

**MILLIS CONSERVATION COMMISSION**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
**Room 206, Veterans Memorial Building, 900 Main St., Millis, MA**  
**May 7, 2012**

The meeting was brought to order at 7:30 p.m. by Ms. Anne Rich, Acting Chair.

The following members were present:

Anne Rich, Acting Chair

Ed Chisholm, Loretta Fitzgerald, Christine Gavin, Cara Krinsky, Daniel Lee

Members Absent: Dr. James Lederer

Others present:

Greg Whelan, 64 Village St.

Mark Coviello, 115 Hill St., Holliston, MA

Debbie Coviello, 115 Hill St., Holliston, MA

Brian Smith, 11 Irving St.

Don Baker, 232 Causeway St.

Margy Kerns, 119 Middlesex St.

Norman & Janice Tinkham, 114 Norfolk Rd.

**Request for Determination of Applicability, Public Hearing, Cont., 81 Ridge St.**

The public hearing continuation was opened at 7:30p.m. by Ms. Rich, Acting Chair.

Mr. Greg Whelan, representing the applicant, Thomas Steeves, presented the application. Mr. Whelan stated the work has been done – this is an “After the Fact” application. The existing deck has already been replaced with a new deck, he said. The new deck is the exact same size, Mr. Whelan stated. Mr. Whelan stated that the homeowner unintentionally did the work without permission from the Building Inspector, who discovered the new deck and required the application/owner come before the Commission. According to Mr. Whelan, the wetlands are “about fifty feet away” from the deck. The area where the deck is located is a grassy/lawn area, he said. Mr. Whelan stated that Mr. Giampietro, the Building Inspector, needs to see how deep the footings are, so they will have to dig them up a bit with a shovel so they can be checked. He stated that with the small amount of disturbance, there should be no need for erosion controls. The footings will be filled back in immediately.

Commission member, Ms. Krinsky, will conduct a site visit on the property to verify the proximity of the deck to the wetland area. Mr. Whelan was told that if all went well with the site visit, there was no need for him to attend the continued hearing at the next meeting.

On a motion made by Ms. Rich, seconded by Ms. Krinsky, it was voted unanimously at 7:40 p.m. to continue the public hearing to Monday, June 4, 2012, 7:30 p.m.

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**#CE225-0373 – Notice of Intent, Public Hearing, Ridge St. Driveway Crossing**

The public hearing was opened at 7:45 p.m. with notice being read by Ms. Rich, Acting Chair.

Mr. Coviello presented the application and plans. He stated that he and his wife have signed a Purchase and Sale on the land and hope to build a single family home. Mr. Coviello stated that the proposed house will be located outside the 100-foot buffer zone. The proposed project is for work within the wetland and buffer zones of the resource area. Work to include the crossing of a wetland with a 12” diameter culvert, construction of a pervious (gravel) driveway with stone retaining walls, and installation of water, gas and utilities. A wetland replication area will be constructed, Mr. Coviello stated. The Commission reviewed the plan entitled, “Notice of Intent Plan for Driveway Crossing in Millis, MASS.,” dated April 18, 2012, prepared by Landmark Engineering of New England, Inc.

There was discussion regarding the consideration of an additional 12” diameter pipe for an additional safety factor. Mr. Lee recommended that no fill go into the replication area to leave the elevation lower. Vegetation would need to be planted in this area, Mr. Lee stated. Mr. Chisholm recommended that Mr. Coviello lower the replication area from an elevation of 152 to 151. Mr. Coviello will have the plans revised as requested by the Commission.

Mr. Don Baker, an abutter to the project, raised concerns over the location of the proposed house. Mr. Baker stated that although he is not opposed to a house being built, he suggested moving the house further back as there is a very high water table.

Mr. Coviello stated that there is a neighbor behind him who has a well, which makes pushing the house back impossible. He also stated that they would like some type of a back yard. Mr. Coviello stated that he is comfortable with the proposed location and he is confident that the basement floor will be above the seasonal high water table.

On a motion made by Mr. Chisholm, seconded by Mr. Lee, it was voted unanimously at 8:10 p.m. to continue the public hearing to Monday, June 4, 2012, 7:35 p.m. Mr. Coviello will revise the plans.

**Informal Discussion  
119 Middlesex Street  
Margaret Kerns**

Ms. Kerns stated that she would like to replace her deck with a three-season porch. She said that she was instructed by the Building Inspector to come before the Commission to be sure the proposed work did not fall within 100 feet of the wetland. She stated that she has some “running water, a brook” on one side of the house – about forty feet away.

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According to Ms. Kerns, she will be using the existing footings and no heavy equipment will be needed. The Commission recommended that she consult with the Building Inspector to confirm the existing footings will work for the new porch.

The Commission will require the filing of a Request for Determination of Applicability for the proposed work.

**DEP File #225-0361  
Request for Certificate of Compliance  
114 Norfolk Road  
Janice & Norman Tinkham**

Mr. Lee conducted a site visit on Saturday, April 7, 2012, at 10:00 a.m. Mr. Lee found the completed project in compliance with the approved plan.

On a motion made by Mr. Chisholm, seconded by Mr. Lee, it was voted unanimously to approve a Certificate of Compliance.

**Other Business:**

**Expedited Permitting Discussion Memo**

The Commission is in receipt of an email from Mr. Aspinwall, dated May 3, 2012. The memo stated that the Board of Selectmen will be discussing the topic of expedited permitting at their next meeting on Monday, June 4<sup>th</sup>. As the Commission is meeting on the same night, a member will leave the Conservation Commission meeting to attend the Selectmen's meeting.

**Minutes**

On a motion made by Ms. Gavin, seconded by Ms. Fitzgerald, the minutes from April 2, 2012, were unanimously approved as amended.

Scheduled Conservation Commission Meetings:     June 4, 2012

There being no further business, on a motion made by Ms. Rich, seconded by Ms. Fitzgerald, and voted unanimously, the meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

*Respectfully submitted,*

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*Camille Standley  
Department Assistant*