

CONSERVATION COMMISSION PUBLIC HEARING

March 24, 2009

FINAL

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Ellen Goethel, Chairperson, at the Hampton Office Meeting Room. Present were Commission Members Jay Diener, Dr. Ralph Falk, Nathan Page, Sharon Raymond, Barbara Renaud and Peter Tilton Jr. Alternate Steve Scaturo was present. Rayann Richard, Conservation Coordinator, was present. Mark Loopley represented the Planning Board.

The first order of business was the voting of Officers. Mr. Diener nominated Ms Renaud for Treasurer. Mr. Tilton seconded the motion. All were in favor. Mr. Diener nominated Mr. Page for Chair and Mrs. Goethel for Vice Chair. Ms. Raymond seconded the motion. All were in favor.

At this time Mr. Page presided over the meeting as Chairperson.

The Minutes of January, February and March will be reviewed at the April 28, 2009 Meeting.

The site walk was held on Saturday, March 21, 2009 meeting at the Town Office Parking Lot at 9:00 a.m.

- A. Witch Island Way
- B. 92 Ashworth Ave
- C. 1044 Ocean Blvd

NH DES APPLICATIONS

- A. 92 Ashworth Ave
Moe Blondeau
Patrick Seakamp

This application is to construct a concrete block seawall just east of the wetland delineation but inside the 50' buffer and removal of a chain-linked fence in the wetland. This is a dredge and fill application. Moe Blondeau and Patrick Seakamp from Seakamp Environmental Consulting addressed the Commission. After a brief discussion, Mrs. Goethel motioned to not oppose the granting of a wetlands permit for construction of a concrete block wall landward side of an existing berm within the State Jurisdictional Wetlands. The Commission was concerned about specific information regarding the construction and the exact location of the wall and the removal of the chain-link fence. The following recommendations were made to the applicant: (1) concrete wall must be placed on the landward side of the existing berm and not to exceed 48 inches and the berm may be used as a support for the concrete wall; (2) applicant agreed to provide a diagram of a cross-section of the construction of the wall in relation to the berm; (3) all excavation spoils must be placed and stored on the landward side of the berm; (4) no fill shall be brought onto the site; (5) no changes in the elevation of the parking lot; (6) applicant agreed to provide a planting plan for the southwest corner of the parking lot which will also help with drainage; (7) applicant agreed to repair the v-notch at the south end of the berm; (8) applicant agreed to remove the proposed gate in the concrete block wall to discourage access and dumping of debris into the salt marsh; (9) chain-link fence will be removed by placing the appropriate motorized equipment on the landward side of the berm and lifting the fence straight up and out of the wetland; and (10) Commission will be notified at the beginning and end of the project and spot elevations to be submitted during the work. Dr. Falk seconded the motion. With Mr. Diener abstained, all were in favor.

SPECIAL PERMITS

A. 92 Ashworth Ave

This application is to construct a concrete block seawall just east of the wetland delineation but inside the 50' buffer and removal of a chain-link fence in the wetland. The Commission discussed the applicant's proposal and provide several recommendations. The applicant has agreed to continue their application to the April 28, 2009 meeting in order to provide more detailed information and incorporate recommendations made by the Commission. Dr. Falk motioned to to continue this application until the April 28, 2009 meeting, seconded by Mr. Diener. All were in favor.

B. 1044 Ocean Blvd. Dory Inn

This Special Permit seeks permission to replace 4 rosa rugosa bushes along the seawall. After a brief overview, Mr. Page opened to the public for comments. Mr. Mike Sapuppo, unit owner, voiced his disapproval of the rosa rugosa plantings. As this was the only speaker, the public portion was closed and back to the Board. Mrs. Goethel motioned to continue this application to a future date as the Commission was not comfortable making a decision on this application until it can be determined with the aid of the Town Attorney, that all stipulations of the 2005 Town Special Permit have been met and potential violations at the property have been addressed. Mr. Diener seconded the motion. All were in favor. Mrs. Goethel motioned to send a letter to the Planning Board. Mr. Diener seconded the motion. All were in favor.

APPOINTMENTS

A. Witch Island Condominiums Zoning Board Referral

The Agnew family and Joe Coronati from Jones & Beach addressed the Commission. The applicant wants to re-do a previously approved 13-unit condominium consisting of a 6 2-units and 1 1-unit buildings to a 12 unit condominium consisting of 5 2-units and 2 1-unit buildings. The Commission believes very strongly that the 50 ft buffer zone should not be impacted by the construction of the Witch Island Way Condominiums. Their current design is unacceptable to the Commission. The footprints of the units need to be reconfigured to be completely outside of the buffer. The Commission is willing to work with the applicant to design a plan that is respectful of the environment and the desires of the property owners. Mrs. Goethel motioned to send a letter to the Zoning Board. Ms. Renaud seconded. All were in favor. Please see Zoning Board Actions below.

B. Kevin Lucey Pepperweed control at Transfer Station

The Commission recognizes the seriousness of preventing the further spread of the non-native pepperweed. It is very important that the population of pepperweed at the Hampton Transfer Station be eradicated in a manner that is safe for the environment and wildlife. Mr. Lucey was advised to get permission from the Hampton Board of Selectmen in order to access the town land on which the stand of pepperweed is located. The Commission requests that Mr. Lucey contact the Commission prior to and upon completion of the herbicide application.

APPOINTMENTS (cont)

- C. Julie LaBranche
Senior Planner, Rockingham Planning Commission

Ms. LaBranche reviewed the general structure of the new Natural Resources Chapter which will incorporate and update the existing Water Resources, Soils and Construction Materials, and Open Space/Land Conservation Chapters, as well as addition of new content and information. Ms. Labranche will review the recommendations in the existing chapters to determine status and applicability and discuss issues of concern, current initiatives/studies, and draft recommendations for the new Natural Resources Chapter.

PLANNING BOARD ACTIONS - March Decisions

- A. 470 Lafayette Rd.

Application for Subdivision. Continued to April 1, 2009.

- B. 501 Winnacunnet Rd

Building on the parcel of land east of the existing two-unit building, totaling four units with eight parking spaces. Continued to May 5, 2009. Department review by Conservation Commission.

- C. 8 & 10 Haverhill Street

To renovate existing building number eight from a two unit to a one unit building. Building number ten, existing three unit building, to remain as a three unit building with number ten second floor only to be increased by sixty nine square feet. Approved.

ZONING BOARD ACTIONS - DECISIONS

- A. 470 Winnacunnet Rd - Unit #5

Construction of a 3 season enclosed porch on existing front deck. Approved.

- B. 11 Towle Ave

Allow shed to remain which does not meet the rear setbacks. Approved.

- C. Witch Island Condominium Association

Re-do a previously 13 unit condominium consisting of 6 two unit and 1 one unit buildings to a 12 unit condominium consisting of 5 two unit and 2 one unit buildings. Continued to April 16, 2009.

OLD BUSINESS

- A. Update on the status and potential review of the Ice Pond RFP.

- B. Old Stage Rd Meeting scheduled for April 6, 2009 at 7:00 p.m.

CONSERVATION COMMISSION PUBLIC HEARING

March 24, 2009

Page 4

NEW BUSINESS

A. Mr. Diener discussed rain barrels. The Hampton Conservation Commission has joined with Sky Juice New England to create a special offer for Hampton residences. The rain barrels are made from recycled food-grade barrels and each comes with a debris/mosquito screen, a brass spigot for connection to a hose or drip irrigation system, and an overflow tube (that can also be used to link multiple barrels together). Rain barrels help collect roof runoff and distribute it in a more controlled manner to garden beds, lawns, or even house plants. Order forms and flyers are available at the Town Office.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The report will be available at the April 28, 2009 meeting.

The next meeting of the Conservation Commission Public Hearing will be held on Tuesday, April 28, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. meeting in the Town Office Meeting Room. The next site walk will be announced and will meet at the Town Office Parking Lot.

Mr. Tilton motioned to adjourn at 10:15 p.m. Mr. Diener seconded. All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,



Sue Launi
Secretary