



ESSEX CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Minutes for the Meeting of October 7, 2014

Commissioners:

Wallace Bruce, Chairman
Robert Brophy
Elisabeth Frye
Ted Marshall

James Richardson
Shirley Singleton*
Samantha Stevens

Staff:

Deborah Cunningham
Administrative Clerk

*Absent

The Commission met with Sean Costello of Costello Construction regarding a minor modification to the OOC for 6 Robbins Island Road. Mr. Costello explained that there was a tree on the property which was severely degraded and the homeowner had requested that it be removed before the new residence was built to avoid any damage to the new structure. The Commission agreed that this was a minor issue and, on a motion made and duly seconded, voted unanimously to approve the modification.

The Commission opened a public meeting on a Request for Determination of Applicability filed by John Prudden to cut down mutually agreed upon trees and install any vegetation that would limit or prevent erosion at 82 Apple Street. Mr. Prudden explained that he wished to thin the trees in order to open up the view from the residence to the marsh. It was not his intention to clear a large number of trees and he was open to guidance from the Commission on which the diameter of the trees and how many should be taken down. S. Stevens advised that she had been to the property and that the thinning of the trees would not cause any issues. There being no further discussion, on a motion made and duly seconded, the Commission voted unanimously to close the public meeting. The Commission discussed the issuance of the Determination and agreed that the only condition would be that the selection of the trees must be clearly marked and approved prior to any work commencing. On a motion made and duly seconded, the Commission voted unanimously to issue a negative Determination.

The Commission opened a public hearing on a Notice of Intent filed by Tyler Virden to construct an addition at 2 Maple Street. Laura Krause of DeRosa Environmental presented the project for the Commission. The applicant was applying to add an addition which would join the residence with a "barn" structure adjacent to the home. There being no issues with the project, on a motion made and duly seconded, the Commission voted unanimously to close the public hearing. The Commission discussed the issuance of the OOC and determined that a standard form could be issued. On a motion made and duly seconded, the Commission voted unanimously to issue the OOC.

The Commission continued a public hearing on a Notice of Intent filed by Carlton Coose to permit after the fact removal of trees, the construction of a vegetable garden, construction of a drainage ditch, the maintenance of an existing stone wall, the construction of a new stone wall and to propose the enclosure of an existing deck, re-gravel driveway, install boulders along driveway, install fence, and construct a gravel driveway extension within 100 ft of Chebacco Lake at 75 Wood Dr. The Clerk advised that the applicant's representative had requested a continuance to allow for time to finalize the planting plan. The Commission had concerns about the delays on the project and requested that the Clerk advise the applicant's representative to attend the next meeting even if a continuance was needed. On a motion made and duly seconded, the Commission voted unanimously to continue the public hearing until October 21.

The Commission reviewed to projects which had been submitted by the Board of Health to determine if a filing was needed. The Commission signed off on 7 Sumac Drive as out of jurisdiction but advised the BOH that 80 Pond Street must file a NOI.

The Commission reviewed the most recent applications for the Agent position. It was agreed that Samantha Stevens would be the best candidate. The Commission discussed the requirement that S. Stevens had to resign and be off of the Commission for 30 days prior to being offered the job. S. Stevens advised that she was aware of this condition and, if the Commission wished, would offer her resignation immediately so that the offer could be issued. The Commission agreed that this would be the best course of action. S. Stevens advised that she would forward her resignation to the Selectmen as soon as possible. The Clerk was instructed to post the vacancy to the Commission immediately upon receipt of the resignation.

The Chairman presented the minutes of the meeting of August 19, 2014 for approval. On a motion made and duly seconded, the Commission approved the minutes as presented.

On a motion made and duly seconded, the meeting was adjourned.

Approved: Essex Conservation Commission

Prepared by: Deborah Cunningham, Administrative Clerk