



HULL CONSERVATION COMMISSION

253 Atlantic Avenue, 2nd floor
Hull, MA 02045

Phone: 781-925-8102

Fax: 781-925-8509

July 29, 2008

Members Present: Sheila Connor, Chair, Judie Hass, Vice Chair, Paul Paquin, Paul Epstein, Max Horn

Members Not Present: Jim Reineck, John Meschino

Staff Present: Anne Herbst, Conservation Administrator

7:30 pm Chair Connor called the meeting to order

The Commission discussed the new building code, in particular the requirement that residential structures, in coastal dunes that provide storm protection and flood control, must be built on pilings. The Commission discussed guidelines for making decisions when applicants assert the dune in their project area does not provide storm protection and flood control. The Commission agreed to request guidance from DEP in establishing guidelines or standards for making this determination. The Conservation Administrator is to formally request guidance from Jim Mahala of the southeast region of DEP.

8:00 pm The Commission recessed to attend presentations before the Board of Selectmen on the new draft flood maps for Hull and the new building code.

9:30 pm The Commission resumed its meeting.

The Commission discussed guidelines for permitting requests for driveways. The Commission discussed that Land Subject to Coastal Storm Flowage is the resource area of primary concern. In velocity zones the Commission does not believe paved surfaces (asphalt, concrete, etc.) are acceptable due to concerns that this will exacerbate flood damage on neighboring properties. The Commission may approve pavers that have extensive openings (lattice pattern) and that are designed in such a way as to protect against the pavers being dislodged. This style of paver may be acceptable because the large openings (filled with sand or small stone or vegetation) will provide better resistance against the velocity of the water. Other types of permeable pavers are not appropriate in a velocity zone as they do not provide enough resistance to water flow. In a-zones, the Commission may accept projects with paved surfaces. In these cases, projects will be conditioned to protect abutting properties from receiving run-off from the applicant.

In general, soft solutions (crushed shells, gravel etc.) are preferable to hard surfaces, and permeable paver systems are preferable to solid paved surfaces. Lattice style pavers are to other paver systems preferred because they maximize infiltration and because they provide more resistance to flowing water.

10:30 pm P. Paquin **motion, 2nd** by J. Hass and a **vote** of 5-0-0; **voted** to Adjourn