the present time. He intends to submit a completed NOI by the filing deadline for the April 4 meeting. He requested the fines be stayed until the public hearing. The Commission members stressed the collection of the fines might be stayed, but they would continue to accrue and could be collected retroactively.

Steve Moore moved to stay the collection of fines until April 4. Doug Muir seconded the motion. The motion was approved with David Vine abstaining.

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

Scott Cameron, The Morin-Cameron Group, Inc.

100 Hale Street

Request for Minor Modification

DEP File #051-0951

Scott Cameron said United Foam Products wishes to reduce the footprint of the rear portion of the building and remove the loading dock. Sixty-three parking spaces would be removed from the front of the building and 45 spaces would be added at the rear of the building for a net loss of 18 spaces. The changes would result in a 15,000 square foot reduction in the amount of pavement and a 3,725 square foot reduction in the building coverage. The amount of work in the riverfront area would be reduced 3,000 square feet, decreasing the alteration from 9.8% to 3.2%. Christiansen and Sergi has reviewed the proposed changes. The work would now be divided into two phases. The creation of a parking area at the Cooper North Pasture trailhead would be a part of the first phase. Doug Muir moved to approve the minor modification. Steve Moore seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

6. Public Hearings

Paul Healy moved to open the public hearings. Steve Moore seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Gary Litchfield, C&L Homes, LLC

1 G Street

Notice of Intent

DEP File #051-0966

The applicant requested a continuance. Steve Moore moved to continue the public hearing to the March 7 meeting. Doug Muir seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Nicole Young, Six Bayne Lane Revocable Trust

6 Bayne Lane

Notice of Intent

DEP File #051-0967

Bill Decie represented the applicant, who is proposing to construct a two-story, 1,300 square foot addition on the side of the house. The work would be in the buffer zone and would impact approximately 400 square feet of the riverfront area. The asphalt would be removed and replaced with cobblestones. The existing fence would be relocated to prevent further intrusion into the buffer zone. Four trees would be removed. An arborist has submitted a report stating one of these trees is in poor condition. Two black willows and one river birch would be planted near the driveway. The Commission members requested that the trees to be removed be listed. They also requested that four new trees be installed instead of three and the location of the fourth tree be shown on the plan. A response has not yet been received from the Natural Heritage Program. Doug Muir moved to continue the public hearing to the March 7 meeting. Steve Moore seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Doug Muir moved to to close the public hearing portion of the meeting. Steve Moore seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

7. Old and New Business

Plum Island Updates

Ethan Cohen provided arguments to persuade the Commission members to continue the drone photography of the island. The Commission members responded the work is outside of the Commission's budget and would be redundant because drone data is being gathered by UNH. They suggested the appropriate party to undertake the work would be Merrimack River Beach Alliance because that group is in the position to bring about policy change. Julia Godtfredsen will be asked to bring up the topic at the Alliance's next meeting.

8. Orders of Conditions

None

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9. General Business

CZM responded to an inquiry from the Commission that while reindeer moss is not a plant, it is a living organism that adds stability to the dune system and its removal would cause damage to the dune.

10. Adjournment

Steve Moore moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:01 p.m. Doug Muir seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.