

Newburyport Conservation Commission

March 4, 2014

City Council Chambers

Minutes

1. Call to Order

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

2. Roll Call

In attendance were members Joe Teixeira, Steve Moore, Doug Muir and Paul Healy. Also in attendance was Julia Godtfredsen.

3. Minutes

Steve Moore moved to approve of the minutes of the February 4, 2014 meeting as submitted. Paul Healy seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

The approval of the minutes of the February 18 meeting was tabled.

4. General Business

Julia Godtfredsen said she submitted an application for a CZM Coastal Resiliency Grant. The \$200,000 requested would be used for a coastal resiliency master plan that would include a risk assessment and vulnerability analysis for the city with the primary focus being placed on critical infrastructure and downtown resources, such as the water treatment plant, the central waterfront and Plum Island. Policy recommendations and recommendations for implementation would also be a part of the master plan. The grant would require a 25% local match.

Julia Godtfredsen said she received a request from Jon Higgins to install a new P-Pod demonstration project at the Frog Pond. There would be no cost to the City.

A proposal was received from Marc Jacob for the peer review for 251 Low Street. The work would be done after the ground thaws. Paul Healy moved to accept the proposal from Marc Jacobs. Steve Moore seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Joe Teixeira said Jared Eigerman has offered to assist James Van Bokkelen set up a conservation easement for 249 High Street.

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

Scott Cameron, The Morin-Cameron Group, Inc.

6 Opportunity Way

Request for Minor Modification

DEP File #051-0885

The applicant submitted a request for a minor modification in which the mowing at the rear of the property would be discontinued and the natural vegetation would be allowed to return. The Commission requested that additional trees be planted in exchange. The applicant has proposed

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the addition of two red maples and one red pine. The Certificate of Compliance will not be issued until the trees have been planted. The applicant intends to request for a Certificate of Compliance at the March 18 meeting. As the trees would not have been planted by this time, he will be asked to postpone the request or a partial certificate would be issued. Steve Moore moved to approve the minor modification. Doug Muir seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Tom Hughes, Hughes Environmental Consulting

8 Martha Street

Request for Certificate of Compliance

DEP File #051-0887

Tom Hughes said a new home was constructed on pilings two feet above grade. He said the plant materials that were installed were not the same as had been proposed but he estimates the planting area is twice as large as it would have been. A circular seating area has been added that was not a part of the original plans. Mr. Hughes said the supplementary plantings more than offset the addition of the clamshell sitting area. The survival of the plantings for two growing seasons must be confirmed before a full Certificate of Compliance might be issued. Steve Moore moved to issue a partial Certificate of Compliance. Doug Muir seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

6. Public Hearings

None

7. Orders of Condition

None

8. Enforcement

None

9. Other Business

Julia Godtfredsen said she would like to purchase a laptop computer to take on site visits. The funds in the Commission's account are more than sufficient to cover the expense. A color printer would also be useful. She will speak with Andy Port about obtaining one that would be used by the Planning Office as a whole, with the cost being shared.

10. Adjournment

Steve Moore moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 p.m. Doug Muir seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved. The next meeting of the Conservation Commission will be held on March 18, 2014.