

Essex Conservation Commission

September 7, 2004 - Minutes

Meeting held at the T.O.H.P. Burnham Public Library

Present: Wallace Bruce, Chairman, Robert Brophy, Philip Caponigro,  
Philip Lake, Shirley Singleton.

Meeting called to order at 7:34 p.m.

A continuation of a public hearing was held at 7:35 p.m. under the Wetlands Protection Act, M.G.L. Chapter 131, Section 40, on a Notice of Intent filed by Mark Gallagher for the construction of a 20-foot driveway at 147 Eastern Avenue.

John Judd, Gateway Consultants, Inc., represented the applicant. Mr. Judd said a site visit was made to the property a week last Saturday. He noted that one of the concerns voiced was the need for an additional drainpipe for overflow. Mr. Judd submitted a plan showing the revisions that were requested at the site visit. Rebecca Dawson, Eastern Avenue, an abutter to the property, questioned the proximity of the driveway to her boundary line. She was told that was a Planning Board issue. She then asked if the driveway was going to be gravel or paving. Mr. Judd told her it would be paved because of the 10% slope, which would reduce the amount of turbidity. Level spreaders will be installed, which allows the water to spread at an equal elevation in equal proportions. The limit of clearing would be to the erosion control barrier. Mr. Judd noted that some areas will be scraped and the material used for the replication area. Wallace Bruce asked if there was any maintenance required for the level spreaders. Mr. Judd indicated they should be swept on a springtime basis, and to also limit the salts and de-icing material; only sand should be used which can then be swept. Mrs. Dawson asked why the road was being constructed. Mr. Judd said he has been asked to design a septic system for a business.

As no D.E.P. file number has been issued at this time, Robert Brophy moved to continue the public hearing to Tuesday, September 21, 2004, at 7:45 p.m., seconded by Philip Caponigro, with the Board voting unanimously in favor.

Chris Williams met with the Board for an informal discussion on property at 3 Walnut Park, property of Bradford and Janet White. Mr. Williams told the Board there is a small lot adjacent to the main house lot and he was wondering if he could construct a studio for his business on the lot. The studio needed to have plumbing.

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It was noted that some years ago a Notice of Intent was filed for construction of a house with a septic system on the small lot. The project was denied by the Commission at that time, and an appeal was made to the D.E.P. by the applicant. A Superceding Order of Conditions was issued by the D.E.P. upholding the decision of the Commission. Mr. Williams said he would like to review the file prior to making a decision regarding purchase of the property.

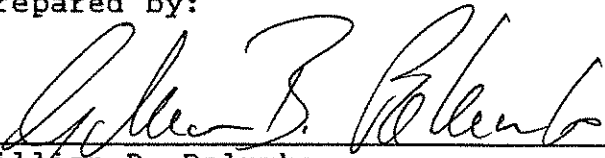
A memorandum was received from John Coughlin, Gateway Realty Trust, stating that a lot identified as Tax Account #350-00 "...is located on the shore of Chebacco Lake. The land with its original waterfront location is very characteristic of Chebacco Lake's unique landscape. The hope is through this gift we have ensured that the scenic and wildlife habitat values will be forever protected." Mr. Coughlin wished to know whether the Commission has any interest in Gateway Realty Trust gifting this land to the Town. Chairman Bruce said he would visit the site.

The Board discussewd the appointment of new members. Robert Brophy felt the Board should be able to interview interested people and make a recommendation to the Board of Selectmen. Shirley Singleton indicated she was interviewed at a private home prior to being appointed. The Board felt any recommendation should be discussed at an open meeting.

Philip Caponigro moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Robert Brophy, with the Board voting unanimously in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Prepared by:

  
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Gillian B. Palumbo  
Administrative Clerk

Attest: