

Newburyport Conservation Commission
February 15, 2022
Online Meeting
Minutes

1. Call to Order

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

2. Roll Call

In attendance were members Dan Warchol, Joe Teixeira, Carole Wagan, David Vine and Steve Moore. Paul Healy was absent. Conservation Administrator Julia Godtfredsen was also in attendance.

3. Minutes

Steve Moore moved to approve the minutes of the February 1, 2022, meeting. David Vine seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 4-0 vote (Joe Teixeira, yes; Dan Warchol, yes; Carole Wagan, abstain; David Vine, yes; Steve Moore, yes).

4. Old and New Business

Plum Island Updates

A site visit at Reservation Terrace will be scheduled for representatives of the City, DCR and GZA to determine if additional sand or coir bag repair is needed.

Colby Farm Lane Open Space Pollinator Meadow

Steve Moore said he met with a local organization, the Alliance of Climate and Environmental Stewards, about creating a pollinator garden on City-owned land off of Colby Farm Lane. The organization would provide funding and a group of volunteers that would include students from the high school and the charter school. Black plastic would be placed on a 1,000 square foot plot of land this spring and seeds would be planted in the fall for germination next year. The Commission would be willing to provide funding for additional materials if the group would be able to maintain a larger plot. Julia Godtfredsen said the land might not yet have been conveyed to the City. If it has not been, she will contact the developer or HOA for permission to create the garden on the land.

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

Erin and Paul LaRosa

8 Wildwood Drive

Request for Determination of Applicability

The applicant is requesting to install a shed within the 25-foot no disturb zone. A permit was issued to the applicant in 2014 for a backyard pool. The wetlands at the rear of the property are delineated by a barrier. A play area of pea gravel bordered by wooden landscape timbers is

located near the pool. The shed would be located in this area and would be elevated on pilings to the height of the pool deck. The proposed location of the shed would be 3.39 feet from the property line, which might require Zoning Board approval. It might be necessary to locate the shed in a different part of the property. The matter was continued in order for the applicant to consult with the Zoning Administrator.

Carole Wagan moved to continue the request to the March 1 meeting. Steve Moore seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 5-0 vote (Joe Teixeira, yes; Dan Warchol, yes; Carole Wagan, yes; David Vine, yes; Steve Moore, yes).

6. Public Hearings

Steve Moore moved to open the public hearings. Dan Warchol seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 5-0 vote (Joe Teixeira, yes; Dan Warchol, yes; Carole Wagan, yes; David Vine, yes; Steve Moore, yes).

Mark Drago

3 Q Street

Amend Order of Conditions

DEP File #051-1036

The applicant requested a continuance. Dan Warchol moved to continue the public hearing to the March 1 meeting. Steve Moore seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 5-0 vote (Joe Teixeira, yes; Dan Warchol, yes; Carole Wagan, yes; David Vine, yes; Steve Moore, yes).

Steve Moore moved to close the public hearings. Dan Warchol seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 5-0 vote (Joe Teixeira, yes; Dan Warchol, yes; Carole Wagan, yes; David Vine, yes; Steve Moore, yes).

7. Order of Conditions

None

8. Enforcement

3 Q Street

A meeting with the property owners and DPS has not yet taken place. The item was continued to the March 1 meeting.

9. Other Business

A public hearing on the proposed amendments to the regulations will be scheduled for the March 15 meeting.

10. Adjournment

Steve Moore moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:12 p.m. Dan Warchol seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 5-0 vote (Joe Teixeira, yes; Dan Warchol, yes; Carole Wagan, yes; David Vine, yes; Steve Moore, yes).